

# Coffee, Cake, and Chat

REPORT ON FEEDBACK

JANE DENNISTON

## Contents

Introduction .....	2
Analysis of Data.....	4
Conclusion .....	7
Appendix 1: The Presentations .....	8
Appendix 2: Priorities .....	15
Appendix 3: Responses on Flipchart sheets.....	16
3.1 What is the best thing about being part of Campsie Parish Church? .....	16
3.2 What do we do well? .....	17
3.3 What are your hopes for the future?.....	18
3.4 What are your concerns/fears? .....	19
3.5 Who will shape the next stage? How can we support them? .....	20
3.6 What would you like more of?.....	21
3.7 What needs to/could change? .....	22
3.8 What are your fears for the future? .....	23
3.9 How can we better reach our community? .....	24
3.10 What experiments have we tried? What did we learn? .....	25
3.11 Is there anything we should stop doing?.....	26
What could be better/different? .....	27
How do you feel about the future? .....	28
Appendix 4: Ideas/Comments.....	29
Appendix 5: Lennoxton Place Plan.....	31

## Introduction

As was highlighted by both speakers at the two conference days, the church is in crisis, nationally and locally. Over the next five years, almost half the ministers currently in charges will retire. In addition, congregations are struggling to make ends meet as they age, and members lost are not being replaced by younger people.

In Campsie we are undeniably vulnerable as we are an aid receiving congregation. This means that we do not bring in enough money on an annual basis to pay our way and we rely on the Ministry and Mission contributions of wealthier congregations to enable us to exist as an independent congregation. Currently, our annual income is in the region of £60,000. In order to pay all the costs required of a congregation without being subsidised by the central offices, we would need to bring in an annual amount of around £80,000. In addition, our congregation is shrinking rather than growing, and income is not keeping pace with outgoings. If we continue at the present rate of decline with no respite, in ten years' time we will have a congregational roll of 90 to 100 people, and a worshipping congregation of 30 to 40, with the likelihood of no children or young people.

In order to ensure the future of the church in Campsie, we need to increase our membership and giving. We also need to encourage younger people to come and join us. While the good news of the Gospel is for all people, regardless of where or whether they worship, without a Christian presence the chances of the good news reaching others is reduced. Although a Christian presence in the village is not solely dependent on Campsie Parish Church (there would still be the Free Church and St Machan's) we have something unique to offer our community in our worship and fellowship and it would be detrimental to building the kingdom of God if we no longer had a presence in the village. In other words, the continued existence of Campsie Parish Church is essential to the furtherance of the gospel in Lennoxton. However, the continued existence of Campsie Parish Church is not assured unless we can increase our membership, and particularly increase the number of young people who are part of our fellowship. Thankfully, although this might seem a daunting task, it is not impossible, and there is much wisdom in the wider church upon which we can draw. In the life cycle of organisations (see Appendix 1, p7) we have not yet reached the stage of "closing in", therefore we have an opportunity to move forward positively and grow something new. In our current situation, the best thing we can do is to "dream dreams" and "see visions" (Joel 2: 28). While very few churches grow without wanting to or trying to, we want to and are prepared to try to. This is a very good sign.

Our discussions about the way forward for Campsie Parish Church began with Coffee, Cake, and Chat on 7 September and 6 October, and this has given us the beginning of a conversation between Kirk session and members which needs to continue and develop. This document is intended to provide the information gleaned from the conference sessions and to help to inform decisions made about the way forward.

These conversations are coming at a good time in the life of the congregation. We are about to have our Local Church Review during which Presbytery will help us to identify our strengths and weaknesses and look at strategies for taking us into the future. We have been accepted on the Path

of Renewal process which aims to support us over a three-year period enabling us to make better connections with our community. In addition, the Community Council and East Dunbartonshire Council have plans to improve Lennoxton and its environment, a project in which we could take part.

These are exciting times for Campsie Parish Church, and we pray that our conversations about the future would be blessed and would bear fruit.

## Analysis of Data

### 1. Who are we?

1.1 We are a local congregation with a well-defined parish community. Most of those who attend are from Lennoxton itself.

We have a strong sense of being a friendly and welcoming congregation where people feel they belong and are supported and loved. We are a family, and like any family we have our disagreements, but we continue to love and support one another.

We love to praise and sing, whether it's on Sunday mornings, Sunday evenings, or at various church and community events, such as Carol singing.

We are hospitable and welcoming. We run events well and love to see the church used.

We are open to trying new things although sometimes we struggle to keep them going.

### 2. What are we good at?

- 2.1 We are a praying congregation, through our Prayer Circle which receives monthly updates from our Prayer Secretary. Also, in our two house groups, and on Sunday morning before the service. In addition, a number of members exercise a ministry of prayer.
- 2.2 We are a welcoming congregation, who have the right balance between warmth of welcome without being overwhelming. We include people in our activities and offer a range of ways to be involved.
- 2.3 We are a hospitable congregation; we love to bake and cook and share fellowship over food.
- 2.4 We are local. Our village has around five thousand residents and we are here, a sign of the kingdom for all these people.
- 2.5 We are a caring congregation who support one another in our times of need and accept one another in difficulties.
- 2.6 We are a praising congregation. Our praise is joyful and varied and we have talented musicians to lead us.

### 3. What are our priorities?

- 3.1 Youth: We voted heavily to make use a priority with the equivalent of 26 votes being cast for this, as opposed to 11 for the next nearest priority. There were many suggestions as to how we can better involve young people including being more accepting, involving them more, and going to them rather than expecting them to come to us. Perhaps we could have a youth group. We should involve young people more in worship. Interestingly, although this was the top priority, there were relatively few ideas about how we can reach young people and keep them. However, there was one comment about people not wanting noisy children bothering their worship. Also Messy Church isn't everyone's cup of tea.

3.2 Parish/Community: This was the next most popular choice as a priority although we had fewer ideas about how this might be done. We were concerned that we needed to be seen to get out into the community. It was suggested that we might invite people from the community to come and speak to us. We worried about the image of the Kirk in the community. We thought it would be good to have more community events and advertise better what we do. Having the church open during the day might help our visibility.

3.3 Worship: This was the third priority but quite a long way behind the others. Thoughts about worship were that we could worship outside as well as inside. Worship should encourage freedom of expression and be inclusive and informal. We should visit other churches to see how they worship. We need to learn to accept a variety in our services and forms of worship. We need to respect each other's ways of worshipping.

#### **4. What could we do better?**

- 4.1 We could have better connections with our community and be seen to reach out to it - find out what is needed. We could engage in more outreach to the community and be more involved in community groups, Local Council and local health care groups. We could open the Church more.
- 4.2 We could encourage more young people into church and welcome them, encouraging them to be involved in worship – ask their opinion.
- 4.3 We could be more open to change, tolerant of new ideas and the views of others.
- 4.4 We could build stronger relationships with the local residential care homes
- 4.5 We could welcome change and create an environment which will encourage families and young people to attend.
- 4.6 We could share tasks more widely.
- 4.7 We could be more flexible in our music and have different opportunities for worship. We could have more opportunities to share in worship in small groups.
- 4.8 We could communicate better – internally and externally including stream services on the net.

#### **5. What are our fears for the future?**

- 5.1 That the congregation will no longer exist.
- 5.2 That nothing will change, or people will be unwilling to change.
- 5.3 That too much will change too quickly.
- 5.4 That children will not be welcomed or encouraged.
- 5.5 That people will not step aside from roles to allow others to have the opportunity to serve.

#### **6 What needs to change?**

- 6.1 The image of the Kirk in the community
- 6.2 Worship – less formality, less predictability, more inclusivity.
- 6.3 Advertising – Kirky Herald, website, etc.

#### **7 What suggestions have arisen from the presentations?**

- 7.1 How do we prioritise youth?

- 7.2 How does our mission statement relate to the Lennoxton Place plan – if we were going to try to support one of the Place Plan goals as a congregation, which one?
- 7.3 What are our touching places with the community?
- 7.4 Our Logo, our Facebook and Website presence - set up a publicity and comms group - give it a budget
- 7.5 5 smooth stones

## Conclusion

We need to work together as a congregation and support one another through changes. We cannot continue to do what we have always done. As the American author, Tony Robbins, said, “if you do what you’ve always done, you’ll get what you’ve always got!” If we continue to do what we are currently doing, the congregation, and therefore the church, will wither and die. This may take twenty or thirty years, but it will happen. As a congregation, as the body of Christ in this place, we have a responsibility to ensure that we are still here for future generations. While we can ask for and accept help from outside agencies: Presbytery, including through Local Church Review, Path of Renewal, the Community Council, neighbouring congregations, Saint Machan’s and the Free Church, the responsibility to ensure our future belongs to us alone.

There is a strong sense of people being ready for a change and open to change. We recognise the need to get out into the community and make better connections with young people. We are anxious that older members might be left behind or disregarded, and we don’t want that, but we realise that we cannot simply continue as we are.

This is an opportunity. Campsie Parish Church is a warm welcoming and friendly congregation, open to experimentation and change. We can have a bright new future, walking forward where God guides us.

## Appendix 1: The Presentations

### 1.1 7<sup>th</sup> September 2019: Rev Graham Duffin

- A Perfect Storm
  - What has caused the storm?
    - Societal change
      - Mindset change
      - Mistrust of authority
      - Move towards informality
      - Religious pluralism
      - Valuing of diversity not conformity
      - Rampant atheism
    - Impacting everyone
    - Shops ... Newspaper industry ... Trade Unions ... Golf Clubs
  - *The changes in society are not going away – and how we change to take account of that is critical.*
  - What is specific to Campsie?
  - How do we assess where we are in the storm?
    - Membership in the Church of Scotland has fallen by around 20 per cent in five years, from 413,000 in 2011 to 336,000 at the end of 2017
    - *“There are missing generations in congregations, not only do we have very few children compared to 10 years ago, or similarly young people (under 25s), the number of folks in their 30s and 40s is also very small.”*
- GA report 2018*
- Number of ministers also falling – 700 for 1200 charges by 2020
  - How do we chart a way forward in the storm?
    - Not all doom and gloom – some churches are growing
    - *“None of the congregations I visited practiced business-as-usual church. All were reaching towards a future they could not fully see – a future of faith, hope, and love.”*  
*Diane Butler Bass; “Christianity for the rest of us”*
    - *“We face a radically new challenge that requires more than minor readjustments. We need a new imagination for being the church”*  
*Alan J Roxburgh & M Scott Boren: “Introducing the Missional Church”*
    - When it is difficult to maintain the inherited model:  
*“the answer lies neither in simply closing a building nor in seeking to maintain a shadow of the traditional style.”*  
*Rowan Williams*

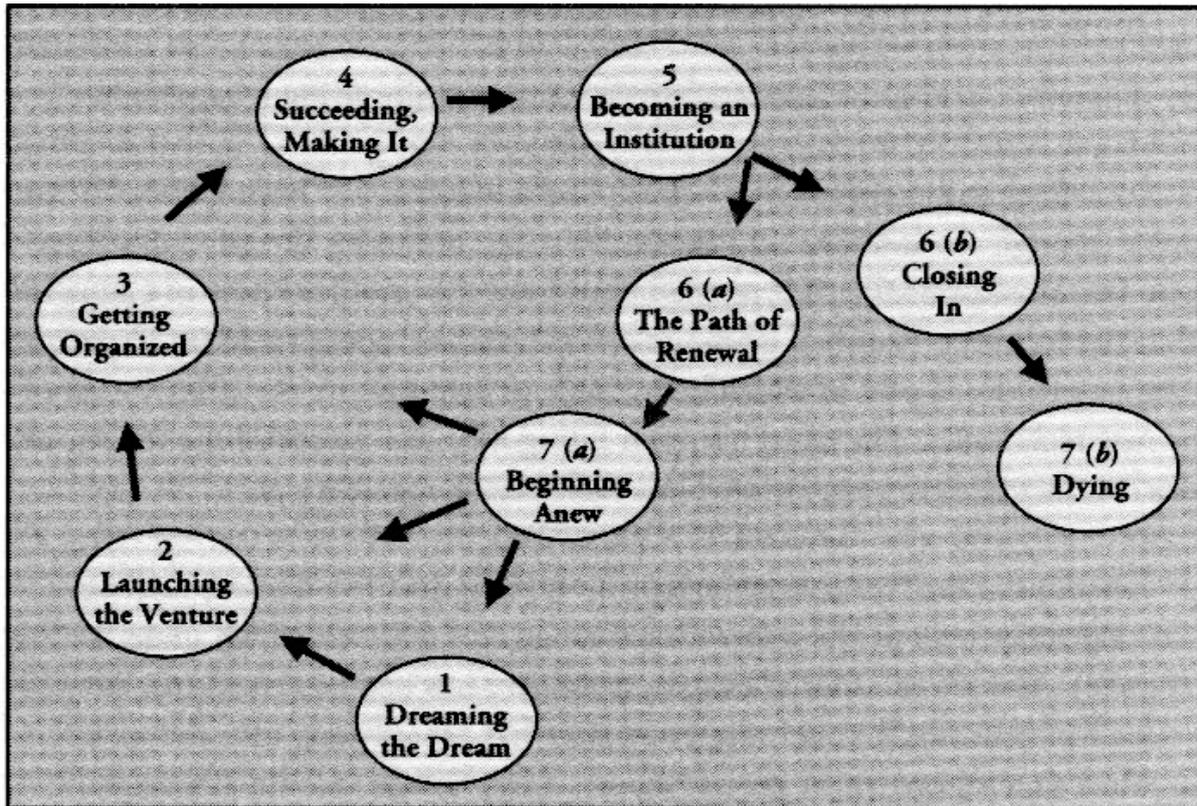


Figure 6.2 Organizational renewal.

