



Council Offices, Almada Street  
Hamilton, ML3 0AA

Tuesday, 19 January 2021

Dear Councillor

## **Hamilton Area Committee**

The Members listed below are requested to attend a meeting of the above Committee to be held as follows:-

**Date:** Wednesday, 27 January 2021  
**Time:** 14:00  
**Venue:** By Microsoft Teams,

The business to be considered at the meeting is listed overleaf.

Yours sincerely

**Cleland Sneddon**  
**Chief Executive**

### **Members**

Mary Donnelly (Chair), Peter Craig (Depute Chair), Jackie Burns, Stephanie Callaghan, Andy Carmichael, Maureen Chalmers, Maureen Devlin, Allan Falconer, Graeme Horne, Martin Grant Hose, Joe Lowe, Kenny McCreary, Mark McGeever, Jim McGuigan, Davie McLachlan, Lynne Nailon, Richard Nelson, Mo Razzaq, John Ross, Bert Thomson, Josh Wilson

## BUSINESS

### 1 Declaration of Interests

- 2 **Minutes of Previous Meeting** 3 - 6  
Minutes of the meeting of Hamilton Area Committee held on 4 November 2020 submitted for approval as a correct record. (Copy attached)

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#### Item(s) for Noting

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- 3 **Police Scotland**  
Presentation by Chief Inspector Lex Baillie and Inspector Roger Bond, Police Scotland
- 4 **Neighbourhood Planning Update** 7 - 44  
Report dated 12 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources). (Copy attached)

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#### Item(s) for Decision

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- 5 **Community Grant Applications** 45 - 48  
Report dated 11 January 2021 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources). (Copy attached)

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#### Urgent Business

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- 6 **Urgent Business**  
Any other items of business which the Chair decides are urgent.

#### ***For further information, please contact:-***

Clerk Name: Elizabeth-Anne McGonigle

Clerk Telephone: 01698 454521

Clerk Email: [elizabeth-anne.mcgonigle@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:elizabeth-anne.mcgonigle@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

## HAMILTON AREA COMMITTEE

2

Minutes of meeting held via Microsoft Teams on 4 November 2020

### **Chair:**

Councillor Mary Donnelly

### **Councillors Present:**

Councillor Jackie Burns, Councillor Stephanie Callaghan, Councillor Maureen Chalmers, Councillor Peter Craig (Depute), Councillor Maureen Devlin, Councillor Allan Falconer, Councillor Martin Grant Hose, Councillor Joe Lowe, Councillor Kenny McCreary, Councillor Mark McGeever, Councillor Jim McGuigan, Councillor Davie McLachlan, Councillor Lynne Nailon, Councillor Richard Nelson, Councillor Mo Razzaq, Councillor John Ross (ex officio), Councillor Josh Wilson

### **Councillors' Apologies:**

Councillor Andy Carmichael, Councillor Graeme Horne, Councillor Bert Thomson

### **Attending:**

#### **Education Resources**

K Fisher, Headteacher, Hareleeshill Primary School; L Gardner, Lead Officer; S Jasnosz-Clark, Headteacher, Woodhead Primary School; L Mitchell, Lead Officer; J Wallace, Quality Improvement Manager

#### **Finance and Corporate Resources**

S McLeod, Administration Officer; L Wyllie, Administration Assistant

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## **Order of Business**

**The Committee decided:** that the items of business be dealt with in the order minuted below.

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### **1 Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

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### **2 Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of the Hamilton Area Committee held on 26 August 2020 were submitted for approval as a correct record.

**The Committee decided:** that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

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### **3 Education Scotland Report – Hareleeshill Primary School and Nursery Class, Larkhall**

A report dated 10 September 2020 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Hareleeshill Primary School and Nursery Class, Larkhall made by Education Scotland.

The inspection had taken place in January 2020 as part of a national sample of primary education and the inspection letter reporting the findings had been published on 25 August 2020.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified in the inspection letter. The areas of improvement, agreed with the school and education authority, had been incorporated into the school's improvement plan and parents would be informed of progress. Education Scotland had intimated that they would make no further visits in connection with the inspection.

Having spoken on key aspects of the report, the Chair thanked the Quality Improvement Manager for providing the update. Members congratulated the Headteacher and Quality Improvement Manager on the positive inspection report.

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

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#### **4 Education Scotland Report – Woodhead Primary School and Nursery Class, Hamilton**

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A report dated 21 August 2020 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of Woodhead Primary School and Nursery Class, Hamilton made by Education Scotland.

The inspection had taken place in February 2020 as part of a national sample of primary education and the inspection letter reporting the findings had been published on 18 August 2020.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified in the inspection letter. The areas of improvement, agreed with the school and education authority, had been incorporated into the school's improvement plan and parents would be informed of progress. Education Scotland had intimated that they would make no further visits in connection with the inspection.

Having spoken on key aspects of the report, the Chair thanked L Mitchell, Lead Officer for providing the update. Members congratulated the Headteacher and Lead Officer on the positive inspection report.

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

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#### **5 Education Scotland Report – High Blantyre Primary School and Nursery Class**

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A report dated 21 August 2020 by the Executive Director (Education Resources) was submitted on the outcome of the inspection of High Blantyre Primary School and Nursery Class made by Education Scotland.

The inspection had taken place in October 2019 as part of a national sample of primary education and the inspection letter reporting the findings had been published on 28 January 2020.

A number of particular strengths of the school had been identified in the inspection letter. The areas of improvement, agreed with the school and education authority, had been incorporated into the school's improvement plan and parents would be informed of progress. Education Scotland had intimated that they would make no further visits in connection with the inspection.

Having spoken on key aspects of the report, the Chair thanked L Mitchell, Lead Officer for providing the update. As the Headteacher had been unable to be in attendance, the Chair stated that an invitation would be extended to allow the Headteacher an opportunity to attend the next meeting of the Area Committee.

**The Committee decided:** that the report be noted.

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## **6 Community Grant Applications**

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A report dated 19 October 2020 by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources) was submitted on applications for community grant.

The Administration Officer provided an update on the community grant funding that had been allocated to assist community groups engaged in supporting local communities during the COVID-19 pandemic and advised that:-

- ◆ no grants had, as yet, been allocated
- ◆ 1 application had been received and was being processed
- ◆ any funding for the COVID-19 response effort that was uncommitted, as at 31 December 2020, would be made available for community grant applications
- ◆ members of the Area Committee were encouraged to remind local groups engaged in the COVID-19 response effort that grant funding was available

**The Committee decided:** that community grants be awarded as follows:-

- |     |                   |   |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| (a) | Applicant:        | John Smith Court Gentleman's Club, Hamilton ( <i>HA/15/20</i> ) |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Equipment   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £350  |
| (b) | Applicant:        | 1 <sup>st</sup> Larkhall Boys' Brigade ( <i>HA/16/20</i> )      |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Equipment and materials   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £350  |
| (c) | Applicant:        | 1 <sup>st</sup> Larkhall Girls' Brigade ( <i>HA/17/20</i> )     |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Materials, administration and publicity costs                   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £350  |

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## **7 Urgent Business**

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There were no items of urgent business.



# **Report**

**4**

Report to:	<b>Hamilton Area Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>27 January 2021</b>
Report by:	<b>Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)</b>

Subject:	<b>Neighbourhood Planning Update</b>
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## **1. Purpose of Report**

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ update the Area Committee on the work being carried out in Hamilton in relation to neighbourhood planning

## **2. Recommendation(s)**

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) that the progress being made in respect of neighbourhood planning be noted;
- (2) that the new plans for Fairhill and Larkhall be noted;
- (3) that the annual reports on Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank, and Strutherhill and Birkenshaw be noted; and
- (4) that the next steps planned for the Hamilton Area Committee area be noted.

