Cronberry, Logan & Lugar

Community Action Plan 2023 - 2028

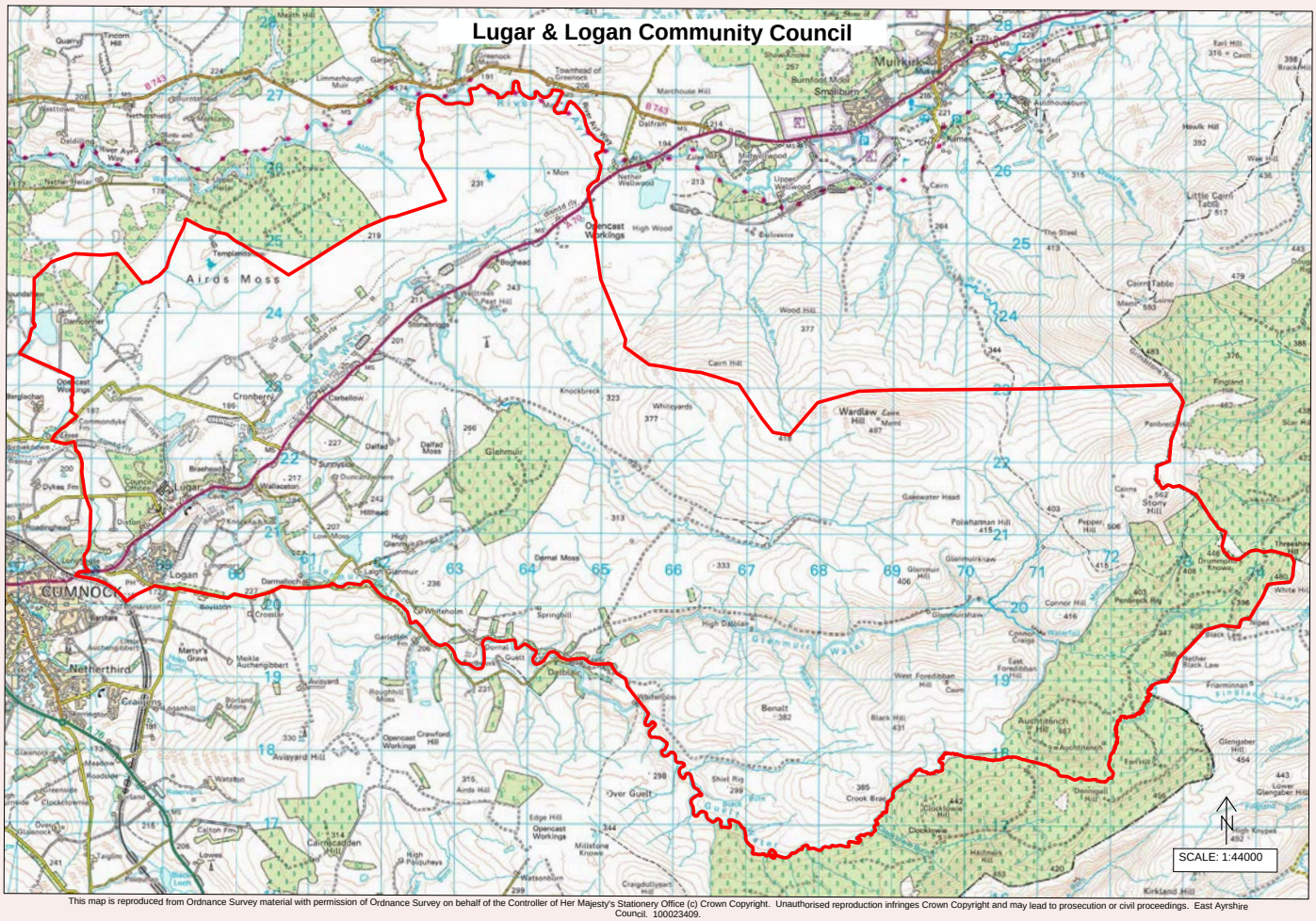
Developed by Cronberry, Logan & Lugar Community Action Plan Steering Group.

Cronberry, Logan and Lugar

Cronberry

Logan

Lugar



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We want Cronberry, Logan & Lugar to be...

"An area that helps one another while working in a collaborative way, that provides opportunities for people to realise their full potential and offer a safe, welcoming and rural community to live, work or visit".

Introduction

What is a Community Action Plan?

An action plan seeks to engage a community in identifying priorities for their area and to encourage the community into making those priorities happen. The Community Empowerment Act (Scotland) 2015 is a law that helps communities to influence change in their area.

A community action plan requires a 40% household survey return and is developed for the whole community not just one group. This means that every group within the area can use this plan as evidence of need when starting up a group to take forward actions or when applying for funding.

This plan is not a list of things that will be done for us, it's a plan to get us all involved in making changes happen to enhance our area and offer various opportunities.