- *“Renewal – or the recovery of the youthful vigour the organisation had earlier in its life cycle – is in fact wired right into the organisational life cycle. What you have to do is choose, not Closing In, but the Path of Renewal.”*  
Bridges pp87/88

## 1.2 6<sup>th</sup> October Rev Dr Doug Gay

- **Facing Up to Challenges in Mission + Ministry**
- 1. Close unsustainable churches
- 2. Care for declining churches which will not grow again, as they decline
- 3. Help declining churches to grow again
- 4. Help (the very few) growing churches to keep growing
- 5. Plant new churches, re-seed or re-start
- a complex and demanding task:
  - all five have to be done simultaneously: simultaneous contraction + expansion cutting + investing, pruning + planting
  - The Kirk: 2020-2030 - 5 challenges
  - 1. This is hard - we're (all) in a tough moment – we can't go on as we were. Painful.
  - 2. We're in a season of prayer and discernment as the whole church.
  - 3. Hinge moment - when one generation has to think hard about the legacy they are leaving to the rising generations.
  - 4. *Sam Wells: 'we don't have to try to be Goliath – we have to learn to be David'*
  - 5. Nothing I say is personal - I say some of these things wherever I go... so don't feel got at!
- **Campsie Kirk - Taking Stock: David not Goliath... 5 smooth stones**  
*The mission of the Church is the mission of Christ*
  1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
  2. To teach, baptise and nurture new believers
  3. To respond to human need by loving service
  4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
  5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth
- **Mission to your parish:**  
*"There is mission because God loves the world" Bosch*
  1. God loves this place - these people.
  2. A 'parish' is a place + people to love.
  3. "Listening In Mission"
  4. How would a 'Lennoxton Parish Plan' relate to the Council's 'Lennoxton Place Plan'?
  5. What does 'regeneration', 'vision' and 'fullness of life' look like for your parish? What are your goals 2018-2023?
  6. If you were going to try to support one of the Place Plan goals as a congregation, which one?
- **Across Scotland - issues for the Kirk**
  1. What do you want? (really, really...)
  2. Will you invest in calling and making disciples?
  3. Can you connect discipleship to well-being?
  4. How will people feel about it?
  5. Will there be food?
  6. Can you translate the gospel?
  7. Are you serious about young people?

- 1. What do you want me to do for you?
- 2. Claim the language of GROWTH?
- 3. e.g. Campsie Parish Church wants to grow:

*in grace + knowledge of Christ  
love, **numbers**, stewardship, leadership,  
grow in creativity, grow in presbytery, grow  
ecumenically, grow prophetically...*

Very few churches grow without wanting/trying to.

- 4. UK Methodists - every church asked to prepare either a winding down plan or a growth plan
- 5. Desire = Prayer, Planning, Priorities, Budgets

*Where your treasure is, there your heart will be*

- **emotions**

Presbyterian worship, in its traditional and 'middle of the road' forms, is mostly not emotionally/spiritually involving enough to draw in new people, particularly young people/students

Musical culture, style and repertoire are key factors in this

Congregations which grow, will make strong choices to shift the style of their worship in one of three musical directions:

1. Excellent + demanding classical/choral [Cathedral style]
2. Vibrant + Contemplative Acappella Iona/Taizé/World Church
3. CCM/Worship Band

A few will be able to 'blend' one or more of these successfully

- **music matters**

Worship + Music are crucial cultural markers, identifiers and enablers.

Intellect/Emotion/Culture/Identity/Ethnicity/Class/Sophistication/Refinement/Taste/Cool/Credibility

*Andrew Root – young people will tolerate everything but boredom*

can't please all of the people – complex challenges –

lowest common denominator... blended worship/menu church

The best young pastoral musicians today do/support full spectrum!

Classical, trad hymns, Iona, Taizé, Gospel, CCM.

Invest in one.

- **Churches as places that can hold pain**

*Giles Fraser – one of the last places in our society where you can go and hold pain and distress*

Specific occasions: e.g. All Saints/All Souls, Blue Christmas

## Healing Services

Iona Healing Liturgy – at least once a year – in Lent?

perhaps once a quarter?

Counselling service - parish counsellor? [c.f. parish nurse]

- **Sharing food is sharing life**

1. World food nights
2. wine tasting
3. men in aprons
4. dads + kids cook
5. barbecues
6. fish + chip suppers
7. hog roasts
8. Lenten lunches
9. Bread making church
10. bootstrap cooking classes
11. urban table
12. ... bread + wine

- **Translating the faith**

our society navigates and motivates by feelings/images

publicity + design are very important - particularly to younger people

'as others see us' invite outsiders (pay them if necessary) to feed back to you on how they feel about:

your website

your social media

your logo/motto and use of fonts/images

your building and its image

Set up a publicity and comms group - give it a budget (and then double that)

working out how to describe and portray ourselves to others is a very revealing and potentially transforming exercise

*(does my bum look big in this? does this make me look old? do I look like mutton dressed as lamb? I've got nothing to wear...)*

Who is this for? I think your logo looks like it is for you 20 years ago – not sure it's for the parish? images from GNB (1966!!)

- **5 Smooth Stones - Campsie Parish Church:**

- worships God
- loves people
- serves Lennoxton
- ...
- ...

- **What is the Campsie/Lennoxtown brand?**

Calico  
Handloom  
Weaving  
Nails  
Morris Furniture  
Spring Water  
Thomas Muir - Reform  
Natural Beauty  
Hills "Campsies"  
Quality of Life

- **investing in young people**

children and families  
relationships matter most  
music matters a lot  
art/sport/creative writing  
feeling/image matters a lot - is this for me? do they get me? do they care about what I care about? e.g. Greta Thunberg  
how to talk so kids will listen and listen so kids will talk  
mentoring?  
acute pressure on youth mental health services - can the church do anything to help? (Sam Wells - church/state)  
anxiety, stress, depression - social media - represent!  
shifting patterns of family life  
education/tutoring  
camps c.f. USA

- **in the end...**

It's about love – God, in Jesus, by the Spirit, loves this place, these people (us)  
longs for them (us) to know fullness of life  
discipleship is learning to be who God made and meant us to be  
Abundance or Scarcity?  
God has given us all we need to be a pilgrim people, worshipping and serving, sharing faith and bearing witness here in 'Campsie'  
we need to listen and learn and love

- **communications**

Create a good communications team, give them a clear brief and a sensible budget (probably more than you are minded to) and give them absolute power over the rest of you in making comms and style decisions.

Allow them to be font fascists and e.g. utterly ban comic sans.

Allow them to insist on consistent messaging, imaging and branding and to enforce it ruthlessly

Don't allow rogue messengers access to posting on the church FB page or Twitter Feed. You may need multiple pages for multiple audiences, with different designs and admins, but you

also need oversight and control.

If you're not happy with how the comms team work change them or train them

Monitor this as a session - set goals for comms/social media

- **raise the money or change your lifestyle**

many Scottish churches are hopeless at asking for money

US churches expect a capital appeal every 10-15 years

*Money is not the problem. Vision is the problem. (Jock Stein)*

Pray. Dream. Consult. Pray. ASK for pledges!

## Appendix 2: Priorities

	VERY IMPORTANT	SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	LESS IMPORTANT	COMMENTS	TOTALS (WEIGHTED)
<b>WORSHIP</b>	5	4	12	Red: Relevance to people's lives is important. Different kinds of services like we've been trialling	Green: 15 Amber: 8 Red: 12
<b>PASTORAL CARE</b>	4	3	7	Amber: Maybe drop-in opportunities during the day – host Foodbank? Advice – financial – health	Green: 12 Amber: 6 Red: 7
<b>CONNECTION WITH COMMUNITY</b>	11	19	2	Green: New Energy Locally Grown Move out into community Amber: Collect food for the foodbank	Green: 33 Amber: 38 Red: 2
<b>YOUNG PEOPLE</b>	26	9	1	Green: The young people visiting the elderly Go outside the church more often to meet other JAM groups or have them visit us To do more creative things and display them in church Red: Separate the Sunday School from the Creche	Green: 78 Amber: 18 Red: 1
<b>WORKING MORE CLOSELY WITH MILTON OF CAMPSIE/TORRANCE</b>	3	3	10	Green: JAM children to take part in the summer camp with Milton of Campsie children Red: New Energy Locally Grown	Green: 9 Amber: 6 Red: 10
<b>WORKING WITH FREE CHURCH/CHAPEL</b>	1	4	6	Amber: Family nights, quiz, music etc. race night	Green: 3 Amber: 8 Red: 6
<b>THE ENVIRONMENT</b>	3	2	4	Green: Make the church building more environmentally friendly – feed the birds, hedgehog homes, bug hotels, children's garden area to plant veg and harvest it Looking after God's creation Amber: New Energy Locally Grown	Green: 9 Amber: 4 Red: 4

## Appendix 3: Responses on Flipchart sheets

### 3.1 What is the best thing about being part of Campsie Parish Church?

- Warmth and friendliness x 7
- Friendly – welcoming x 2
- Feeling like a part of the family x 2
- Fellowship and friendship
- Warmth, fellowship, support
- Support of church family x 3
- Worship/friendship/support x 2
- Love/family/caring/support/prayer
- Knowing it's there i.e. communal worship with other Christians: doesn't need to be in a building
- The love and support this church gives is wonderful
- Love and support x 3
- That it is in Campsie and I don't have to travel far to get here
- The church is very welcoming and feels like a large family
- Sense of belonging x 4
- Sanctuary

## 3.2 What do we do well?

- Singing
- Food x 2
- Welcome and love and support
- Support of each other when wanted
- Prayer for those in need x 2
- Prayer support
- Lovely food
- Praying (Circle)
- A very welcoming church full of love
- Welcome and hospitality
- Sing and pray
- Support each other – when/if needed. Prayer circle
- Welcome people who are new to Campsie
- Support each other-especially one of the ladies who makes soup when someone is ill and needs a smile and comfort
- Friendly and caring people x 4
- Welcoming

### 3.3 What are your hopes for the future?

- Getting out into the community
- New church alongside existing church
- Churches sharing worship in small groups as well as larger
- More young people into church x 6
- United congregation and worship and fellowship
- More young people
- Christian life inside and outside the building x 2
- Being open to change
- Church caring for others
- Church full of change and love
- A vibrant church, open to change
- Young people joining in worship x 2
- Growth
- A church that can be seen to be reaching out to the community
- More music and encouraging children to take part more each week
- To see more young people involved in church services (e.g. Boys Brigade, JAM)
- Continue/expand contact with local residential care homes – Christmas nativity, do more visits/different themes
- To see the number of younger (< 50) people attending and expanding the church family x 3
- I hope to see all ages enjoying a Sunday morning coming to church with joy – wanting to hear more about God
- I would like to see the band at praise night include some children

### 3.4 What are your concerns/fears?

- That Campsie church will no longer be here to serve the community so well
- That young people will not have the opportunity to live the life I've had
- There are only a few families involved in the church – we need to encourage more
- No young people to go forward with
- That older folk will not change to a supporting role rather than that of leading
- If the task ahead seems too daunting people won't get involved
- "The Mustard Seed" beginning is encouraging
- Too much changing too quickly
- That people would be unwilling to change/compromise
- That tradition will not let the change happen (we always did it this way)
- People do not want noisy children bothering their worship
- Without children our church will close – we need to find a way to encourage children and youth to come x 2 (absolutely!)
- That people will not accept change and want to go back to the way things were