## **3. Background**

- 3.1. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 places a statutory duty on Community Planning Partnerships (CPP), of which the Council is a statutory partner, to identify smaller areas within the local authority area which experience the poorest outcomes and to prepare and publish locality plans to improve outcomes on agreed priorities for these communities. These plans are required to set out clear priorities for improving local outcomes and tackling inequalities which agreed by the CPP and community. In South Lanarkshire, these plans are referred to as neighbourhood plans.
- 3.2. The guidance makes it clear that participation with communities must lie at the heart of community planning and that the partners must engage with the communities identified as requiring specific attention and be more than just consultation but involve active engagement and empowerment.
- 3.3. At its meeting on 14 July 2017, the CPP Board considered the results of a statistical exercise which identified the areas experiencing the poorest outcomes in South Lanarkshire relative to the South Lanarkshire average position, which resulted in areas within 9 of the Council's 20 wards being identified as potential neighbourhood planning areas.
- 3.4. At its meeting on 11 October 2017, the Community Planning Board agreed to pilot the use of neighbourhood planning activity in South Lanarkshire, and recognised that this approach required a longer investment of time within communities to engage and involve people and produce plans. The first three neighbourhood plans, for the pilot

areas of Hillhouse/Udston/Burnbank, Whitlawburn and Springhall and Strutherhill and Birkenshaw were published in January 2019.

- 3.5. The legislation further requires that reports are produced on a yearly basis which identify the progress made in relation to the plans. The purpose of these reports is for the communities involved to see and understand what has happened in their areas. The guidance accompanying the legislation states that annual reports should be published in an accessible and easy to understand way which enables communities to understand the direction and scale of progress. As a result, the manner in which reports are produced for communities will vary from the way in which partners may usually report.

#### **4. New Neighbourhood Planning Areas - Progress to Date**

- 4.1. Learning from the phase 1 areas included the recognition that each area is individual in its capacity and the priorities which it identifies, and that the work which is carried out in neighbourhoods as a result must be individualised. In addition, the neighbourhood planning work should strengthen and empower the community within the neighbourhood, developing their capacity to both engage with potential delivery services and to create and deliver upon their own priorities where this is appropriate.
- 4.2. In September 2019, the Community Planning Board agreed the neighbourhood planning processes should be rolled out to the following communities:-

<b>Neighbourhood Planning Wards</b>	<b>Priority Communities</b>
Ward 12 – Rutherglen Central and North	Burnhill
Ward 14 – Cambuslang East	Halfway, Westburn, Circuit
Ward 15 – Blantyre	Auchinraith, Blantyre, High Blantyre, Springwells
Ward 19 – Hamilton South	Fairhill

Each community has individual levels of community capacity and support already in place and required individualised programmes of support, which were delivered by the Community Engagement Team (CET) alongside local partners and community groups.

- 4.3. In **Blantyre**, the community were recently supported by Coalfields Regeneration Trust (CRT) to produce a community plan. Work with the community here will be to produce measurable actions from this plan, engage broader sections of the community with its delivery, and link in appropriate services who could be delivery partners. A series of community meetings around the themes of the Town Centre and Greenspace had been planned by the stakeholders, however, these had to be postponed. Over the next few months, online and other methods will be used to generate new interest in the plan and the priorities, and to re-engage with stakeholder to progress these.

**Fairhill** Neighbourhood plan extended its consultation phase (Fairhill Fairsay) over a four month period, with the stakeholders group approving the proposed content in early March 2020, just prior to lockdown. Overall, the work has been a significant success with 595 (48.45%) households engaging in the process. The consultation provided a clear indication of the priority themes within the area with the top 3



themes being physical environment improvements; more leisure, recreation and social opportunities, and greater community safety.

The stakeholders group has continued to grow and develop with local residents actively participating in the group and taking control of the direction of the plan and the administering of small grants monies for the area through the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) micro grants programmes. The plan has now undergone a soft launch with copies delivered to every household during December 2020 and is ready to be moved forward in partnership with the whole area. A copy is attached as Appendix 1.

- 4.4 In addition, the community of **Larkhall** has worked to produce a plan which covers the entire town as well as some of the small villages close by. This plan has been produced using a robust methodology and showcases the priorities of the community as well as complimenting the new Town Centre Plan for the town. The plan launch was again delayed due to the pandemic but took place online on Thursday 3 December 2020. A copy of this is attached as Appendix 2.

## **5. Existing Neighbourhood Planning Areas - Progress to Date**

- 5.1. Three neighbourhood plans were produced for publication in January 2019, covering phase 1 communities within 5 out of the 9 wards which had been identified as experiencing the greatest inequality of outcomes within South Lanarkshire, detailed in the table below. Responsibility for leading on this work sat within the Tackling Poverty Team from the Council.

<b>Neighbourhood Planning Wards</b>	<b>Communities Involved</b>
Ward 11 – Rutherglen South Ward 13 – Cambuslang West	Springhall and Whitlawburn
Ward 17 – Hamilton North and East Ward 18 – Hamilton West and Earnock	Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank
Ward 20 - Larkhall	Strutherhill and Birkenshaw

- 5.2. In August 2019, the Community Participation and Empowerment Team aligned with the existing Tackling Poverty, Voluntary Sector and Community Planning Teams to create an overall Community Engagement Team. Working more closely together in this way allowed the team to further strengthen and articulate the links between Neighbourhood Planning and Community Planning, and increased the resource which the Council has made available to help implement the neighbourhood planning approach.
- 5.3. Progress has been made on delivering actions against the top priorities of all three phase 1 neighbourhood planning areas. Details of these have been included in the three annual reports which have been produced to feed back to the local communities. A copy of the annual reports for Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank and for Strutherhill and Birkenshaw are included as Appendices 3 and 4.
- 5.4. Key progress has been the increase in the number of local people participating in neighbourhood planning processes, in particular participatory budgeting approaches and this again is outlined within the annual report.

## **6. Impact of COVID-19 and Next Steps**

- 6.1. The pandemic and the corresponding lockdown has meant that the work of the Community Engagement Team was redirected towards supporting the capacity of community and third sector partnerships and linking in those needing assistance from the wellbeing help line with the help available in their community. In addition, stakeholder groups within communities were not meeting during the initial lockdown period, and most had already paused their meetings prior to this.
- 6.2. The team and their partners are maintaining regular contact with the stakeholders and have begun to arrange stakeholder meetings and discuss how priorities can be progressed with communities in the current circumstances. The Fairhill plan has had a soft launch and the team are using new and innovative ways to engage with people around progressing the community priorities. Online sessions are being held to update the community on progress around the priorities in the existing plans and the services which are available to support them at present. The team will continue to work with each individual community to find appropriate ways to progress the plans further.
- 6.3. In addition, this work includes ensuring that the priorities are current and if any changes are required to reflect the impact of the pandemic. Small amounts of funding are allocated to each neighbourhood planning area from an existing budget, and this will be used to progress local work through a participatory budgeting approach in each area.
- 6.4. Work is also being carried out with the partners delivering services locally to continue to identify their contribution to the communities' priorities and how this will impact upon the improvement of outcomes for those living in the neighbourhood planning areas. As community engagement and participation strengthens within neighbourhoods, there is evidence of communities becoming more aware and more confident to address issues such as health and employment, and this presents both a challenge and an opportunity to partners to work alongside people to develop new and innovative approaches to these.
- 6.5. As part of this ongoing work, yearly delivery plans focusing on improving local outcomes will include actions from delivery partners as to their contribution towards outcomes as well as actions from communities as to how they are progressing their own solutions with appropriate support. Monitoring of these delivery plans will be carried out by the local stakeholder group who will provide scrutiny of actions carried out and their impact, and challenge as to where these should be further developed.
- 6.6. Further neighbourhood planning processes have begun this year in Whitehill, Low Waters and Eddlewood. These areas have also been identified through the process described in 3.3. and 3.4. of this paper.
- 6.6. While these neighbourhood plans are being created in response to a statutory requirement, the ambition in South Lanarkshire is that the process of neighbourhood planning is extended beyond the identified areas and that it is possible for all communities to produce their own plans of local priorities and their planned responses to these.
- 6.7. As the number of neighbourhood plans increases, locality priorities will begin to be developed by identifying key shared priorities across localities. This provides the opportunity for wider resources to support actions over localities with a view to improving outcomes and to work in partnership at a locality level across South Lanarkshire. This again offers a further chance for challenge and scrutiny between partners and communities.

