



Loch Ken Trust

Meeting purpose	Loch Ken Annual General Meeting
Date & Time:	Monday 10th November 2025 7pm
Location:	The Smiddy, Balmaclellan
Attendees:	Andy Adamson, Kate Adamson, Edward Hex, Leanne Pumpr, Lindsay Stewart, James Ingall, Fred Nelson, Graeme Dickie, Rowan McCleary, Alistair Nelson, John Nelson, Mungo Bryson, Martin Warnock, Bob Peace, Les Kirkpatrick, Abi Mordin, Suzy Rook
Apologies:	Michael Dawson, Andrew Bielinski, Morag Chisholm, Alan Smith; <i>Mungo Bryson</i> With nominated Proxy (in italics)
Minutes issued by:	Lindsay Stewart

1. Welcome and Introductions.

Apologies were recorded from Members; Michael Dawson, Andrew Bielinski, Morag Chisholm, Alan Smith

Nominated Proxy(in italics): Alan Smith: *Mungo Bryson*

2. Ordinary Business

2a. Chairpersons Report

Mungo Bryson gave his Chairpersons Report, reflecting on a busy year for the Loch Ken Trust since our previous AGM last November.

“We are proud to be working with our communities to look after Loch Ken and protect this very special place for the future generations.

During the off-season, we have continued our resilience work, supporting our communities to create up to date resilience plans as part of our work on climate

adaptation. This work has involved a live test event in Dalry, and resilience conferences, bringing our communities together to improve resilience in our rural communities. We are now in the second year of our partnership with Drax Group, the owners of the Galloway Hydro Scheme. Drax continue to support the Trust across a number of different areas, including our ranger Service, water safety, education, nature restoration and climate action. We would like to thank Drax for their continued support of Loch Ken Trust. We would also like to thank Foundation Scotland and the Glenkens and District Trust for the continued support.

Our work on water safety sessions continue to develop. Our water safety awareness training for young people continues to grow. Delivered in partnership with the Galloway Activity Centre. We would like to thank Holywood Trust, D&G Council, Galloway Glens Legacy Fund and Drax Group for funding this programme.

Loch Ken Ranger Service continues to report on visitor management issues as part of a national group, sending reports directly to Scottish Government on the issues around Loch Ken. We were also pleased to secure funding for a seasonal ranger again this year, and Toni has been busy over the summer months supporting Head Ranger Leanne. We would like to thank Toni for her efforts this year.

Our ranger service goes from strength to strength. Thank you, Leanne. Our Volunteer Scheme continues to grow. We would like to thank all those members of the community who have stepped up to support Leanne in running one of Scotland's only community-led ranger services. If anyone else is interested in getting more involved, please get in touch with the team. We are looking to grow our ranger volunteering opportunities over the coming years.

We organised and hosted our 3rd annual Family Fun Day/Water Safety Event on the shores of Loch Ken on the 12th August this year. It was very well supported by the local community. Thank you to our ranger team, the emergency services, organisations and volunteers for their help.

We have stepped up our nature work this year, working with partners D&G Woodlands, RSPB and NTS to improve Willow Tit habitat, and partnering with Castle Douglas Development Forum to deliver a Summer Nature Club and community bat walk. We are responsible for a Loch Ken section of Wetland bird counts for British Trust for Ornithology, and we carry these out on a monthly basis.

Our education programme has worked with local schools to deliver sessions on nature, water safety and responsible access in our local community, educating our local school children and youth groups including Crossmichael, Dalry and Castle Douglas. Educating our young people is key to the long-term future of the area and it is always a pleasure to welcome them to the Loch. This year we have focussed on bio blitz sessions, which have been really popular amongst the young people, identifying as many species as they can in a particular area.

This year has also seen the Trust partner with Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) and Galloway Fisheries Trust on a project surveying Carlingwark Loch for Invasive Non Native Species and to test the water quality. This has been a great experience for the students, and has concluded with a report of recommendation for future enhancement and restoration. It has been great to work with our partners and the community on this, and we hope that the community will now have scope to take forward future projects. We are pleased to welcome our newest Trustee, Les Kirkpatrick, to the Loch Ken Trust Board. Les is a regular user of Loch Ken and brings a wealth of experience to the Trust. We will be running a Trustee recruitment over the coming months, so please get in touch if you would be interested in getting involved. Finally, I would like to thank all of you, our members. Without your involvement, Loch Ken Trust could not exist. Whether you give up your time as a volunteer trustee, volunteer ranger, or simply read our monthly newsletter, thank you. We look forward to another busy year in 2026, working together to make Loch Ken and its surrounds a better place for our community and the wider public."

2b. Treasurers Financial Statement

Loch Ken Trust Treasurer James Ingall gave a Treasurers Report. Copies of the final accounts were circulated to all members in advance of the meeting and are available to view on our website.

2c. Re-election of Trustees

The current Office Bearers and Trustees all stood down.

There were no further nominations for Trustees and the current Trustees were all willing to continue in their roles.

Listed Trustees

- i. Kate Adamson (Vice Chair)
- ii. Mungo Bryson (Chairperson)
- ii. Edward Hex
- iv. James Ingall (Treasurer)
- v. Les Kirkpatrick
- vi. Abi Mordin
- vii. Alistair Nelson
- viii. John Nelson
- ix. Suzy Rook

The listed Trustees were all re-elected by a unanimous vote.