### 3.5 Who will shape the next stage? How can we support them?

- Hopefully – the whole congregation will work together, supporting each other through whatever changes need to happen
- Speakers from the Presbytery to give us new ideas
- Use Local Church Review to form practical short/medium term plans
- Everyone – church, community, Church of Scotland, outside agencies (collaborative working)
- All of us! Needing commitment
- Advice from young people on website/Facebook
- Support Jane and the church elders – speak to them about what WE can do to help the church grow
- We can encourage and help in any way. More people should do things. We do not have enough helpers

### 3.6 What would you like more of?

- Support Jane
- Good worship with freedom of expression
- Tolerance of new ideas and views of others x 2
- When people are doing tasks for the church, whatever they are, think about sharing and involving others.
- Support for things being done e.g. Rainbow Café
- That the Rainbows, Boys Brigade come to church on Sunday mornings, children and leaders
- More support for Jane and willingness to try new things x 3
- More talks from people who live and work in the community x 3
- Interacting with people who do not come to church through food events x 2
- Less formal worship – more inclusive
- Individuals representing the church on the different groups around the village
- Ability to be more open in seeing what you believe if it is likely to be controversial x 3
- Alternative worship
- Outside groups meeting on church premises
- Outside church (weather permitting!)
- More outreach – meals and chat
- Change in the music – one children's hymn (from a CD)
  - one modern hymn
  - one proper hymn
- Worship in other places – going to visit other churches to see what they do

### 3.7 What needs to/could change?

- More evenings with speakers/testimonies
- Testimony evening – good to learn from others' experience
- We need better and clearer communication
- Acceptance of variety of services – forms of worship etc.
- Sunday school – the teachers – need more training
- Up-to-date outlook
- Sunday school teachers should have time to attend the church services, not only taking the Sunday school, they are doing an important job and need more support
- Predictability of church service
- The image of the Kirk in the community
- We need to be more inclusive during worship (less formal)
- Young people doing things to be more involved/welcomed into the church
- Inviting more speakers into the church as it seems to encourage more conversation, try to lose the thought of being an “old-fashioned church” have a youth group – not on a weekend as many young people have so many activities now at weekends
- Pop, Pizza, and Prayers x 2
- Juice, Jesus, and Jane x 2
- Lettuce pray x 2 (brilliant idea)
- We need our website to be exciting
- Kirkintilloch Herald advert is boring – needs to be more exciting. Maybe a change of wording to invite

### 3.8 What are your fears for the future?

- Dying church x 2
- Church no longer here
- Losing our church here
- Diminishing – in many ways
- That people lose sight of, or connection with, God
- That church will die if we are not willing for change
- That older members will be cast aside!
- That we do not have children in our church – we need a youth group as well, perhaps not a Sunday – but we need youth to grow in our church x 3
- Church closing
- The church needs to adapt to society today otherwise it will become outdated
- That the church will no longer exist as the older generation will not be here forever and we don't have a lot of younger people to carry the word of God into our community
- That we change too many of our traditions as some are good traditions
- That we are boring to the village
- That we don't find a way to connect with the village at large

### 3.9 How can we better reach our community?

- Outreach – advertising (not in Kirkintilloch Herald)
- Facebook
- Find out what is needed, not what we want to do x 2
- Try asking young people what would move them to want to be part of our church family
- More of ARK, with invitations to come to church
- Have something e.g. entertainment evening, to invite community to attend – possibly contribute to x 3
- Get more children into Sunday school which is a link with their families which would also be a link with the community
- Look at supporting “mental health” for young people
- Let the community see what we are doing in the church
- Be open more – CPC looks inactive mostly x 2
- Work with local council and local health x 2
- Support young parents – have a counsellor available – to have a person to listen to their problems would help
- Be more involved in what happens around Lennoxton (groups and initiatives) x2
- Remote access to services (broadcast online) to let anyone join in e.g. those who are ill or abroad et cetera.
- Get the church open for activity during the week x 2
- The church is a lovely pleasant place – maybe “interest” classes would increase people’s use therefore familiarity might encourage more people through the door
- We can ask Torrance church to give us help and ideas

### 3.10 What experiments have we tried? What did we learn?

- ARK (Acts of Random Kindness) small things don't have much impact
- The labyrinth was an excellent way to help us think through some things that may not have come to mind about relationship to God
- Café Church – controversial
- Alternative worship
- The Alpha changes lives – it is important we carry on encouraging people
- Messy church – parents aren't so willing to come along with their children. Could we have a less formal club one evening a fortnight for children to come along?
- Messy church – need more people to invite friends.
- We do things like Messy Church and Café Church but needs time to let it grow. Praise nights are good but not supported. It is a shame.
- People need a reason to come. Something that attracts them
- Youth group was once popular, is there any way we could arrange something like this again – informal but still getting the word of worship out to younger people.
- Messy church – not everyone's cup of tea
- Messy church, happy service – great fun

### 3.11 Is there anything we should stop doing?

- Looking back!! X 2
- Being negative
- Comparing what used to be done
- Thinking that tradition is always best
- Looking back instead of looking forward x 3

## What could be better/different?

- Nothing, just keep doing what you're doing so well and hope
- Try reaching out to the community – perhaps training courses etc. Have the church open during the day – perhaps once a week for parents coming home from school – a cup of tea and a chat when they drop their children at nursery school
- Find ways to encourage young people to come into church – music, environment projects
- That there is more mentoring from our older members
- Engage more with the community
- More interaction with the elders
- Respect each other, ways of worship, beliefs

## How do you feel about the future?

- Sad but not surprised x 2
- Very concerned, depressed, extremely worried
- Daunting, paralysing
- Worried
- Worried, concerned, sad
- Worrying and challenging
- Concerned
- Worried about the future
- Alarmed!
- Waking up, alarmed, heads-up
- Concerned for the future of the CofS, depressing
- Concerning
- We have been aware of this, not surprised, sad
- Could be quite depressed but with Christ I have hope
- Very sad
- Why bother?
- Scary: where and what can anyone do to improve this picture?
- Worried about the future, hope there will be a church to go to

## Appendix 4: Ideas/Comments

- Praying specifically, perhaps one day a month
- We need to fund a way of having meals once a month and invite families as guests. Soup + Sweet + Chat, Cold Meats + Salads + Chat, Finger Food + Chat
- How do we reach out into the community if we do not invite people into church?
- Stop evening service and use praise band sometimes in morning
- Monthly “different” morning service
- There is a noticeboard outside the church. The bus stops there. People are sitting in the bus with their mobile phones. Does the Church of Scotland have an app these people can tap on? The Jesuits have an app “Pray as you go” for people like that who cannot/will not go to “normal” church. Not everyone can come on a Sunday morning (family commitments, stress of work and exhaustion). Can we minister to such people? It’s like speaking to a room full of people but the room is dark because we don’t know who they are and may never know, but they are still there with needs.
- I would like to see a friendship club/birthday club for the older members of the congregation.
- Thinking of a younger member caring for an older member: flowers/card/gift etc. just because we care for the older people.
- Would love to see a mentoring program where older people look after younger members.
- People have unspoken needs. The need to be listened to before we can respond, otherwise they will not open up. Many people (if not all) are spiritual but don’t see the connection between a church service and their search for life/God/fulfilment. Perhaps we should consider having a time when the church is open to come in and sit quietly, light a candle, have a talk with someone, without it being judgemental. The reflective service was lovely.
- Bible study groups
- With the loss of the Board, I – for one – feel increasingly out of the loop. Over a year ago, probably closer to two now, there was a Gift Day. The amount received did not get disclosed and was requested at the ASM. It then appeared in the following weeks’ Notice Sheet.
- Last year’s Christmas Celebration was not made known until about 2 weeks prior. I already had an engagement and therefore could not go. Most people’s diaries fill up quite quickly for December and therefore, it’s imperative to get that information out there really early.
- I understand that we are not supporting Operation Christmas Child for the first time in over 20 years. Is this information known to the general congregation? I think not. I would not be at all

surprised if the keen knitters had been busy making hats and bonnets over the last few months in preparation.

- My biggest bug. Around 25 years ago, David Torrance requested that the duty team did not leave to open the doors until after the benediction. That was approved and has not changed since. On the coat-tails of that, I requested that the same rule apply for the tea/coffee makers. That was also approved, but – over the years – it has lapsed, mostly because it was never announced anywhere. I hate it when people leave during the last hymn or, worse still, the benediction. It's totally unnecessary. Everything is set up before the service and it does not take long to make those drinks.
- A plea from me wearing my Freewill Treasurer's hat: Please DO NOT change an amount if it is incorrect. Please score out the incorrect amount and write the correct amount elsewhere on the envelope. Changed amounts can be very difficult to read.
- More support for Jane. The lack of support at Coffee, Cake, and Chat [6<sup>th</sup> September] was bad as is every praise night.
- Visitations from the session to organisations to express an interest.
- Would be nice if the Boys Brigade etc. were more involved within the church – do they not do the Dedication Service, Bible study anymore? If they become more involved in the Remembrance Parade – bringing in the colours etc. may be a way of getting younger people in again. I think the Dementia Cafe is a great idea.
- Church of Scotland should be more high profile. Not enough comments from central office to press et cetera. Let the folk know what the Church of Scotland is doing

## Appendix 5: Lennoxton Place Plan



DRAFT  
LENNOXTOWN PLACE PLAN

---

2018-2023

## Our vision

---

“We want to see continued regeneration of Lennoxtown that does not compromise the beauty of our local environment. We want to feel connected to the rest of East Dunbartonshire, be respected, listened to, and have parity of access to local services. We are passionate about our village and involvement in potential changes to it are extremely important to us.”

The community in Lennoxtown are committed to working together and in partnership with local services to improve the village. This long term vision has been set by local people and is accompanied by a range of themes, priority areas and comprehensive range of actions to move the village towards its vision.

### Theme 1 Land Use and Physical Assets

- Campsie Memorial Hall
- Main Street
- Housing and the wider village area

### Theme 2 Leisure and Activities

- Parks and recreation
- Community events
- Travel

### Theme 3 Environment and Safety

- Greenspace
- Antisocial behaviour

### Theme 4 Health and Care

- Community integration
- Removing barriers

East Dunbartonshire has been recognised as one of the best areas to live in Scotland based on people's health, life expectancy, employment and school performance. Economic activity and employment rates are high and the level of crime is significantly below the Scottish average. Despite this, inequalities exist across the authority. To try and address these inequalities, East Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership (CPP) is committing to working with local communities to deliver actions through a number of plans for smaller geographical areas known as Place Plans.

### What is the Community Planning Partnership?

The CPP is made up of local services who work in our communities to make them the best they can be. Members include East Dunbartonshire Council, Police Scotland, the NHS and Health and Social Care Partnership, Scottish Fire and Rescue, Scottish Enterprise, East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action and a variety of other voluntary sector organisations.

### What is this Place Plan?

There has been a lot of activity in Lennoxtown over recent years to identify local issues with a view to creating a community plan for moving forward. The issues identified and possible solutions and opportunities have been grouped together in this document called the Lennoxtown Place Plan. The development of this plan has been led by local residents and prepared in partnership with the Council and other community planning partners.

### Why is it important?

This plan is an important step for Lennoxtown. It consolidates everything we know about the circumstances, needs and aspirations in the village. It provides a basis for regeneration of the village and is the 'blueprint' for action within Lennoxtown. This responds to new legislation that promotes and drives greater community leadership and partnership than ever before.

You can read more about the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 [here](#).<sup>1</sup> There are not endless resources to tackle all the issues identified immediately but this is the start of a new era for Lennoxtown and this Plan will be able to support projects and funding applications to make it a reality.

<sup>1</sup> [www.scdc.org.uk/what/community-empowerment-scotland-act/](http://www.scdc.org.uk/what/community-empowerment-scotland-act/)



# Successes in the village to date

---

This plan builds on lots of successes in recent years that have improved the quality of life in Lennoxtown. There have been regeneration initiatives in the past which have brought about changes like the Lennoxtown Enterprise Centre and local housing developments. Lennoxtown Project Group recently completed the Campsie Corner Community Garden and local residents have worked with the Council to enable the installation of a new play park at Benclouch Road. The Council worked with the Whitefield Pond Group to carry out conservation improvements at Balgrochan Marsh including a new path, a new sandstone monolith information point and a wildflower meadow. The Council opened Lennoxtown Hub in 2016 bringing a variety of services under one roof including housing, the library, leisure services and benefits.

## The origins of our village

People in Lennoxtown are rightly proud of the rich and fascinating History and Heritage surrounding their village.