## **7. Employee Implications**

- 7.1. There are no employee implications associated with this report.

## **8. Financial Implications**

- 8.1. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## **9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 9.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

## **10. Other Implications**

- 10.1. There are no risk issues associated with the content of this report.

## **11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 11.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required. Consultation on neighbourhood plans are carried out on an ongoing basis with each community involved in the process.

**Paul Manning**

**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

7 January 2021

## **Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Work with communities to promote high quality and thriving and sustainable communities
- ◆ Support our communities by tackling disadvantage and deprivation and supporting aspiration

## **Previous References**

- ◆ None

## **List of Background Papers**

- ◆ None

## **Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

Rhonda Leith, Community Engagement Manager

Ext: 5783 (Tel: 01698 455783)

Email: [rhonda.leith@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:rhonda.leith@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

**Appendix 1: Fairhill Plan**

**Appendix 2: Larkhall Plan**

**Appendix 3: Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank Annual Report**

**Appendix 4: Strutherhill and Birkenshaw Annual Report**



# Our Neighbourhood Plan for **Fairhill**

Year one  
**2020–2021**

This Plan sets out priorities and aspirations for our community identified by residents between November 2019 and February 2020.

South Lanarkshire Council

**Can Do  
Community**

# Introduction

A local community action group has produced this plan. Most members are local residents however we are joined by representatives from key local agencies and organisations.

To ensure progress is made this plan will be updated on a yearly basis. This is the first phase of longer term developments in our community.

You will see we have used the data gathered through the survey to set 10 priority themes for the Fairhill area.

**For this plan to work it needs you, yes, you!** Every resident, worker, volunteer or elected member in the area can help to bring about change and help us make the most of our shared resources. You can help in many ways by telling others about what's going on, by joining the community action group or the working groups to take forward some of the actions in the plan or simply enjoy and take part in what's happening around you.



# Information

This neighbourhood plan has been informed by extensive community engagement carried out between November 2019 and February 2020 the process involved:

- An asset map of the community was produced to highlight the great work already ongoing within the community.
- A number of meetings with local residents and representatives from key organisations in the area to design the methods engagement to suit the community of Fairhill.
- A community survey delivered door to door which covered all households within the Fairhill area.
- Interviews with young people through strong partnership working with the local schools.











**Thank you to everyone who took part!**



# Survey findings

What people like about Fairhill	Improvements/ new opportunities suggested
<b>1 Physical environment</b>  <p>Everything around you, play parks, grass verges, street furniture, roads, pavements etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More/better sports and play facilities</li> <li>• Improved pathways</li> <li>• Better upkeep of grassed areas</li> <li>• Reduced littering/cleaner streets</li> </ul>
<b>2 More leisure and social opportunities</b>  <p>Activities for you to engage in and socialise within your own community</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More community activities for all</li> <li>• Better promotion of what's on in the area</li> </ul>
<b>3 Greater Community Safety</b>  <p>How safe you feel in your community whether this be road safety or physical safety from crime</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater police presence</li> <li>• Reduction in Anti Social behaviour</li> <li>• Reduction in Crime</li> <li>• Reduction in Graffiti and Vandalism</li> </ul>
<b>4 Easier to get about/moving around</b>  <p>The ability to move in and around your community and access to other local areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved street lighting</li> <li>• Improved public transport</li> <li>• Improved road safety</li> <li>• Improved cycle links</li> <li>• Parking controls</li> </ul>
<b>5 More variety of shops/businesses</b>  <p>The choice of businesses in the area and what sectors are available locally</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved access to a wider variety of businesses in the area</li> </ul>



What people like about Fairhill	Improvements/ new opportunities suggested
<b>6</b> <b>Housing improvements</b> 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased access to lock ups</li> <li>• Housing stock improvements</li> </ul>
<b>7</b> <b>Stronger and better communities</b> 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More community events</li> <li>• Increased community participation</li> </ul>
<b>8</b> <b>Better financial well being</b> 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local centre to be more financially viable for community to access</li> </ul>
<b>9</b> <b>Health improvements</b> 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More activities targeted at improving health and wellbeing</li> </ul>
<b>10</b> <b>Better education, training and employment opportunities</b> 	 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New High School</li> <li>• Museum focussing on local history</li> </ul>

# Local groups

Community Group	Contact Details	
<b>PSVY Hamilton</b>	<b>Susan Rooney</b>	 <a href="mailto:hamiltonpsyv@gmail.com">hamiltonpsyv@gmail.com</a>  @policescotlandvolunteers
<b>Hollandbush Nursery</b>	<b>Liz Mercer</b>	 <a href="mailto:hollandbushnursery@ea.s-lanark.sch.uk">hollandbushnursery@ea.s-lanark.sch.uk</a>  01698 284005
<b>Fairhill Community Group</b>	<b>Louise McBride</b>	 <a href="mailto:fairhillcommunitygroup2016@gmail.com">fairhillcommunitygroup2016@gmail.com</a>  @FairhillCommunityGroup
<b>Neilsland Senior Citizens Group</b>	<b>Josephine Hynd</b>	 01698 320445
<b>South Lanarkshire Lifestyle Centre – Fairhill</b>	<b>Martin Cain - Recreation Officer</b>	 <a href="http://www.sleisureandculture.co.uk/">www.sleisureandculture.co.uk/</a>  01698 456 350  <a href="mailto:fairhill@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk">fairhill@southlanarkshireleisure.co.uk</a>
<b>Mill United FC</b>	<b>Facilities Manager:</b> <b>Gary McCracken</b> <b>Fundraising:</b> <b>Rosemary Gemmell</b>	 07785 107301 / 07717 177780  <a href="mailto:Millunitedfc@hotmail.com">Millunitedfc@hotmail.com</a>  @millunitedfc
<b>Trinity Parish Church</b>	<b>Rev Lindsay Turnbull</b>	 <a href="mailto:trinityparish@live.co.uk">trinityparish@live.co.uk</a>  01698 284254
<b>Trinity Women's Group</b>	<b>Jacqueline Ferguson</b>	 <a href="mailto:jacferguson@hotmail.com">jacferguson@hotmail.com</a>  07929036262
<b>Neilsland Primary School</b>	<b>Head Teacher Mrs Kelly</b>	 01698 286405  <a href="mailto:office@neilsland-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk">office@neilsland-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk</a>  <a href="http://www.neilsland-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk">www.neilsland-pri.s-lanark.sch.uk</a>
<b>Hamilton Information Project for Youth</b>	<b>Hazel Morrison</b>	 <a href="mailto:Info@hipy.org">Info@hipy.org</a>  <a href="http://www.hipy.org">www.hipy.org</a>  01698 891687  @hipy14

# What's good about Fairhill?

Fairhill community café helps people unite and feel part of the community.