3. Additional Business

3a. Report From the Loch Ken Trust Manager

Loch Ken Trust Manager, Lindsay Stewart gave the managers' report.

"Welcome everyone, and for those of you who don't know me, my name is Lindsay Stewart, and I became the Manager of the Loch Ken Trust in March this year. I would like to welcome everyone and thank you for attending our annual general meeting.

It has been a year of transition for the Trust, after our former Manager Barnaby Fryer departed earlier this year to focus on new projects. Barnaby was involved from the very start of the formation of the Trust and was responsible for the creation of the Loch Ken Plan. I would like to extend our thanks to Barnaby for his dedication to the Trust throughout his time here.

This year, we have gone back to basics and our core values- looking after Loch Ken. We have streamlined our aims and objectives to make these aims achievable, more manageable, leaving a positive impact on Loch Ken and the surrounding communities. I would like to thank our Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Treasurer, and all of our Trustees, who kindly volunteer their time to help us achieve these aims. I would like to welcome our newest Trustee, Les Kirkpatrick. Les is a keen loch user with a wealth of experience. Our Ranger Service remains embedded in our communities. I would like to thank our Head Ranger, Leanne Pumpfory once again for her efforts in leading the ranger service this year. Leanne will be providing a Ranger report later on in the meeting.

In April this year, the Trust ceased to oversee the boat registration scheme on Loch Ken, due to increased multi usage and safety concerns. I understand that this may have been upsetting for some. I am happy to take further questions on this and explain the reasons behind this decision following this meeting. There is now one aligned boat registration scheme on Loch Ken, with registrations taking place at Loch Ken Marina. Launch points are available at Loch Ken Marina, Galloway Activity Centre and Crossmichael Marina. Thanks also go to Loch Ken Marina, Galloway Activity Centre and Crossmichael Marina for working together on a boat registration scheme and supporting our Ranger Service during the Season.

This year has seen our Ranger Education, Youth Water Safety Programme, habitat creation and Community Resilience projects grow. It has been great to work with our communities to achieve such positive goals.

This year, over 200 young people have received free hands-on water safety training at the Galloway Activity Centre, thanks to funding received for this project. Our overall ambition is that all high school aged children should receive this vital life saving training. In March this year, Head Ranger Leanne and Galloway Activity Manager Ben, were invited to speak at the Royal Society Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) National conference in Birmingham on water safety education.

Our annual Loch Ken Family Water Safety Day was a success once again, collaborating with Emergency Services and both local and national organisations to promote water safety during the Summer holidays.

184 young people from local Primary schools and other organisations have participated in our ranger education programme, educating young people on how to enjoy the outdoors safely and responsibly.

We are very proud to see the launch of the Glenkens Cardiac Responders Group this year. This group was formed following suggestions from the community during our resilience engagement events. The group was formed through Scottish Ambulance Service and we now have ten volunteers trained to assist with out of hospital cardiac arrests in the first vital minutes. We are the first group to launch in this region, following success in the Grampian area. We are very grateful for the show of support from the community and would like to thank everyone who has come forward and volunteered to assist with this initiative, building resilience in to our remote and rural communities.

We continue to be based at our office at the Crannog in Castle Douglas, and it is great to work with Castle Douglas Development Forum on various projects. We are excited about the future plans for this building and what it will bring to the community.

We would like to extend our thanks to all of our funders this year; Drax plc, the Glenkens and District Community Fund, Holywood Trust, National Lottery Awards For All, Peoples Postcode Trust, Inspiring Scotland, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Galloway Glens Legacy Fund and the Hugh Fraser Foundation. Without our funders, none of this would be possible.

We would also like to thank the community, our members, whether it be those getting in touch, attending our events, giving feedback and suggesting ideas, or getting involved as a volunteer, for all the support throughout the year. We are proud to be working together as a community to look after this very special place, and we are excited to see what the next year will bring.”

3b. Loch Ken Ranger Report

Head Ranger Leanne Pumpur introduced herself and spoke about the work of the Ranger Service during 2025, including an insight into the ranger education, youth water safety programme and joint patrol initiatives that have taken place this season.

Link to Loch Ken Trust Ranger Service 2025 Report below:

<https://lochken.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/CAT-data-LKT-Ranger-Service-2025-Season.pdf>

3c. Questions and Observations from Members

Question to Leanne Pumpur, Head Ranger

“Are you seeing more litter since the removal of the bins around Loch Ken?”

Answer

“We are seeing a lot of people dumping rubbish next to the bins. We will be able to compare data to last years at the end of the season.”

4. Keynote Speaker, Rowan McCleary, Galloway Fisheries Trust

Rowan McCleary of Galloway Fisheries Trust gave a very interesting presentation on the fantastic work of the Galloway Fisheries Trust, including the smolt studies and monitoring on Loch Ken, the Blackwater of Dee improvements and a host of other projects.

Chairperson, Mungo Bryson thanked Rowan McCleary for the informative presentation.

5. AOCB

There was a vote of thanks to the Chairperson

Chairperson Mungo Bryson thanked everyone and closed the meeting.