### Lennoxtown is the largest village in the Parish of Campsie.

It was originally called Newtown-of-Campsie. It became so closely associated with Lennox Corn Mill and Lennox Mill Calico Print Works, that it eventually became known as Lennox Town. Locals often refer to Lennoxtown as 'Campsie' perhaps because it was the largest settlement in the Parish.

### By the end of the 1780s the Calico Print Works was set up.

Calico, a type of cotton cloth, and the printing of this style of cotton cloth was soon established as a major industry in the area.

### During the 1790s

Many of the Lennox Mill workers supported Thomas Muir of Huntershill in his campaign to establish democracy in Scotland, and a Reform Society was set up in Campsie in 1792.

---

### [Lennoxtown became bustling hive of industry](#)

A burgeoning community which was well served by its many thriving industries, its many shops, and by its railway.

### [Lennox Castle Hospital was built by Glasgow Corporation in 1936](#)

When it first opened it had 1,200 beds and was the largest mental deficiency (terminology used at that time) hospital in Britain.

### [A 120 bed maternity unit was also opened between 1941 and 1943](#)

Although initially intended to be a temporary unit, it received patients until 1964 when it eventually closed. Greater Glasgow and Clyde Health board began a phased closure of the entire hospital by 2002.

You can read more about the history of Lennoxtown [here](#)<sup>2</sup> and more about the heritage of Lennoxtown [here](#).<sup>3</sup> Local history booklets are also available from the Campsie Local History Group and in the Library on Transport, Education and Schools, Buildings, Sport and Leisure, The Co-op (Lennoxtown Friendly Victualling Society) and much more.

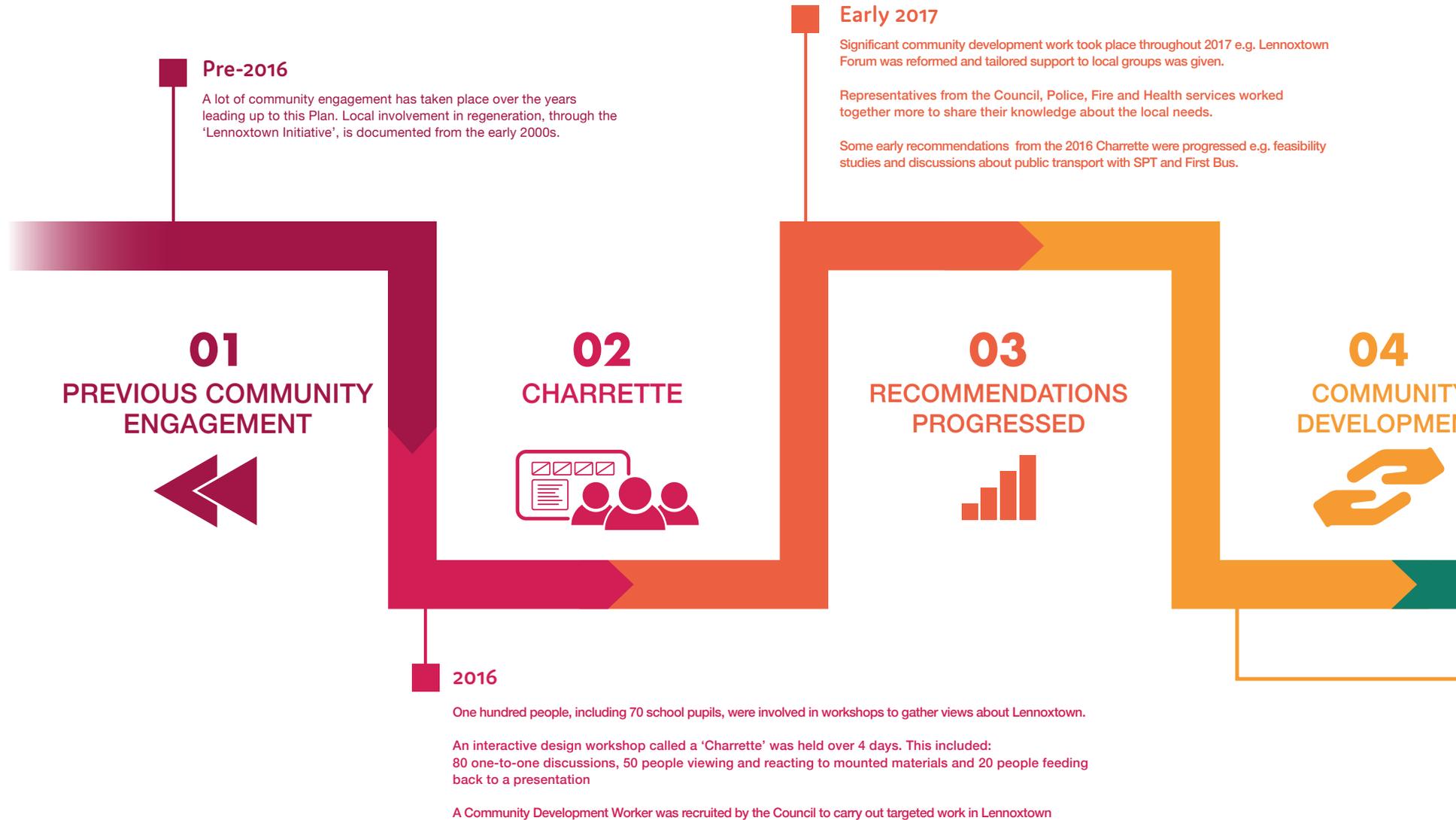
<sup>2</sup> [www.welcometolennoxtown.co.uk](http://www.welcometolennoxtown.co.uk)

<sup>3</sup> [www.trailsandtales.org/news/?location=lennoxtown](http://www.trailsandtales.org/news/?location=lennoxtown)



# Our voice

## A timeline of engagement in Lennoxtown



### Early 2018

Over 40 people attended workshop sessions in February to check back in with the community on Charrette topics. There was a designated station for discussing community-led action.

A working group of around 10 local residents began meeting in March to draft this plan.

There were further meetings between different teams in the Council to mitigate any unintentional duplication of work in Lennoxton and join up the conversations.

## 05 WORKSHOP SESSIONS



### The Future

The Council will assist with transferring this plan into an interactive map online (using GIS) which will show live progress updates and details for getting involved in different parts of the action plan.

Lennoxton Forum and Campsie Community Council will continue to be supported. These are key groups for local residents to come together, share ideas and influence change in the village.

We need you! The Forum meets regularly in Campsie Memorial Hall and the Community Council meets in the Glazert House Hotel. Everyone welcome.

## 07 THE FUTURE



## 06 CONSULTATION ON DRAFT



### Late 2018

There will be a consultation on this plan in summer. This will involve showing and discussing content with people living or working in the village to gain feedback.

There will be support to the Community Council to establish ownership of this plan over the next five years.

In autumn 2018 all partners will consider the final draft and adopt it as the policy for Lennoxton.

### Late 2017

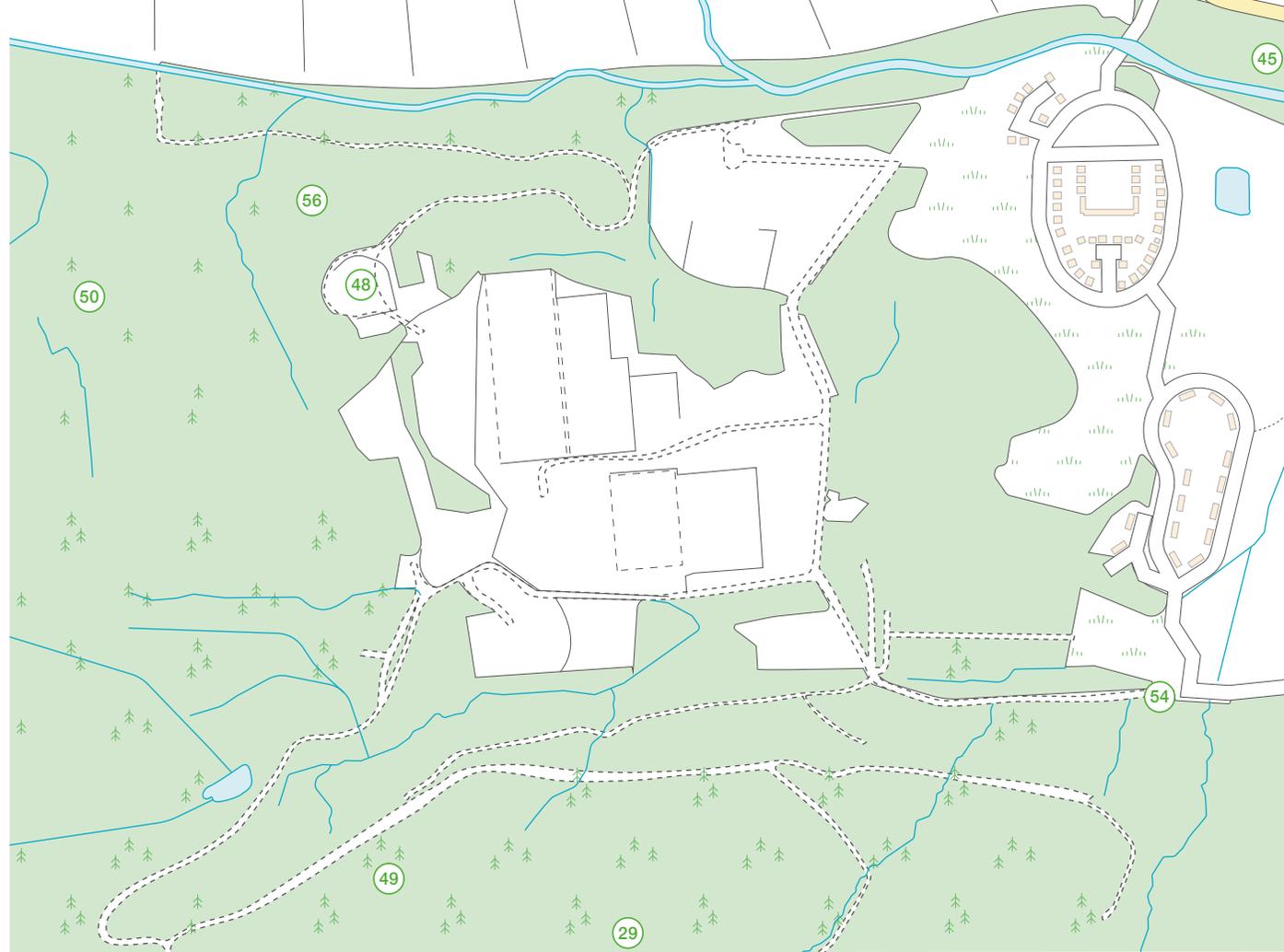
Meetings were held between Council services and other organisations to inform the overall picture of priorities in Lennoxton.

A quarterly newsletter was started up for local community groups to share useful information.

There was more joined up working between EDVA, the Council and a newly elected Campsie Community Council which created new relationships and helped identify opportunities for the community council to grow.

# Our Assets

Lennoxtown is situated on the bank of the river Glazert 3/4 miles from Kirkintilloch and around 10 miles away from Glasgow. It sits at the foot of the Campsie Fells and consists principally of one long Main Street, running roughly east to west. It is serviced by several shops, cafes and a hotel. The village and immediate surrounding area has a selection of local assets. It lies close to the M80 and M73 motorways and there is a direct bus service to Glasgow, via Kirkintilloch and Lenzie Train Station.