Local football clubs.

Its open and has lots of places to explore.

The Fairhill lifestyles centre is a fabulous asset, it is somewhere that gives the community a hub and I have met other women and families through attending the centre for various classes.

Great youth clubs for my girls, universal connections, rainbows/guides etc.

The Stakeholders Group meets regularly and working groups will also be meeting to take forward some of the priority themes outlined in the middle pages.

If you live or work in the area and think you might like to get involved then contact [communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk) or call us on **0303 123 1017**

“

I'd like to say what a pleasure it's been getting to know the team, the partners and other residents who are like minded and want to make a difference to our community. I have especially appreciated how we have been able to sit round the table together, as equals, and recognise all the good things already going on here and how we can build on these to make the area even better. I can't wait to see how the project evolves going forward and hope that many more people feel inspired to get on board.

”

If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 0303 123 1015

Email: [equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

# Larkhall<sup>4</sup> Community Plan



## Survey Report

*"Good community wellbeing is vital for us all.  
Communities that are happy, healthy, safe and secure  
allows us all to thrive and fulfil our potential."*

**Local Government and Communities Committee Convener**

# WHY A COMMUNITY PLAN

The Larkhall Community Plan project was embarked upon as a direct result of the change in focus of community engagement across Scotland and the success of previous local community engagement events.

The Community Empowerment Act's focus on local decision making and participatory budgeting helped to define the aim of the exercise, which was to give local people a voice in the design and delivery of the services they receive and the future development of the places they inhabit.

This report is the presentation of the information given by local people which we have sought to represent as accurately as possible.

# HOW IT HAPPENED

Local representatives from different sectors across the electoral ward, created an informal partnership, Larkhall Plan Partnership and agreed the viability of a Local Community Plan. They planned, organised and executed the entire consultation process.

The Partners are —

Larkhall Community Growers; Nancy Barr, Liz Law, Terry Paterson  
South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Forum; Margaret Moncrieff  
The Machan Trust; Hazel Shaw, Alan McCrone  
Larkhall and District Volunteer Group; Sandra McCrory, Anne Alston  
Community Links—Strutherhill Place Plan; Liz Jamieson  
Larkhall Community Council; Marcos Robson, Tommy McPhee  
YMCA; Willie Mowbray  
Councillors Burns, Nelson, Craig and Carmichael

Supported by Communities Connected and SLC Community Engagement Team  
We gained the support of the leadership of South Lanarkshire Council and other statutory organisations including, South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership, NHS, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Ltd.

A stakeholder event helped to create the questionnaire, which was tested prior to the consultation.

As a result of this exercise, people's views will help influence key decisions affecting life in our local communities.

# THE KEY PEOPLE

Local people responded to the social media campaign, banner adverts, posters, leaflets and cards, visits to groups and organisations, local newspaper articles, street work and word of mouth.

1812 people responded to the survey, either online or hard copy, the age split being:  
**11-15** 7%; **16-24** 6%; **25-34** 14%; **35-44** 22%; **45-54** 21%; **55-64** 15%; **65+** 15%,  
68% of respondents were female, 32% male.

More than 600 people have asked to be kept informed of the process going forward.  
This outstanding response shows the desire of local people to be involved in future decisions that will ensure we can live in healthy, safe, supported and empowered communities.

# THE SURVEY RESPONSES














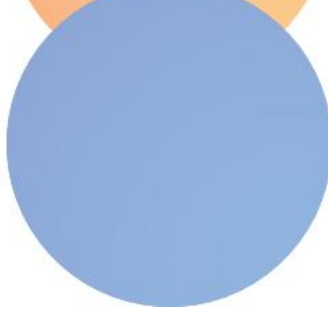




*N A*  
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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Our community is defined by geography, the chosen target area being Larkhall, Netherburn, Ashgill and Dalserf, with a total population of 18,000, it is made up of interconnecting parts.

While the majority of people like living in the area, a range of improvements that would make life better for local people were identified.

Wellbeing is extremely significant and included community pride and spirit, and is seen in the support given to community events and activities such as the Gala Day and Christmas Markets.

Health services provision raised issues with GP services which seem to be stretched at the present time, raising the question about the ability to cope with the increase in population over the next 5 to 10 years.

Local clinic provision, older people's care, hospital exit, mental health and the behaviour of drug users were highlighted as issues needing urgent attention. Health and wellbeing also include the mix of social work, benefits, unpaid carers, disabled, local service provision, accessibility by public transport, young people's services and wheelchair access have all been identified as requiring better solutions. Future prosperity is a reasonable goal and the local economy, local employment, town centre regeneration, population growth and public and private investment require careful management to gain maximum impact.

Primary education received good reviews, although catchment areas need to be reviewed. The feeling is that the high school could do better, however, the trend appears to be moving upwards.

The litter issue around lunch time on the main street causes widespread annoyance to many people.

More affordable social housing is asked for, as well as sheltered and Additional Support Needs accommodation. The allocation policy could be improved and better mechanisms introduced to support tenants' issues. The public spaces and footpaths need better maintenance.

Safety / security is key to community health and issues relating to burglary, Anti-Social Behaviour, addiction issues within the community, needs attention.

While praise is given to the Cleansing Services, fly tipping, litter, glass and dog mess in parks and on paths could be improved. The litter on the approach road to Larkhall from the M74 was also mentioned.

Potholes on our roads, maintenance of footpaths, parking on pavements, street lighting not being fit for purpose, and the need for investment in cycling routes was raised.

Leisure and sport facilities are in great need of improvement and enhancement. Replacement of the Leisure Centre should include athletics/running track facility, a wider range of sports with particular emphasis on outdoors, including pitches and parks. Classes for all ages and families are needed.

Facilities to bring the Royal Albert Football Club back to Larkhall was requested. This famous Scottish team were relocated to Stonehouse some years ago.

Parks and the local environment have serious problems including lack of play equipment and inadequate maintenance. The natural areas need enhancement and, in some cases regeneration.

Morgan Glen is a magnificent asset and needs to be promoted and enhanced.

The area's external reputation has to catch up with the reality of the evolving community.

More and better means of communication is required to ensure key information, news and knowledge sharing is encouraged and disseminated to as many people as possible.

The town centre, while bucking the trend by performing better in comparison to others of similar size, needs a wider variety of type of shop. The street looks tired and could do with being brightened up.

Parking should be reviewed with the 1700 extra houses bringing opportunities we need to grasp. The creation of a natural, public centre space should be considered.

Transport frequency could be improved, with new services and earlier and later running being requested. The reliability of the train service is an issue. The impact of the new bus route to The Fort shopping centre will be interesting when the information is available.

## OUR COMMUNITY

Ashgill, Netherburn Larkhall and Dalserf are geographically connected, Larkhall providing local shopping, leisure facilities and services, with good transport links to Glasgow and Edinburgh.

Major housing development currently underway in Larkhall, could be a lever for economic growth in the area, and the catalyst for service improvement and regeneration. People were asked how happy they were living in their local community.

## STATISTICS

89% of respondents stated they are happy/very happy living in these communities

This included 80% of 11-15-year olds, 89% of 16-24, 35-44 and 45-54 year olds

And 91% of 25-34, 55-64 and 65+ year olds

This shows a consistent agreement across the age range.

## SPECIFIED NEEDS / ISSUES

Almost half of those who responded to this question said improvements to local facilities was key to making life better.

One quarter of respondents feel that improvements to the town centre and shopping areas would improve life.

Almost one fifth identified the provision of better leisure and sport facilities as their priority to make Larkhall a better place to live.

12% mentioned improvements to services, specifically highlighting the condition of roads and footpaths .

A small number of people mentioned the area's external reputation as something we must work towards improving.

## SUMMARY

Our community has a clear connection to place, culture and heritage, shown in the high level of satisfaction with the area as a place to live.

That said, specific improvements have been identified to deal with key issues that affect the lives of local people. The standard and lack of good facilities for health, sport, leisure and community use is a big issue. While the town centre is better than others, it needs to be spruced up. Removal of local services is a problem for many people.

## QUOTES

'a very friendly place' 'Family links' 'Insufficient resources'

'Happy memories' 'Good transport links' 'Good schools'

'Sense of Community' 'Welcoming place' 'we need more facilities like a new leisure centre'

## OUR HEALTH

Good health and the management of health conditions is fundamental to a fulfilled life, and the services that underpin this are crucial to the quality of life of every person.

Services must be accessible, flexible, personal, and reliable, with a focus on prevention and early intervention.

People were asked for their opinion on current services.

## STATS

81% feel Dentists are excellent/good;

66% feel Health Centres/Doctors are excellent/good/; while 31% said poor/very poor

26% find access to benefits poor/very poor;

24% find Care for people with a disability poor/very poor;

22% find Support for Carers poor/very poor;

19% feel support for business is poor/very poor;

## SPECIFIED NEEDS / ISSUES

Over 1/3 of people commented on the need for improvements to health centres and GP services, many specifically raising issues with capacity in view of new residential developments.

1/4 praised the work of the local voluntary organisations including LDVG, Machan Trust and YMCA.

6% mentioned lack of the provision of information relating to available services.

## SUMMARY

More than 30% feel the current health service provision does not meet their needs, some suggesting the pressure on GPs and the need for more customer focussed services is taking its toll. Information on services is not reaching the relevant people so better communication is needed. Support services for Carers and those with disabilities need improvement. The work of local community groups is greatly appreciated and identified as crucial to the health and wellbeing of local people in the future, including Larkhall and District Volunteer Group, The Machan Trust and the YMCA.

## QUOTES

'Doctors overstretched' 'takes 3 weeks to get an appointment'

'Health Centre in a more central site' 'No benefit or income support in area'

'no IT skills and no access to local help' 'carers get no support' 'more mental health support'

## OUR SERVICES

Services need to be appropriate for the needs of people living in the area. They are the safety net in hard times, and the support for individual growth, allowing people to reach their potential. These have a huge impact on life satisfaction and the ability of people to recognise and grasp opportunities as they arise. People were asked for their opinion on a range of services, public and other, including public transport, Recycling and Waste Collection, Social Work, Public Transport etc

## STATS

81% consider Recycling & Waste collection to be excellent or good  
74% find Public Transport excellent/good;  
61% stated Street cleaning was excellent or good  
54% consider Libraries to be excellent or good  
53% consider Schools to be good, 22% excellent  
52% state Sport & leisure provision is poor or very poor  
50% consider Housing to be excellent/good, but 20% poor  
48% said Parks and Open Space provision and condition was poor or very poor  
41% consider Community halls to be poor or very poor  
25% state Social Work for adults & Older People are excellent/ good, 24% poor/very poor, 20% consider Social Work for Children & Young People is excellent/good, 21% poor, very poor; 60% no opinion

## SPECIFIED NEEDS / ISSUES

The need for better and more sport and leisure facilities was raised by many people.

Specific comments on housing issues including improvements to SLC's allocation policy for social housing.

Social Work issues highlighted specifically the need for provision for the elderly.

The urgent need to review catchment areas in the light of increased population was raised with specific mention of Glengowan Primary School.

Over 1/5 commented on public transport, specifically the need for additional provision, and the reliability of the train service.

## SUMMARY

Future capacity of services is giving serious concern especially with the new housebuilding programme now underway.

Community halls are not fit for purpose. The Cameronian Hall closure was a blow and the age and state of repair of the Community Centre being a key issue.

Schools, Recycling and libraries are good. Local services having been moved out of the community has caused problems for some people.

## QUOTES

'Cameronian hall was closed' 'There needs to be more for kids to do great schools in the area'

'with all the new house building - will the schools be big enough'

'Bus services could be organised better' 'better help and facilities for elderly'

'academy pupils need to be more responsible for dropping their litter' 'more public transport in outlying districts i.e. Netherburn, Ashgill, Coalburn'



## OUR PLACES

The quality of the environment, public space and local infrastructure, is key to satisfaction, wellbeing and motivation. The capacity of our town centre, leisure facilities, and outdoor space to encourage visitors and lift spirits is fundamental to a healthy community. People were asked their views on local community facilities and services including parks and open space, roads, footpaths, community buildings and the town centre.

### STATS

39% consider town centre to be poor/ very poor

47% rated Public footpaths poor/ very poor, 10% of which said very poor.

56% consider Roads poor/ very poor, 14% of which said very poor

### SPECIFIED NEEDS / ISSUES

Almost one quarter of people commented on the quality of local roads, specific parking issues, high speed of vehicles in certain areas and poor street lighting.

One fifth of respondents commented on the need for improvements to the main shopping area, including parking and traffic management, and the need to brighten up the space.

Many people raised the issue of the poor condition of footpaths, specifically the maintenance, litter, glass and dog mess.

The requirement for wider wheelchair access was highlighted with particular reference to paths around the town centre.

### SUMMARY

There was general agreement that the sport and leisure space and facilities are in great need of improvement.

The condition of roads and footpaths are of great concern.

The shopping area is in need of regeneration and suggestions included street scape improvements, wider variety of shops, evening economy boost with consideration of young people's activities.

### QUOTES

'Better play facilities needed in our parks' 'Town centre would benefit from some aesthetic improvement'

'More parking. Less double lines' 'lack of variety in places to eat meals or evening entertainment'

'cracked and uneven footpaths' 'All green spaces are covered in dog poop and/or litter that includes broken glass and fly tipping' 'Roads have loads of pot holes'

'Footpath blocked by cars ,vans ,dog mess and litter'

# OUR SPORT AND LEISURE SPACE

Sport and leisure facilities have a key role in developing healthy bodies and minds with a wide range of activities and equipment being beneficial to giving more choice and bringing benefits to more people. Provision needs to consider all ages, from the youngest to the oldest in our community, encouraging the adoption of healthy habits. People were asked what provision they would like to have in a new leisure complex.

## LEISURE FACILITIES

81% of respondents have used the swimming pool,

53% the Sauna/steam room/plunge pool,  
61% the games hall,

62% the main sports hall, 53% the function suite with kitchen, 46% Gym 1 (weights), 51% Gym 2, 35% Studio.

57% have used the soft play area, 61% the café.

## NEW FACILITY

88% want to have a health suite, 86% café, 85% a swimming pool with viewing gallery, 83% main sports hall, 81% a games hall, 80% a cardio gym, 78% soft play, 77% gym with weights, 73% function suite with kitchen, 71% football pitches, 65% running track, 55% a studio.

## SPECIFIED NEEDS / ISSUES

**Other facilities people would like to see included:**

New accessible outdoor pitches for football and rugby, with specific mention of the return of Royal Albert FC.

Dojo/martial arts area.