## Community Organisation or Club

- 1 1st Campsie Brownie Unit
- 2 1st Campsie Guide Unit
- 3 1st Campsie Boys Brigade
- 4 3rd Campsie Brownies
- 5 Campsie Accordion & Fiddle Club
- 6 Campsie Angling Club
- 7 Campsie Bowling Club
- 8 Campsie Community Council
- 9 Campsie Golf Club
- 10 Campsie Horticultural Society
- 11 Campsie Local History Group
- 12 Campsie, Strathblane, Baldernock and Kirkintilloch Agricultural Society
- 13 Campsie FC
- 14 Campsie Minerva AFC
- 15 Karas Dance Academy
- 16 Astonish Gymnastics
- 17 Lennoxtown Project Group
- 18 Lennoxtown Youth Project
- 19 Scotia Dance Academy
- 20 Writers Group
- 21 Zanshin Kai Karate

## Facility or Service

- 22 Campsie Memorial Hall
- 23 Clachan of Campsie House
- 24 Campsie Glen Village Hall
- 25 Heritage and arts workshops (various). See what's on in Lennoxtown Library here.<sup>5</sup>
- 26 Lennoxtown Enterprise Centre
- 27 Lennoxtown Medical Practice
- 28 Lennoxtown Library
- 29 Rebound: Lennox Forrest Outdoor Centre
- 30 Whitefield Lodge Care Home
- 31 Lennoxtown Primary
- 32 St. Machan's Primary School
- 33 Campsie Dental Practice

## Place of Worship

- 34 Campsie Parish Church
- 35 Lennoxtown Free Church of Scotland
- 36 St. Machan's Roman Catholic Church

## Natural or Historical Asset

- 37 Balcarrach Wood
- 38 Balgrochan Marsh
- 39 Benvue Woodland
- 40 Campsie Fells
- 41 Crow Road Car Park
- 42 Ferguson Park
- 43 Field of Blood
- 44 Gallow Hill
- 45 Glazert Wood
- 46 High Church and Graveyard
- 47 High Park
- 48 Lennox Castle
- 49 Lennox Forrest
- 50 Lovers Leap Viewpoint
- 51 Redhills Woodland
- 52 Reservoir
- 53 Station Road Park
- 54 Walks and Trails (various). See a list of routes in and around Lennoxtown for all ability levels here.<sup>6</sup>
- 55 Whitefield Pond
- 56 Woodhead House

For the most recent information on approved land designations, visit East Dunbartonshire Council's webpage for the Local Development Plan (LDP) [here](#).<sup>4</sup> You can view an interactive version of the LDP via this webpage.

For information about what's on in the village, visit the Lennoxtown Community Forum Facebook page @LennoxtownForum, or simply drop into Campsie Memorial Hall for a chat.

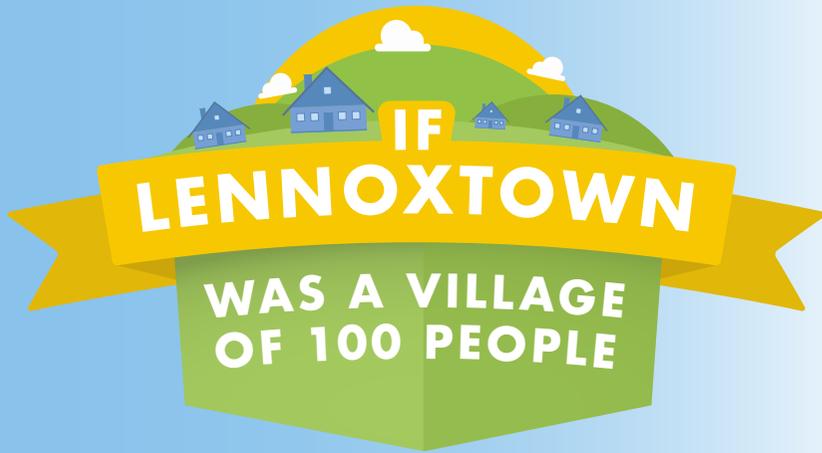
This is not exhaustive. We would love to hear about your local asset. Please let us know at the contact details on the back page.

4 [www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/LDP](http://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/LDP) 5 <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/sport-leisure-parks/parks-gardens-and-open-spaces/healthy-habits-and-walking>

6 <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/residents/sport-leisure-parks/parksgardens-and-open-spaces/healthy-habits-and-walking>

# Lennoxtown





You can explore more data about the local population in Lennox town here:  
<http://scotland.datashine.org.uk>

## Population

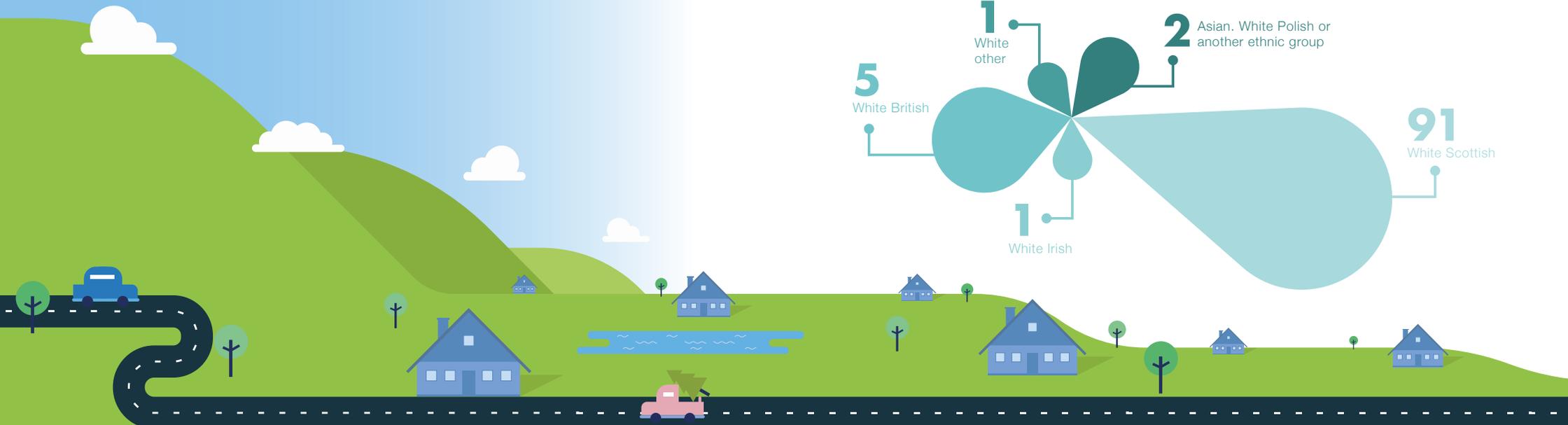
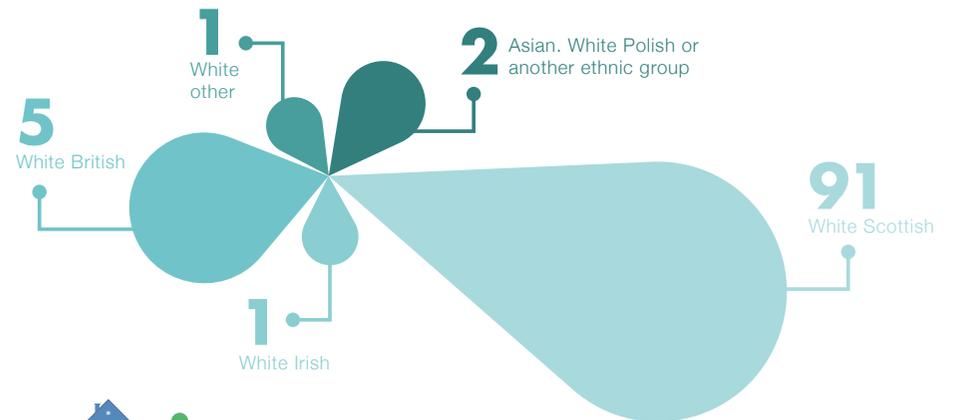
### Sex



### Age

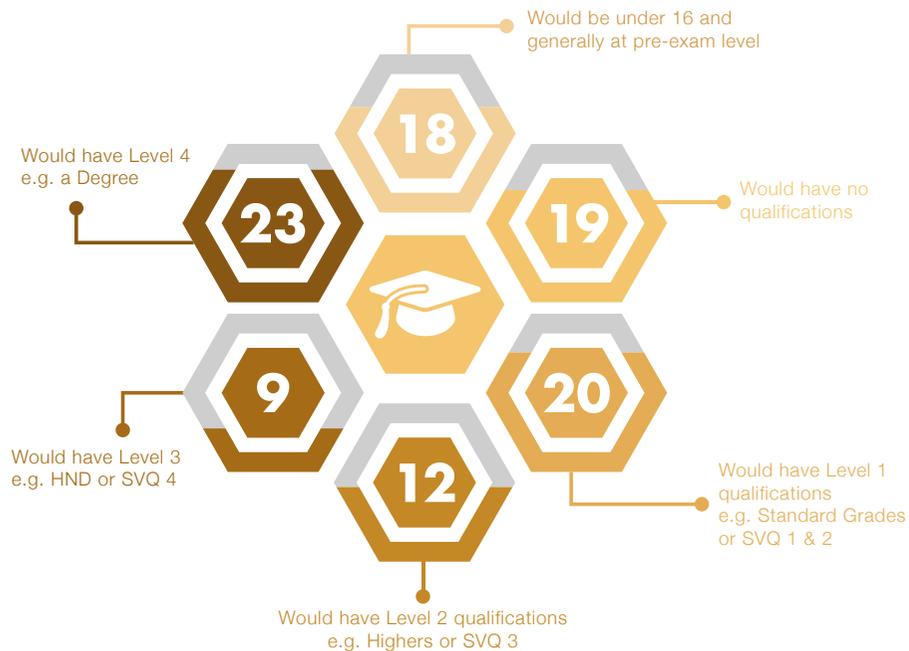


### Ethnicity



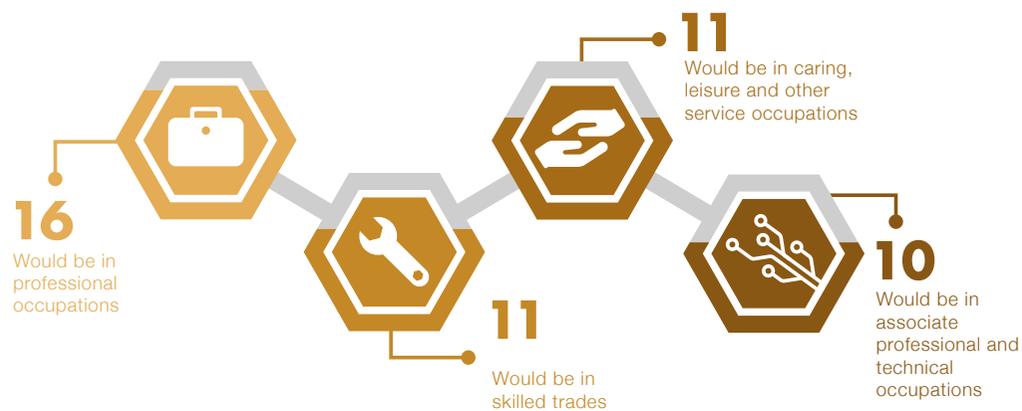
# Education and Employment

## Education



## Work

Amongst all those aged 16 and over who are economically active, the four most common occupations would be as follows

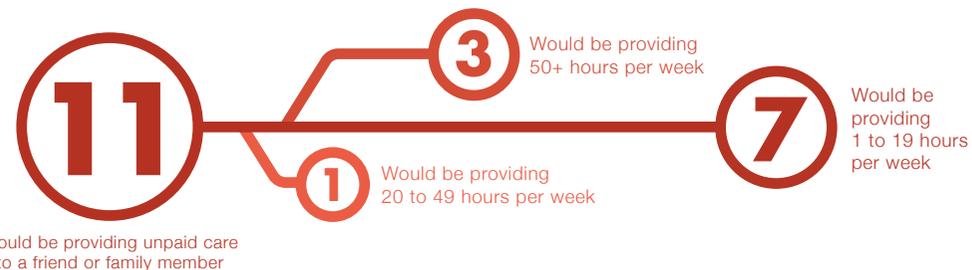


# Health and Housing

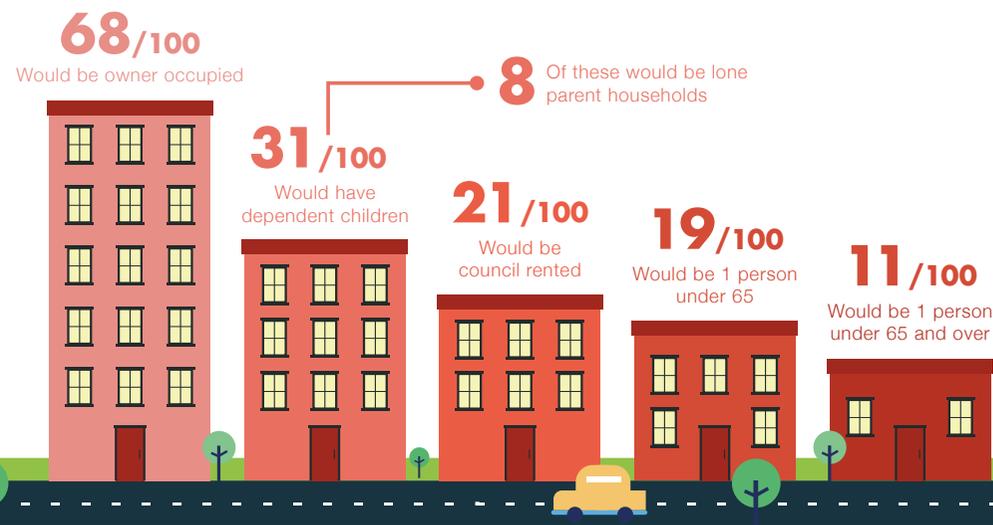
## Health



## Care



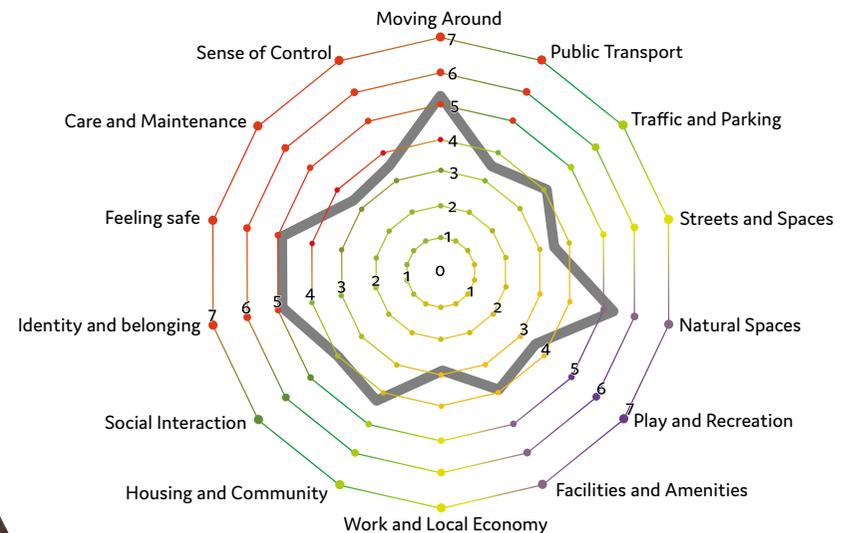
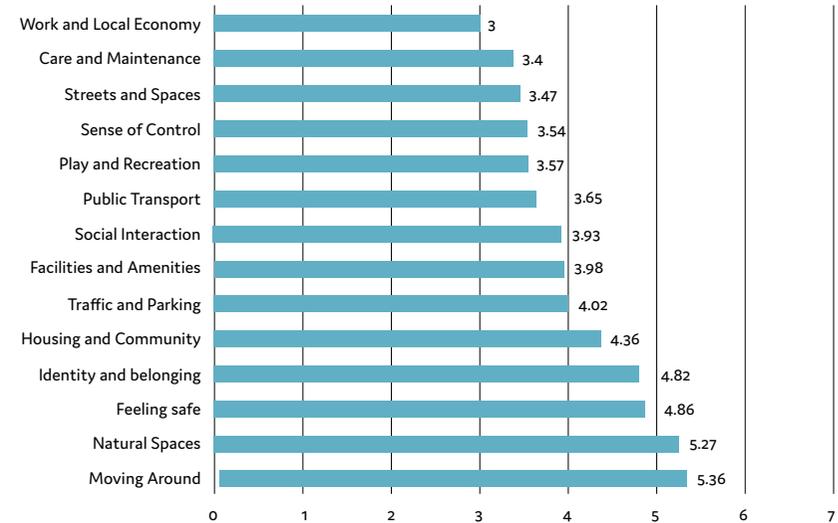
## Housing



# Community likes, dislikes and ideas for improvement

After the Charrette, survey feedback was collated and transformed into average scores for 14 different topics. The scoring system is as follows:

- 1 – very bad, no positive aspects
- 3 – the negative aspects just outweigh the positive aspects
- 4 – the positive aspects just outweigh the negative aspects
- 7 – very good, no negative aspects



## What local people said they liked

People felt really positive about Community spirit, the outdoors, local clubs and businesses:

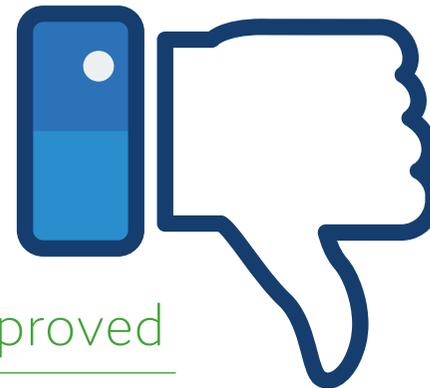
- Lots happening although people don't always know about it
- People are proud of the rich history of the village and family heritage.
- The sense of community spirit, friendly, welcoming people.
- Litter pick amazing
- I like to play outside, mainly at the park
- The picturesque setting, magnificent views, the Campsies
- The Memorial Hall and its committee
- Local people involved in the Community, and those who attempt to promote it



## What local people said they disliked

People felt less positive about Traffic speed, environmental antisocial behaviour, village centre appearance, housing and childcare

- Illegal parking Main St needs stopped
- Speed of traffic through village
- More social housing and investment in existing council housing
- Nowhere for children to play.
- Places neglected/overgrown
- Bad dog fouling in Lennoxtown. It has got to be cleaned up.
- Better and more flexible options for childcare
- Clean up railway/river area



## What local people suggested could be improved

- Ask Shop Owners to put hanging basket/tubs outside
- Seating required at High Park for Walkers
- More sports and recreation for all ages
- make a place to play for the children to play instead of on the roads





# Our action plan

This Action Plan has been prepared by the local community in partnership with the public and voluntary sector.

The current Campsie Community Council (CCC) was elected in 2017. Where responsibility is assigned to Campsie Community Council, they will work in partnership with other community groups to progress these actions. This will be heavily supported by EDVA and the EDC – Community Planning and Partnerships Team.

Public and voluntary sector services sometimes work together on actions. When this happens, thematic partnership groups oversee it. The lead organisations for these groups are as follows:

- East Dunbartonshire Economic Partnership (EDEP) - East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC)
- Employability Action Group (EAG) - East Dunbartonshire Council and Skills Development Scotland
- Delivering for Children and Young People's Partnership (DCYPP) - East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership and East Dunbartonshire Council
- Community Safety Partnership (CSP) - East Dunbartonshire Council

- Joint Health Improvement Plan (JHIP) Steering Group - East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership
- Health and Social Care (HSC) Strategic Planning Group - East Dunbartonshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP)
- Community Learning and Development (CLD) Partnership - East Dunbartonshire Council
- Financial Inclusion Partnership (FIP) - East Dunbartonshire Council

**As this is a five year plan, short term indicates years 1 to 2, medium term indicates a timescale of up to years 3 or 4 and long term indicates a timescale of up to year 5.**

We have agreed four themes each with two to three priority areas for action. A summary of the required improvement is provided for each priority along with actions, responsibilities and timescales.

In addition to this plan there are a number of existing services that partners deliver across East Dunbartonshire. These can be viewed at the Appendix.

## Contents

### Land Use and Physical Assets

Campsie Memorial Hall 17  
Main Street 18  
Housing and the wider village area 19

### Leisure and Activities

Parks and recreation 20  
Community events 21  
Travel 22

### Environment and Safety

Greenspace 24  
Antisocial behaviour 25

### Health and Care

Community integration 26  
Removing barriers 27-28

# Campsie Memorial Hall

## Required Improvement

The Campsie Memorial Hall is run by the Campsie Memorial Hall Trust, a group of volunteers who maintain the building, rent out the spaces, and host local events within the building. The hall is well used and is an extremely important asset for our community. Many other local issues could be partly resolved through developing the building and creating greater sustainability of it.

The Place Plan and community aspiration is to protect and develop the Campsie Memorial Hall building. Consultation has told us a broader range of uses for the Hall is wanted, including it being a welcoming space for people of all ages to meet up, and somewhere with more of a tourism focus with local information for visitors.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission a feasibility study to investigate all options and costs for extending and improving the Hall</li> </ul>	East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) - Regeneration and Town Centres	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out short term redecoration to the Hall</li> </ul>	Campsie Memorial Hall Trust (CMHT)	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide support for the operational and management activities relating to hall management and volunteering</li> </ul>	EDC - Community Planning and Partnerships and East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action	Short – medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore and implement possible physical &amp; operational improvements to the Hall, as result of feasibility work</li> </ul>	EDC – Regeneration and Town Centres and CMHT	Long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out surface works in car park including line painting, in conjunction with Hall improvements</li> </ul>	EDC – Regeneration and Town Centres	Long term

**We want our Campsie Memorial Hall to be a thriving and sustainable hub for everyone in Lennoxtown.**



# Main Street

## Required Improvement

Lennoxton is set within picturesque surroundings, however there is an issue of speeding traffic on the roads entering the village. Following the charrette, EDC commissioned traffic counts on the main roads entering the village to record the volume and speed of traffic to provide an evidence base for actions contained within this place plan. Local concerns about the safety and appearance of Main Street have also been well documented. Community engagement identified three target areas of the Main Street where improvements could have the biggest impact: west; centre; and east Main Street. Potential actions for each target area were discussed with the community February 2018 and the positive responses received helped the shape the actions detailed below.

- a) Rebalance the street towards pedestrian movement and activity  
 c) Create a place which residents and tourists wish to visit
- b) Support cyclists  
 d) Reduce vehicle speed through street design

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold community Street Audits to identify and carry out short term maintenance and appearance projects working with local businesses where possible</li> </ul>	Campsie Community Council (CCC) and, East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) – Place and Business Development	Short term and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission feasibility work to develop options for public realm improvements in the area identified in the Charrette process., This includes: new multi-functional village space; traffic calming measures; reconfigurations and enhancements to street layout; and street furniture upgrades throughout Main Street area</li> </ul>	EDC – Regeneration and Town Centres, Traffic and Transport	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of the public realm feasibility look at options to create better and additional pedestrian crossing opportunities along the main street?</li> </ul>	EDC – Regeneration and Town Centres, Traffic and Transport	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase and improve safe parking options in the east and west Main Street, Service Street and Crosshill Street areas</li> </ul>	EDC - Regeneration and Town Centres, Traffic and Transport	Medium – long term

**We want our village centre to be an attractive and people-orientated area that is easy to move around in and somewhere we feel safe as pedestrians and as road users. We would like our village to be a welcoming gateway to the Campsie Fells.**

# Housing and the wider village area

## Required Improvement

Our community is striving to protect and enhance our built and natural environment and we feel that the appearance and conditions of buildings are extremely important. Social housing availability is recognised as being problematic in Lennoxton, with a key issue being a perceived lack of single person occupancy properties to meet demand.

The current Local Development Plan includes the principle policy of supporting regeneration and protecting the green belt. It states that green belt will be used to support regeneration by directing development to the most appropriate locations. Lennoxton is set within beautiful surroundings and it is important to us that the Council's planning, housing and other services involved in strategic and technical work communicate in a fair and transparent way.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the current activity and potential re-establishment of the Tenants &amp; Residents Association in the area by liaising with other residents and the Council Tenant Participation Officer</li> </ul>	Tenants & Residents Association Chair in partnership with local community	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out roads and footways audits in partnership with the local community, to help identify any potential future upgrade works</li> </ul>	East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) - Road Network Operations	Short term and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase the profile of the Community Council as the central point of contact for the village, giving external parties a clear means of communicating proposals or information about housing and the wider village area</li> </ul>	Campsie Community Council (CCC)	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate updates from housing providers to convey key messages to locals and discuss plans such as capital improvement programmes to existing houses or new build development</li> </ul>	CCC	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Endeavour to ensure that information regarding policy formation, strategies, consultations, projects, programmes and technical actions are shared with the community</li> </ul>	EDC – Land Planning Policy, Sustainability Policy, Housing Strategy, Housing Operations, Estates and Facilities, Property Maintenance	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upskill the Community Council and wider community to participate in land planning processes</li> </ul>	East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action and EDC – Community Planning and Partnerships	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the ownership of High Church and scope out restoration possibilities</li> </ul>	CCC and EDC – Community Planning and Partnerships	Long term

**We need more rented homes in Lennoxton which proportionately reflect the local demographics and we wish to have more accessible opportunities to be involved in how our area is developed, particularly to reduce encroachment into the greenbelt.**