Running track and athletics area

Squash courts, Soft play area, Dance studio

Skate park, tennis courts and a bike trail

Gymnastics facilities and trampolines

Obstacle circuit and table tennis facilities.

The majority of respondents mentioned the specific need for new improved sports and leisure facilities, including outdoors.

Accessible pitches and a running track are seen as essential.

## SUMMARY

New leisure provision is essential to encourage healthy individuals and should offer a wide variety of options.

Outside activities including a running track, pitches cycle and bike trails are needed.

Royal Albert back to Larkhall.

All facilities need to be flexible, fit for purpose and affordable.

## QUOTES

'Disability sports inclusiveness' 'Could we not have Health provision built in'

'Outdoor learning gym facilities' 'Clubs and groups for young and older people'

'More family classes that could be done together' 'Creche facilities' 'Outdoor play park'

'Larkhall swimming pool desperately needs updated with more facilities'

'Athletic track and floodlit AstroTurf football facilities'

## OUR PRIORITIES

People were asked to state their ONE most important issue they would like to see addressed, to make the area a better place to live.

More than 1/3 of respondents identified improvement to Services as the most important issue they would like to see addressed. This included health, social work, public transport, green space maintenance, housing, schools, roads and footpaths.

1/4 prioritised sport and leisure provision, with specific mention of the Leisure Centre facilities, parks, athletics, running and football facilities.

1/5 identified the need for more facilities and activities with specific reference to children and young people.

1/5 of respondents identified the town centre as a key issue, specifically mentioning the variety of shop type and the need for regeneration.

Better business support and changes to parking options were also raised. Cleanliness, specifically relating to fly tipping, litter and dog mess were prioritised by many people.

Safety and crime are seen as being in need of attention.

Many people highlighted the need for transport/roads/footpaths and lighting improvements.

A small number of people mentioned the town's external reputation, suggesting that this is a perception we need to work to change.

## QUOTES

'Appearance of town' 'Main street regeneration' 'Police walking the streets'  
'That the services match the growth in population arriving in town from all the new  
build developments' 'more cycling infrastructure'  
'Tidy the streets and kill the weeds' 'litter, dog poo, glass and fly tipping'



## OUR FUTURE

People were asked to state their hopes for the next 5-10 years Larkhall and the surrounding areas and the people who live there.

3/4 of respondents stated improvement to Services was crucial to the success of community life in the future.

And town centre improvements are important for the future.

Better leisure and sport facilities are essential going forward.

Almost 1/5 of people hoped for better general wellbeing, and continued good community spirit and pride, suggesting more community events and activities to bring people together.

The economy is seen as very important, including employment, prosperity, investment particularly in relation to the town centre.

Improvements to local facilities/activities/amenities is very important.

Safety and policing are crucial for future wellbeing.

Roads, footpaths and lighting need improved.

The state of cleanliness in the area is a key part of positive community life.

## QUOTES

'To see Larkhall continue to grow and develop'

'Diversity' 'retain heritage' 'Investment' 'encouraging local businesses'

'Improved health and well being' 'A safe environment'

'Provision of good modern community facilities' 'Better facilities for young people'

# THE VILLAGES

Specific points were raised by people, that affect the smaller villages in the target area.

## **ASHGILL**

Lived in Ashgill all my life I know everyone.

Good location but potential to be so much more.

Nice people, good place to bring up our daughter in safe quiet street.

More facilities in Ashgill for kids, better swing park, skate park/bike park.

## **NETHERBURN**

Earlier and better bus service to Netherburn at weekends.

Was better when services were still in Larkhall. No presence of police what so ever.

No sense of community as no hub for people.

Machan Trust is excellent for Children and Young people.

I hope the L.D.V.G keeps getting funding to keep it open it's the best place Larkhall has for the older generation.

## **DALSERF**

Larkhall has a good community ethos.

Improved community facilities needed.

# WHAT NEXT ?

Respondents asked for a range of changes to existing services, facilities and priorities and already the relevant data has been passed to teams who are developing projects that will bring improvements to the Larkhall area. These are -

- The design of the new Sports Facility being planned for Larkhall by South Lanarkshire Council and the Leisure Trust.
- South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership hub to be built in Blantyre, due to commence in April 2020 and supported by satellite provision for Larkhall and Stonehouse.
- Town Centre Strategy being produced for Larkhall by South Lanarkshire Council in partnership with Larkhall Community Council and due to be available in Spring 2020.
- Police Scotland Consultation on local policing.

Their ability to use the survey data will help to ensure the design, location and planned operation of these proposed facilities and services, has been informed by the views of local people.

The survey information will inform the creation of an Action Plan which will detail the priorities identified for the area. This will be used to engage, lobby and discuss future service provision and development proposals for the area, to achieve healthy, safe, supported and empowered communities.

We will continue to work with our partners and supporters South Lanarkshire Council, South Lanarkshire Health and Social Care Partnership, Police Scotland, South Lanarkshire Leisure and Culture Ltd, local people, organisations and businesses.

If you would like to find out more or be involved in taking the actions forward, please contact [larkhallsurvey2019@gmail.com](mailto:larkhallsurvey2019@gmail.com) or telephone 07734876913

Created by the community for the community  
Larkhall Plan Partnership

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# Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank

## Neighbourhood Planning Annual Progress Report

January 2019 to March 2020

South Lanarkshire Council

**Can Do  
Community**



# What is neighbourhood planning?

Neighbourhood planning is a long-term commitment on the part of the Community Planning Partnership to work with and alongside communities to improve outcomes and quality of life for all.

Community Planning partners and communities are required to work together to tackle inequalities and improve outcomes over a ten year period. Neighbourhood planning is the way we do this in South Lanarkshire. It means we spend time having a conversation with as many people who line in Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank as possible, to find out your priorities, and we now work in partnership alongside you to see how we can deliver on these priorities.

The Our Place Our Plan neighbourhood plan is based on the priorities identified by local people and the Our Place Our Plan Community Group are at the heart of this work.



**1. More leisure, recreation and social opportunities**



**2. Greater community safety**



**3. Physical environment improvements**



**4. Stronger and better communities**



**5. Easier to get about/moving around**



**6. Housing improvements**



**7. Better employment and business opportunities**



**8. Better financial wellbeing**



**9. Better education and training opportunities**



**10. Health improvements**

ourplace ourplan

# What has happened this year?

**Our Place Our Plan launched in March 2019**



**143**

local people attended

Participatory budgeting is a process where local people decide how to allocate part of a public budget. Participatory budgeting is a way for people to get involved in decision making and develop a trusting partnership working together to improve the local area.

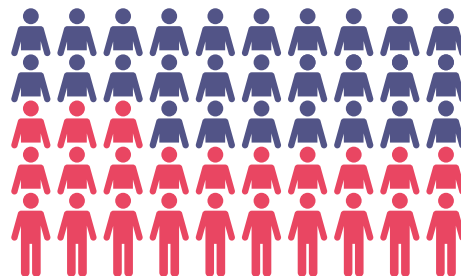
**2019-20**

participatory budget

**£20,000**

**Series of pop-up events held in July and August 2019**

**368** people participated in the events



**Top priorities identified for the budget were:**



**263**

more leisure, recreation and social opportunities



**159**

greater community safety



**126**

stronger and better communities



**116**

health improvements



**115**

physical environmental improvements





## Other key milestones

2019	
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Our Place Our Plan Easter activities and community clean-up</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Skip initiative</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Back to school event</li> <li>&gt; Gilmour and Whitehall Parish Church Community Café launched</li> <li>&gt; Participatory budgeting events and pop-ups</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Homework Club launched in Hillhouse and Earnock Community Centre</li> </ul>
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Our Place Our Plan members contribute to the Participation and Engagement Strategy</li> <li>&gt; IT equipment installed in the Youth Wing in Hillhouse and Earnock Community Centre</li> </ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Christmas activities</li> <li>&gt; Our Place Our Plan members provide workshop at the Community Planning Conference</li> </ul>
2020	
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Discussions ongoing concerning flexible use of SLC and SLLC facilities</li> <li>&gt; Pop-up play space developed on derelict land</li> </ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; My Place My Future work starts in Burnbank</li> <li>&gt; Our Place Our Plan members participate in the rent management consultation</li> <li>&gt; Our Place a Safe Place survey initiated in Burnbank</li> </ul>
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>&gt; Neighbourhood based sports hub in development in partnership with SLLC and Our Place Our Plan</li> <li>&gt; SOC outdoor classroom developed</li> </ul>

## What difference has it made to people?



Keeping local people at the centre by recognising and acting on what matters to them

**My involvement with Our Place Our Plan has been brief. However, I am very much heartened by seeing the Neighbourhood Plan starting to take effect. The sense of Community is returning to the area as the Our Place Our Plan Team work tirelessly to bring about much needed improvement and pride.**

**Anne Paul**

Local resident and Elder, Whitehill and Gilmour Parish Church



Building strong effective partnerships between local people and those delivering services

**Being part of the work in Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank has been truly amazing, seeing the need in the local community and then being part of the solution has been brilliant. Our local community is thriving as we work together to bring about great changes.**

**Sammy Brown**

Community and Families Worker



Identifying and acting together on local priorities

**As a voluntary organisation Our Place Our Plan introduced us to partners who were also working in the Hillhouse, Udston and Burnbank areas. We were able to coordinate our services to provide a more comprehensive approach and improve the resources and opportunities for young people.**

**Joanne Tierney**

Terminal 1



# Local structures and local decision making

The Our Place Our Plan Community Action Group is made up of local people, groups, organisations and workers. The group oversees the delivery of the neighbourhood plan and drives forward improvements and developments. Working Groups made up of local residents help to progress themes they have a particular interest in.

These groups meet regularly and we would like to get more people involved in progressing other locally defined priorities such as employment, education/training and health. Our priority is to make sure we are building trust, confidence and resources locally to help you to work with us.

Community capacity building support to help local people get involved has been provided by Community Links and South Lanarkshire Council's Community Engagement Team. The approach puts individuals and communities at the centre, recognising the skills, knowledge and experience you have and the physical assets and resources in your neighbourhood. Residents have said that they value the opportunity to come together and discuss solutions, ideas and possibilities rather than problems. Local people and those delivering services are beginning to understand each other better.

If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 0303 123 1015

Email: [equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

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## What next?

We want to keep talking to and working with you. The Community Action Group have identified key actions for this year through the pop-up events and will be back talking to you more, possibly in different ways, about the change you want to be part of. In 2020 the group will also assess local interest in new working groups and promote awareness to help more people get involved in making decision and changes.

As soon as it is safe to do so we will be back in your community again. In the meantime there are other ways to stay in touch and get involved with neighbourhood planning.

To see a copy of the neighbourhood plan go to [\*\*www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/plans\*\*](http://www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/plans)

To find out more about participatory budgeting go to [\*\*www.pbscotland.scot\*\*](http://www.pbscotland.scot)

To find out more about Community Planning go to [\*\*www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org\*\*](http://www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org)

To get involved in your neighbourhood contact [\*\*communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk\*\*](mailto:communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk) or [\*\*kimberly@communitylinkssl.co.uk\*\*](mailto:kimberly@communitylinkssl.co.uk)

To find out more about the activities that are happening or to be kept informed of developments visit

[\*\*www.facebook.com/ourplaceourplanhub\*\*](https://www.facebook.com/ourplaceourplanhub) or [\*\*www.twitter.com/OPOPhub\*\*](https://www.twitter.com/OPOPhub)



**Thank you so much for this amazing experience – for the opportunity to be involved in Our Place Our Plan. I loved being part of this process, didn't realise I could help make changes happen in my neighbourhood.**

**Burnbank resident**

**Thank you so much for this amazing experience – for the opportunity to be involved in Our Place Our Plan.**

**40 Hillhouse resident**







# Strutherhill and Birkenshaw

## Neighbourhood Planning Annual Progress Report

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South Lanarkshire Council

**Can Do  
Community**



# What is neighbourhood planning?

Neighbourhood Planning is a long-term commitment on the part of the Community Planning Partnership to work with and alongside communities to improve outcomes and quality of life for all.

Community Planning partners and communities are required to work together to tackle inequalities and improve outcomes over a ten year period. Neighbourhood planning is the way we do this in South Lanarkshire. We are now working in partnership with local people and other stakeholders to see how we can deliver on these priorities.

The Our Place Our Plan neighbourhood plan is based on the priorities identified by local people and the Our Place Our Plan Community Group are at the heart of this work.



**1. More leisure, recreation and social opportunities**



**2. Physical environment improvements**



**3. Easier to get about/moving around**



**4. Greater community safety**



**5. Stronger and better communities**



**6. Housing improvements**



**7. Better employment and business opportunities**



**8. Better financial wellbeing**



**9. Better education and training opportunities**



**10. Health improvements**

# What has happened this year?

**Our Place Our Plan launched in March 2019**



**89**

**local people attended**

Participatory budgeting is a process where local people decide how to allocate part of a public budget. Participatory budgeting is a way for people to get involved in decision making and develop a trusting partnership working together to improve the local area.

**2019-20 participatory budget £10,000**

**Series of pop-up events held in July and August 2019**

**201** people participated in the events



**Top priorities identified for the budget were:**



**more leisure, recreation and social opportunities**



**greater community safety**



**physical environmental improvements**



## Other key milestones

2019	
March to September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participatory budgeting pop-up events</li> </ul>
April to July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Radworx deliver skateboarding project</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community clean-up</li> </ul>
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Summer activities programme provided</li> <li>Communication Plan developed</li> </ul>
June onwards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Harvest café extended to include inputs from various agencies</li> </ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dad's group formed</li> <li>Traffic management, car free zone and a walking bus explored</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community group engaged with the Lovell partnership who are building housing locally</li> <li>Community groups engage with Lidl concerning local job opportunities</li> </ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Challenge poverty week event held</li> <li>Launch of weekly health walks</li> </ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding proposal received for the community shed</li> </ul>
2020	
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Smarter Choices Smarter Places funding from Paths for all the shopping bus project</li> </ul>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents take part in SLC rent management consultation</li> </ul>

## What difference has it made to people?



Keeping local people at the centre by recognising and acting on what matters to them

I have enjoyed being part of the Our Place Our Plan, meeting new people, helping with the clean-ups, getting a walking group set up and getting things done. It great seeing things getting done for the kids like the youth club, helping to keep the kids off the streets and getting them meeting with other kids and enjoying themselves. So much has happened in a short time we have a long way to go but we are definitely on the right track.

**Strutherhill resident**



Building strong effective partnerships between local people and those delivering services

I joined the Our Place Our Plan Community Group firstly out of curiosity to see what it was all about, expecting it to be full of the stuffy old guard complaining about the youngsters of the area and their lack of respect. Once there I was surprised that the meeting was made up of ordinary members of the public, community police officers, and council officials sitting as one around the table for one aim... the good of the community.