# Parks and recreation

## Required Improvement

A shortage of recreation options for all ages in Lennoxton has been identified as a key issue in Lennoxton. The Place Planning process in Lennoxton shows community wish to see more safe play areas and activities for children. It also notes that local people feel there are few attractive options for young and older adults, especially indoors. Feasibility studies undertaken as part of the Place Planning process for the pitches at Station Road and Ferguson Park provided options for additional uses. Subsequent consultation with the community returned a preference for natural style improvements such as natural play areas, outdoor gym equipment, wildflower meadows, and improved access points and pathways. In light of the significant football activity in the area, separate feasibility study was undertaken to identify locations for a 3G pitch in the village. High Park was the only feasible site with an estimated development cost for the pitch and pavilion around £800,000. Any opportunities to revisit pitch and pavilion upgrades at High Park would be supported by the community.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
• Install play park at Bencloch Road	East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) – Streetscene Technical Support	Short term
• Install new seating at High Park	EDC – Streetscene Operations	Short term
• Develop the East Dunbartonshire WALK programme through trained leaders in Lennoxton	Campsie Community Council (CCC) & JHIP Steering Group	Short term
• Maintain 'smoke free' play park initiative	JHIP Steering Group	Short term
• Provide more learning for sustainability, including outdoor education through Forest Schools <sup>8</sup>	EDC – Sustainability Policy, Education	Medium term
• Review all path surfaces and local signage to identify areas of improvement to make the village disability and dementia friendly	EDC - Traffic and Transport and CCC	Medium term
• Develop the community preferred options identified in the feasibility work and implement natural and biodiverse improvements to Station Road and Ferguson Parks	EDC – Regenerations and Town Centres, Streetscene Technical Support	Medium term
• Develop actions to increase physical activity within Lennoxton	JHIP Steering Group	Long term
• Identify potential sites for food growing in Lennoxton	EDC – Sustainability Policy and CCC	Short term
• Maintain 'Snack and Play' – a scheme that provides free meals and activities in primary schools during school holidays for children most likely to benefit from this	EDC - Education and East Dunbartonshire Leisure & Culture Trust Leisure & Culture Trust	Short term and ongoing

**We want our parks and outdoor and indoor recreation options to be inviting and friendly for people of all ages**

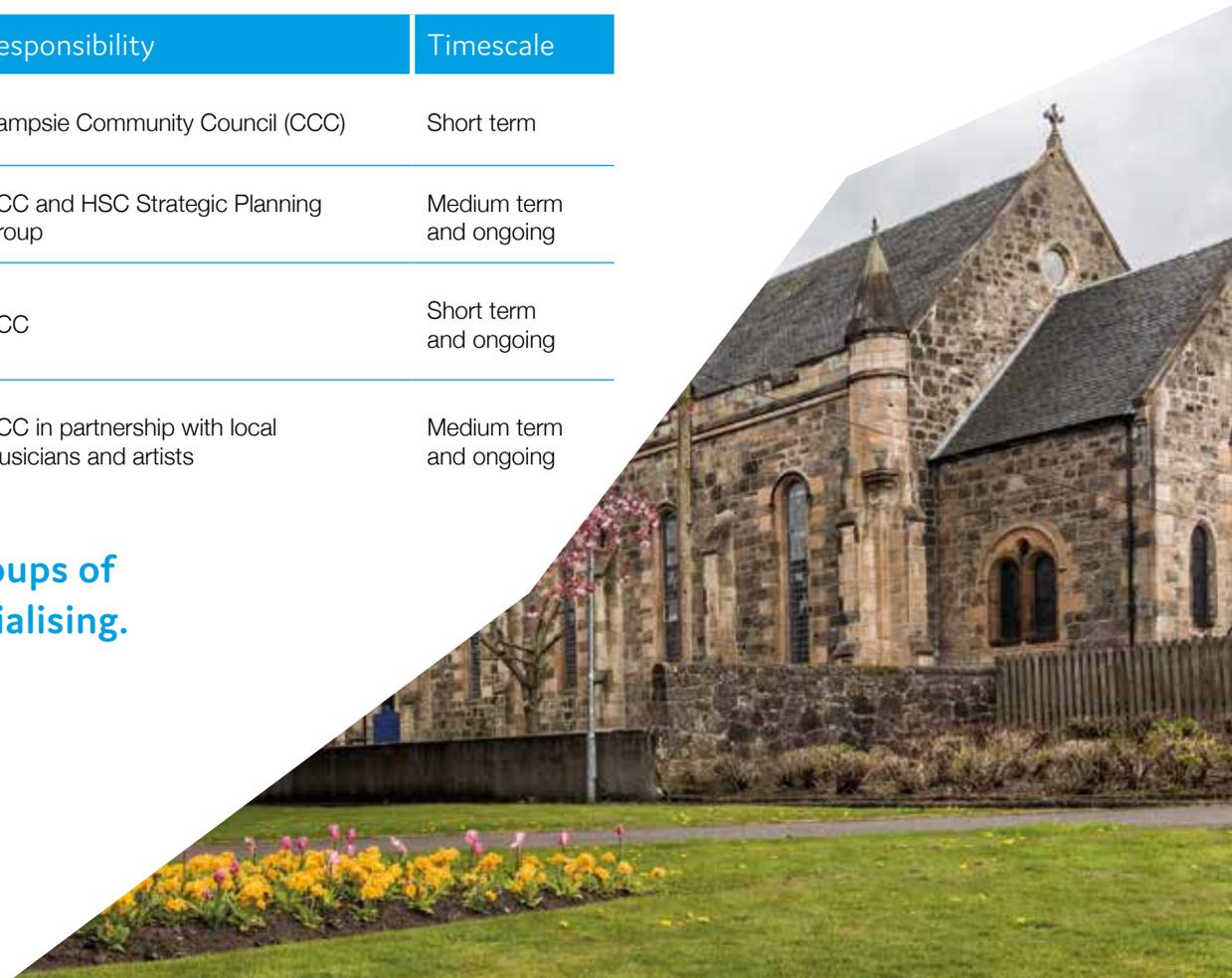
# Community events

## Required Improvement

Lennoxton is a very active community where there is a real desire for big events. During community engagement, family activities and group activities are always high on the priority list for our community. One of the things that residents regularly highlight is that events that bring the whole community together are excellent. Re-establishing a Summer Gala and planning and coordinating other joint seasonal events is something we would like to aim for. Link in with EDLC and other partners who may be scheduling calendar events to raise their profile and secure greater involvement. Community events such as 'Pot Luck' nights and family movie nights are example of preferences in the community. There is a wealth of talent in the village so let's use this valuable resource.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of holding seasonal events</li> </ul>	Campsie Community Council (CCC)	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan and coordinate seasonal events to be suitable for all the family together, including activities which are dementia friendly</li> </ul>	CCC and HSC Strategic Planning Group	Medium term and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Run targeted invitations and promotions about events to wider audiences in Lennoxton e.g. through Housing Associations</li> </ul>	CCC	Short term and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the feasibility of culture and creative arts events, and deliver events where possible</li> </ul>	CCC in partnership with local musicians and artists	Medium term and ongoing

**We want more local events that bring different groups of people together and provide opportunities for socialising.**



# Travel

## Required Improvement

Making more of the surrounding environment matters to the community and during community engagement the lack of a footpath between Strathkelvin Railway Line and Station Road was highlighted as an issue. Formalising a route would allow new signage and encourage walkers and cyclists to divert into Lennoxton. We recognise the health benefits of more walking and cycling in childhood through to older adulthood so actions should support that. There are also isolation issues for those who don't use a car and this is compounded by a restricted choice of shops. Everyone should have as much journey and ticketing information about public transport and other demand responsive public buses and other 'on-demand' transport services.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a link between the Strathkelvin Railway path and the village centre via Station Road</li> </ul>	East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) – Traffic and Transport	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a foot link in the High Church area to support additional walking choices from east to west</li> </ul>	EDC – Traffic and Transport	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create more consistent pedestrian signage that will help to move around Main Street and to the wider path network<sup>10</sup></li> </ul>	EDC – Traffic and Transport	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide secure cycle storage in the village centre<sup>11</sup></li> </ul>	EDC – Traffic and Transport	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Market and promote the village as part of existing and future cycle and active travel routes around East Dunbartonshire<sup>12</sup></li> </ul>	EDC – Traffic and Transport	Short – medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote journey and ticketing information from all transport providers</li> </ul>	CCC in partnership with SPT and First Bus	Short term

**We want to be able to travel on foot, wheels, or by bus with ease, in and around Lennoxton.**



# Greenspace

## Required Improvement

Environmental protection is an important contributor to social and economic regeneration. Various successful projects have been completed in Lennoxton and through community engagement, we identified a lot of greenspace that could be considered for improvements. Amongst others, the community has already been successful in upgrading one 'stalled-space' into Campsie Corner and there is lade naturalisation works ongoing through 2018. A healthy, biodiverse environment can have wide ranging and far reaching additional benefits to society and the economy as well as inherent benefits for nature and wildlife. A high quality natural environment can improve our physical health and mental wellbeing, support a sustainable economy including tourism and local food production, provide inspirational places for outdoor volunteering, education and training and help us adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of wider public realm improvements to Main Street, investigate the options for making the most of the space on front of St. Machan's Church</li> </ul>	East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) – Regeneration and Town Centres and Campsie Community Council (CCC)	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate the options for a Campsie Memorial Hall Community Garden</li> </ul>	Campsie Memorial Hall Trust and EDC – Regeneration and Town Centres	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out habitat enhancement works around High Park area</li> </ul>	EDC - Streetscene Technical Support <sup>13</sup>	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore 'green' health initiatives for Lennoxton such as greenspace prescriptions and local air quality initiatives</li> </ul>	JHIP Steering Group	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out habitat enhancement works at Balgrochan Marsh and investigate potential to designate site as a Local Nature Reserve</li> </ul>	EDC - Streetscene Technical Support, Sustainability Policy <sup>14</sup>	Long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create a woodland management plan and upgrade path network and entrances, signage at Southfields and Redhills woodland</li> </ul>	EDC - - Streetscene Technical Support, Sustainability Policy, Traffic and Transport <sup>16</sup>	Long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate strengthening links from Redhills View Grassland to other adjacent open spaces through habitat creation &amp; management</li> </ul>	EDC - Streetscene Technical Support, Sustainability Policy, Traffic and Transport <sup>17</sup>	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress Glazert Water River Restoration to provide natural flood risk benefits, create wetland and habitat areas and revitalise the wildlife corridor, ensuring community voice is sought and included throughout project</li> </ul>	EDC - Technical and Engineering, Streetscene Technical Support <sup>18</sup>	Short – medium term

<sup>13</sup> Committed in Open Space Strategy and Green Network Strategy

<sup>14,15 & 18</sup> Committed in Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Green Network Strategy

<sup>16 & 17</sup> Committed in Green Network Strategy and Open Space Strategy

**We want well-kept and accessible greenspace that allows people of all ages to enjoy our beautiful local area.**

# Antisocial behaviour

## Required Improvement

Antisocial behaviour is a big issue for the Lennoxton community. It has been identified that local incidents of fire raising have been fuelled by excessive alcohol consumption. The village has lots of outdoor space and paths however these are often blighted by inconsiderate dog owners and those who litter and vandalise. Cars parked illegally or inconsiderately around Main Street also make it difficult to cross the road and make cyclists and pedestrians feel unwelcome. Dangerous behaviour on the road and environmental antisocial behaviour are significant issues in Lennoxton so actions should aim to resolve these. We would also support any progress towards introducing by-laws for the licensing of professional dog walking on public land as this is perceived as a major contributing factor to dog fouling in our area.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Run targeted patrols and joint days of enforcement action to tackle parking / traffic issues and a range of environmental incivilities such as dog fouling, fly tipping and littering</li> </ul>	Community Safety Partnership (CSP)	Short term and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Run preventative and educational initiatives on antisocial behaviour and community safety issues e.g. Junior Wardens, joint surgeries by community safety partners and use of Multi-use games arena</li> </ul>	CSP	Short term and ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Run community prevention initiatives which encourage people to keep Lennoxton beautiful</li> </ul>	Campsie Community Council (CCC)	Medium term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase 'walk-arounds' from community police officers to strengthen relationships</li> </ul>	Police Scotland	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out joint licensing enforcement initiatives</li> </ul>	CSP	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase and coordinate community clean-up days</li> </ul>	CCC	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance gateways, including welcome and speed limit signage to announce that drivers are entering a place not a road</li> </ul>	EDC – Regeneration and Town Centres	Long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase promotion of car parks through improved signage</li> </ul>	EDC – Regeneration and Town Centres	Long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As part of wider Parking Strategy work, investigate the feasibility of further parking management measures in the neighbouring street network</li> </ul>	EDC – Regeneration and Town Centres	Long term

**We want to prevent antisocial behaviour, and see greater enforcement of penalties when it does happen.**

# Community integration

## Required Improvement

Lennoxton is a friendly place to live with lots going on. Lennoxton Forum was re-established in 2017 with support from the Council. This is an informal network of representatives from community groups, organisations and the Community Council. Initial meetings focused on exploring the main issues. Communication amongst local groups and the wider community was a priority. For many people it can be hard to know what's on and to feel they can get involved. People often say that they would appreciate a clearer 'one-stop-shop' approach for communicating what is on. It would also be beneficial to explore new ways of linking in with families and individuals who are not usually involved in projects and clubs. A newsletter subgroup was formed to help promote events and share information. Other issues related to joined up planning and project activity, developing skills and knowledge sharing. The lack of volunteers was also identified as being a barrier for local groups. We will endeavour to increase partnership working to improve integration in the village, address important issues together and develop a collective stronger voice for positive change.