**Davy McAinsh**

Our Place Our Plan member and Sergeant instructor ACP



Identifying and acting together on local priorities

I enjoy working alongside the others and helping to shape my area, this is where my young kids are growing up and hopefully they and others will get the maximum benefits from our decisions and actions going forward. I would urge anyone who has an issue be it good or bad to come along to the Our Place Our Plan meetings and share you issue, so that it can be addressed with the help of some of the agencies involved.

**Our Place Our Plan Member**





# Local structures and local decision making

The Our Place Our Plan Community Group is made up of local people, groups, organisations, and workers. The group oversees the delivery of the neighbourhood plan and driver forward improvements and developments.

The group meets regularly, and we would like to get more people involved in progressing other locally defined priorities such as employment, education/training, and health. Our priority is to make sure we are building trust, confidence, and resources locally to help you to work with us.

Community capacity building support to help local people get involved has been provided by Community Links and South Lanarkshire Council's Community Engagement team. The approach puts individuals and communities at the centre, recognising the skills, knowledge and experience you have and the physical assets and resources in your neighbourhood. Residents have said that they value the opportunity to come together and discuss solutions, ideas and possibilities rather than problems. Local people and those delivering services are beginning to understand each other better.



**We need everyone to be part of this plan, join us and help us make it work.**

**Our Place  
Our Plan member**



If you need this information in another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.

Phone: 0303 123 1015

Email: [equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk)

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## What next?

We want to keep talking to and working with you. The Our Place Our Plan Community Group are currently considering how best to take forward some of the other priorities themes identified at the pop up events and through ongoing neighbourhood based conversations. In 2020 the group will also assess local interest in new working groups and promote awareness to help more people get involved in making decision and changes, such the development and delivery of an environmental action plan.

As soon as it is safe to do so we will be back in your community again. In the meantime there are other ways to stay in touch and get involved with neighbourhood planning.

To see a copy of the neighbourhood plan go to [\*\*www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/plans\*\*](http://www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org/plans)

To find out more about participatory budgeting go to [\*\*www.pbscotland.scot\*\*](http://www.pbscotland.scot)

To find out more about Community Planning go to [\*\*www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org\*\*](http://www.southlanarkshirecommunityplanning.org)

To get involved in your neighbourhood contact [\*\*communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk\*\*](mailto:communities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk) or [\*\*liz@communitylinkssl.co.uk\*\*](mailto:liz@communitylinkssl.co.uk)

To stay informed of what's happening as things move forward search for Our Place Our Plan Strutherhill and Birkenshaw on Facebook.



# Report

**5**

Report to: **Hamilton Area Committee**  
 Date of Meeting: **27 January 2021**  
 Report by: **Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

Subject: **Community Grant Applications**

## **1. Purpose of Report**

1.1. The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ request approval for the allocation of community grants to 3 community groups in the Hamilton Area Committee area from the 2020/2021 community grant budget
- ◆ advise the Area Committee of action taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to allocate community grants to 5 community groups in the Hamilton Area Committee area from the 2020/2021 community grant budget, to assist community groups engaged in supporting their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic

## **2. Recommendation(s)**

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

**(1)** that community grants be awarded as follows:-

- |     |                   |   |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| (a) | Applicant:        | Dalserf Village Garden Club, Larkhall (HA/18/20)                        |
|     | Amount Requested: | £350  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Environmental project   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £350  |
| (b) | Applicant:        | Hillhouse Link Tenants' and Residents' Association, Hamilton (HA/19/20) |
|     | Amount Requested: | £600  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Materials   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £400  |
| (c) | Applicant:        | 112 <sup>th</sup> Lanarkshire Scout Group, Hamilton (HA/20/20)          |
|     | Amount Requested: | £485  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Materials   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £350  |

**(2)** that the action taken by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair, to allocate community grants to support community groups with their response to the COVID-19 pandemic, be noted, as follows:-

- |     |                   |   |
|-----|-------------------|---|
| (a) | Applicant:        | Beacons   |
|     | Amount Requested: | £1,000  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Family support with addictions and self care packs                          |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £1,000  |
| (b) | Applicant:        | The Haven   |
|     | Amount Requested: | £1,000  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Digital wellbeing support services  |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £1,000  |
| (c) | Applicant:        | Cadzow Parish Church  |
|     | Amount Requested: | £802.95   |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Equipment   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £802.95   |
| (d) | Applicant:        | Hillhouse Community Council   |
|     | Amount Requested: | £1,000  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Children's Gift Packs   |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £1,000  |
| (e) | Applicant:        | The Parent and Child Support (PACS) Group                                   |
|     | Amount Requested: | £1,000  |
|     | Purpose of Grant: | Outdoor activities and materials for children with Additional Support Needs |
|     | Amount Awarded:   | £1,000  |

### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The Council operates a community grants scheme to support local constituted community groups and voluntary organisations. All applications require to be supported by a constitution, audited accounts or annual income and expenditure accounts, a bank statement, and confirmation that the group/organisation will adhere to the conditions of the grant award. Applications are invited continually throughout the year.
- 3.2. The main aims of the community grants scheme are to:-
- ◆ fund activities and projects which bring community benefit
  - ◆ involve people in the community by bringing them together to enjoy educational, recreational, leisure and other community activities or to improve the local environment
- 3.3. Support can be provided for a range of activities including administration and publicity costs, purchase of equipment and materials, annual outings and entrance fees, start-up costs and special events.
- 3.4. In light of the community efforts in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was agreed that £20,000 from the 2020/2021 community grants budget be allocated to assist community groups engaged in supporting their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. The £20,000 had been apportioned equally between the 4 Area Committee areas i.e. £5,000 from each.

- 3.5. Community groups who wished to provide assistance and support to those most in need were able to apply for small grants to meet expenses associated with this work. As it was anticipated that funds would be required immediately to assist in the response effort, it had been agreed that applications would be considered by the Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources), in consultation with the Chair.
- 3.6 Any remaining balance from the £5,000 allocation from each Area Committee community grants budget, as at 31 December 2020, would be returned to the 2020/2021 community grants budget. As detailed in paragraph 2 above, £4,802.95 has been awarded to community groups who assisted in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, leaving a balance of £197.05.
- 3.7. As per the community grants scheme, community groups would normally only be permitted to submit one application in each financial year, however, community groups that had applied for funding to assist in the COVID-19 response would still be entitled to apply for a grant for another purpose under the scheme in the same financial year.

#### **4. Employee Implications**

- 4.1. None.

#### **5. Financial Implications**

- 5.1. The current position of the community grant and the COVID-19 response grant allocations for the Hamilton Area Committee area in 2020/2021 is as follows:-

Total allocation for Community Grants	£25,750
Community Grants previously allocated	£5,400
Funding allocated to the COVID-19 response effort	£4,802.95
Community grants allocated in this report	£1,100
Remaining balance	£14,447.05

#### **6. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications**

- 6.1. There are no implications for climate change, sustainability or the environment in terms of the information contained in this report.

#### **7. Other Implications**

- 7.1. The risk to the Council is that grant funding is not utilised for the purpose of which it was intended. This risk is mitigated by internal controls including audit procedures and conditions of grant agreement.

#### **8. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements**

- 8.1. This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function or strategy and therefore no impact assessment is required.
- 8.2. All the necessary consultation with the community groups has taken place.

**Paul Manning**

**Executive Director (Finance and Corporate Resources)**

11 January 2021

**Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives**

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient and transparent. Work with communities and partners to promote high quality, thriving and sustainable communities

**Previous References**

- ◆ Hamilton Area Committee – 4 November 2020

**List of Background Papers**

- ◆ Individual application forms

**Contact for Further Information**

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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