**We want to feel a greater sense of togetherness throughout the village.**

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the communication between groups and services, and between them and the wider community and promote 'what's on' in a joined up manner</li> </ul>	Campsie Community Council (CCC)	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold Hub open days to showcase what is available</li> </ul>	East Dunbartonshire Leisure and Culture Trust (EDLC) and East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) – Customer and Shared Services	Short – medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incorporate 'intergenerational' approaches to existing events and activities i.e. bringing our younger and older residents together for shared purposes</li> </ul>	CCC, HSC Strategic Planning Group Whitefield Lodge and Clachan of Campsie House	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop use of the community noticeboard by different organisations and groups</li> </ul>	CCC in partnership with other community groups <sup>19</sup>	Medium term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Run volunteer recruitment events to support multiple projects in this plan</li> </ul>	CLD Partnership and CCC	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build up the capacity of local volunteers across various local projects and groups</li> </ul>	CLD Partnership	Long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore options for community based training around mental wellbeing</li> </ul>	JHIP Steering Group and CLD Partnership	Long term

<sup>19</sup> This is primarily the responsibility of Lennoxton Project Group. Enquiries can be made by using the contact details on the board.

# Removing barriers

## Required Improvement

Some parts of our village are classed as being in the 20% most deprived in Scotland in terms of health, employment, income and experience of crime. This suggests some residents experience more barriers than others do, resulting in these poorer circumstances. There is also a higher than average proportion of people being prescribed drugs for mental health problems compared to the rest of the authority area. We also know that involvement in local decision making is important for people's sense of community and wellbeing and we want to address this.

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop breast feeding friendly settings and champions</li> </ul>	JHIP Steering Group	Medium term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Market and promote employability and adult learning opportunities</li> </ul>	Employability Action Group (EAG)	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop the community engagement skills of the Community Council and other local groups where possible</li> </ul>	CLD Partnership	Long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop services for community based early years provision to meet the needs of the children and families in the community including: nurture, parental involvement and family learning opportunities; and parenting support and advice that is timely and appropriate</li> </ul>	Delivering for Children and Young People's Partnership (DCYPP)	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore options for developing mother and toddler provision</li> </ul>	East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action (EDVA) in partnership with local community	Short term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carry out a mapping exercise on options for reducing social isolation and promote amongst vulnerable groups e.g. through the Asset Map</li> </ul>	Campsie Community Council (CCC), EDVA and JHIP Steering Group	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop social enterprise in Lennoxton to contribute to the local social economy</li> </ul>	East Dunbartonshire Economic Partnership (EDEP)	Short term & ongoing

**We want to break down the barriers to education, employment, housing, good health and democracy that some of our more vulnerable residents experience.**

20 Committed in Sustainability and Climate Change Framework and Economic Development Strategy

## Removing barriers (continued)

Action	Responsibility	Timescale
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify opportunities to build skills among the community in a number of 'green' contexts such as food growing and climate resilience</li> </ul>	East Dunbartonshire Council – Sustainability Policy <sup>21</sup>	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to deliver high-quality early learning and childcare services from Lennoxton ELC Centre and introduce improvements ensuring high-quality, flexible, accessible and affordable early learning and childcare services are available to local children and families. This includes:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to provide 1140 hours of free early learning and childcare for all 3 to 5 year olds;</li> <li>Introduce 1140 hours of free early learning and childcare for all eligible 2 year olds, including a 'blended model' with childminders;</li> <li>Introduce provision for the care of babies within Lennoxton Early Learning and Childcare Centre; and</li> <li>Continue to work with multi-agencies to ensure additional support is provided to families in crisis</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	EDC – Early Years Education <sup>22</sup>	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a single referral (cross-agency) pathway to maximise benefits for local people</li> </ul>	Financial Inclusion Partnership (FIP)	Medium – long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase access to Credit Union service</li> </ul>	FIP	Medium – long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote digital skills</li> </ul>	FIP	Medium – long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote Citizen's Advice Bureau services and drop-ins</li> </ul>	FIP	Medium – long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide information and assistance relating to fuel poverty</li> </ul>	FIP	Medium – long term
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use the Pupil Equity Fund to provide additional support in primary schools aimed at closing the poverty related attainment</li> </ul>	EDC – Primary Education	Short term & ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate targeted and tailored business support to support potential, new and existing businesses and social enterprises in the area</li> </ul>	EDC - Business Gateway	Medium term and ongoing

<sup>21</sup> Committed in Community Learning and Development Plan, Sustainability and Climate Change Framework

<sup>22</sup> Committed in East Dunbartonshire Council Early Years Strategic Plan

# Making it happen

Public and voluntary sector organisations and groups operating in Lennoxton are expected to align to our priorities and to work with local people at every opportunity to do so. This can be facilitated by Campsie Community Council.

This new Plan will be used by all of the partners to apply for funding to make this Plan a reality. Any group or organisation operating in Lennoxton is encouraged to do so, and it would be most beneficial if Campsie Community Council is consulted to ensure local people are involved local decisions and that progress in the village is coordinated.

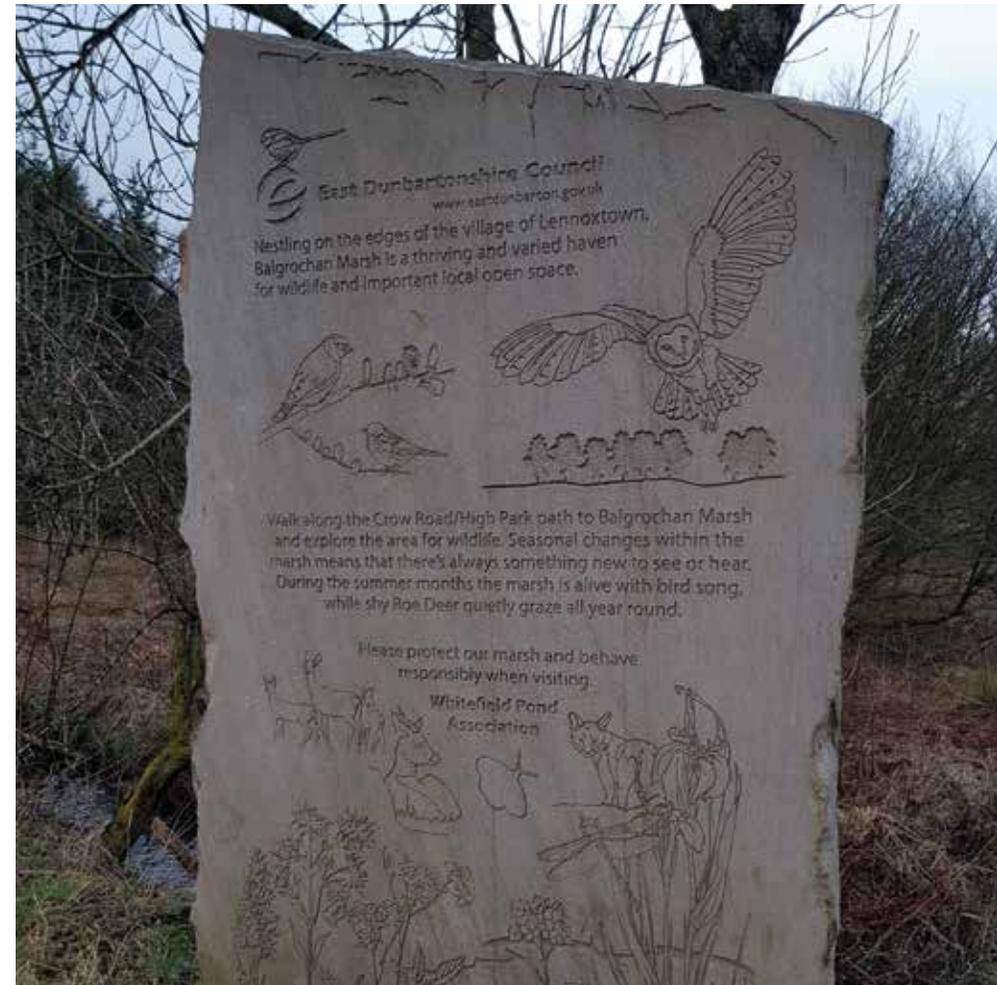
There is a lot of current and planned activity to help deliver this Plan. [If you would like to know more or get involved and you are:](#)

[a local resident](#) please contact Campsie Community Council at [campsiecommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:campsiecommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

[a voluntary sector organisation](#) please contact East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action at [info@edva.org](mailto:info@edva.org) or on 0141 578 6680.

[a public sector organisation or business](#) please contact East Dunbartonshire Council at [communityplanning@eastdunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:communityplanning@eastdunbarton.gov.uk) or on 0300 123 4510.

Every year, partners will come together to monitor this Plan and communicate updates to the community and the Community Planning Partnership Board. This will include information about progress against the planned actions and any short term changes as a result of them. Longer term change in Lennoxton will be monitored by using statistics after years 3 and 5. The Place Standard Tool will also be revisited after year 5 to supplement statistical information.



# Appendix: Universal Services

These are existing services throughout East Dunbartonshire. This Place Plan adds targeted improvements for Lennoxton



**EDC**  
East Dunbartonshire Council

Provides a wide range of services including:

- Community protection
- Early learning, childcare and education
- Registration services
- Roads
- Economic development
- Housing
- Planning and building standards
- Recycling and waste



**Police Scotland\***

Enforces the law and keeps us safe. Local Police priorities are:

- Tackling violence
- Disorder and antisocial behaviour
- Protecting people
- Increasing public confidence and local engagement
- Tackling serious crime
- Responding to major events



**Scottish Enterprise**

Is Scotland's main economic development agency. The organisation works with partners in the public and private sectors to identify and exploit the best opportunities to deliver a significant, lasting effect on the Scottish economy.



**Scottish Fire & Rescue Service**

In addition to responding to fire emergencies, SFRS also carries out:

- Youth development programmes
- Safety campaigns
- Home fire safety checks
- CPR training
- Traffic collision response



**Health & Social Care Partnership**

A newly integrated body which brings together a wide range of services including:

- Residential Child Care Service
- Children and Families Services
- Primary Care Services
- Youth Justice Service
- Home Care Service
- Occupational Therapy Service
- Community Alarm & Telecare Service
- Mental Health Services
- Public Health Improvement Services



**East Dunbartonshire Leisure & Culture Trust**

Is a Charitable Trust established by East Dunbartonshire Council to deliver culture & leisure services. Services are delivered from 3 leisure centres (including pavilions); 8 libraries, a museum, an art gallery and an arts centre.



**Skills Development Scotland**

Provides services to help people achieve career success and support businesses with their goals.



**HMP Low Moss**

Manages around 780 men on remand, short term, long term and life and extended sentences. Supports people to re-integrate back into the community.



**New College Lanarkshire**

Is recently merged College providing a range of full and part time courses in Computing, Art and Design, Employability and Hair.



**Registered Social Landlords**

In addition to the housing provided by East Dunbartonshire Council, there are fifteen housing associations that provide social housing in East Dunbartonshire.



**East Dunbartonshire Voluntary Action**

Facilitates, enables and connects the capacity and engagement of the local voluntary sector, social enterprises, and volunteering.

\*You can read our local Policing Plan here: <http://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/greater-glasgow/east-dunbartonshire/>





Neath its Fells lies the village of Campsie  
And it's beauty is there to see

## Acknowledgements

---

Lennoxtown Project Group for their local survey results.

Tails and Trails Arts and Heritage Programme for information about Lennoxtown. [www.trailsandtales.org/](http://www.trailsandtales.org/)

Rena Shirreffs for information about Lennoxtown. [www.welcometolennoxtown.co.uk](http://www.welcometolennoxtown.co.uk)

Lennoxtown Heritage and Preservation Trust for local walking and cycling information. [www.thecampsies.co.uk](http://www.thecampsies.co.uk)

Special thanks go to the local residents who gave up their time to prepare this document and support the consultation with the wider community.

And to local photographers who contributed their work:

Jim P Ferns, Ronnie Shephard, Alan Douglas, Robert Neilson; and Audrey Langslow.