Our first plan had some great achievements including:

- The Spoot Heritage Site has been upgraded
- Further enhancement to the community garden
- Retaining Logan Day Centre
- Litter team set up
- Fun days and events organised
- Development of Lugar Parish Church Heritage Information Centre
- Set up of a community larder and warm hub
- Enhanced entrances
- Installation of defibrillator
- Rendering of Social Housing
- Upgrade of road to Lugar Church

The Wider benefits are:

- More people getting involved
- Upgrade of housing stock
- Groups working together
- External funding secured
- Empowered communities
- Employment opportunities
- Volunteer opportunities
- Better community engagement

Second Generation Plan

The steering group is made up from a range of local Volunteers and representatives from a wide range of local organisations. These include Community Council, Logan Day Centre, Toddler and Youth Group, Lugar Parish Church, Lugar Boswell Thistle Football Club, Lugar Bowling Club, Logan Boxing Club and Cronberry Residents Association.

This Community Action Plan sets out the priorities for the development of Cronberry, Logan and Lugar over the next 5 years as decided by the community through a comprehensive process of community engagement.

A total of **285** household and online responses were returned with community views, which is a **52%** return of surveys. **56** of them were returned from young people in schools. **95** people attended and voted at the voting event and **11** stakeholder meetings were completed.

The plan is for the whole community with the aim of bringing groups, organisations and residents from all three areas to get involved and support services, facilities and community events. The research and preparation was organised, and led by the Cronberry, Logan and Lugar Action Plan Steering Group during 2021-2022.

The aim of the group:

- To give the community an opportunity to come together to plan and realise the changes needed to improve their communities for the future.
- Share views and ideas.
- Raise awareness of the communities.
- Work in partnerships with all the groups in the communities.
- Work with the whole community to achieve the priorities identified within this plan.

The Process involved:

- A household survey delivered to every household within the communities.
- An accessible online household survey shared via social media.
- Stakeholder interviews with representatives from different groups and individuals with a vested interest in the communities.
- Children and Young People's survey conducted in Primary and Secondary Schools.
- A community profile produced detailing the facts and figures of the communities.
- A community voting event giving local residents the opportunity to vote on their top priorities.

Our Community Now

Location

The parish of Lugar, an area of approximately 80km², encompasses the three settlements of Cronberry, Logan and Lugar and 11 farm steadings.

Lugar and Logan lie approximately 1 mile East of Cumnock. The smaller settlement of Cronberry lies a further mile east of Lugar.

Facilities

In 2017, the Logan Day Centre Committee signed a lease from East Ayrshire Council to manage the day to day running of the Centre. This has been very successful, giving more groups the opportunity to meet and use the building. External funding has been secured to upgrade the kitchen and the building, making this a community hub within Logan. During the pandemic the committee set up a community food larder, where people who were struggling could use a dignified food provision within the community. The committee support a range of activities and events within the Centre, including a Gala week, Bag a Burger and Christmas events. The Committee have also received external funding to employ a Project Worker to assist with the running of the building and the groups who use the Centre.

Lugar Parish Church

Lugar Parish Church is in the process of developing a Heritage and Information Centre and Community Hub after receiving external funding. It is still a Church, but when developed it will also provide a hub, a meeting place for the Community and be part of the Coalfield Landscape Project. It will be open through the week and has disabled access, toilet facilities, parking, an I.T. unit for people to have access to the internet, a cafe preparing hot drinks and snacks, a picnic area, indoor and outdoor seating and information prepared through murals, maps and leaflets. There will also be Information boards covering a wider area, which will enable visitors and local people to maximise their knowledge of the area. It is the intention to develop the building as a Heritage Information Centre, that would highlight the importance of the area's industrial past including Baird & Son, William Murdoch and his invention of gas, Mining and our Covenanting heritage.

Volunteers

Logan, Lugar and Cronberry Community Council was re-established in 2018 after a period of inactivity. They now have a very active membership. The Community Council received external funding to improve and enhance the local areas. Volunteers regularly collect litter across the three communities. The Chairperson of the Community Council was awarded Cumnock Citizen of the year in 2021. He is also an active member of the nine Community Council steering group (9CC), which was established for the allocation of funds generated from the local Windfarms. This will ensure that community benefit money generated from Windfarms for the area is managed and distributed fairly across the nine communities within East Ayrshire.

Our Community Now

Cronberry Residents Association

During the Covid-19 pandemic, Cronberry Residents Association supported local residents with their shopping and collecting prescriptions and continue to be the voice of the village. The Association have also received external funding to have a picnic table built beside the pond, as this is a focal point for people to socialise and meet in the village.

Population

Overall, the population of Logan and Lugar has declined by 6% in the last ten years. The population was 1,333 in 2001, 1,260 in 2011 and the mid-year estimate in 2020 projected the population as 1,190. These statistics apply to Logan and Lugar and do not include the settlement of Cronberry. The estimated population of Cronberry in 2001 was 75. (Census 2011)

Lugar housing development

Housing

Over the last 5 years East Ayrshire Council have rendered **193** properties in Logan and **3** properties within Lugar. So far, there have been **184** properties externally rendered, **166** properties with new windows installed and **85** with new kitchens, bathrooms and rewiring completed. A further **9** external render works in Logan near completion. The development of **26** houses in Lugar are near completion. Currently there is one application for two new-build houses in Logan and there is an appplication for houses in Cronberry.

Education

Nursery and Schools

Name	No. of Children attending
Logan Nursery Class	32
Logan Primary School	106
Robert Burns Academy	1690
St Patrick's Primary School	118

The school roll has increased over the past 5 years. The Early Childhood Centre now deliver 1160 hours.

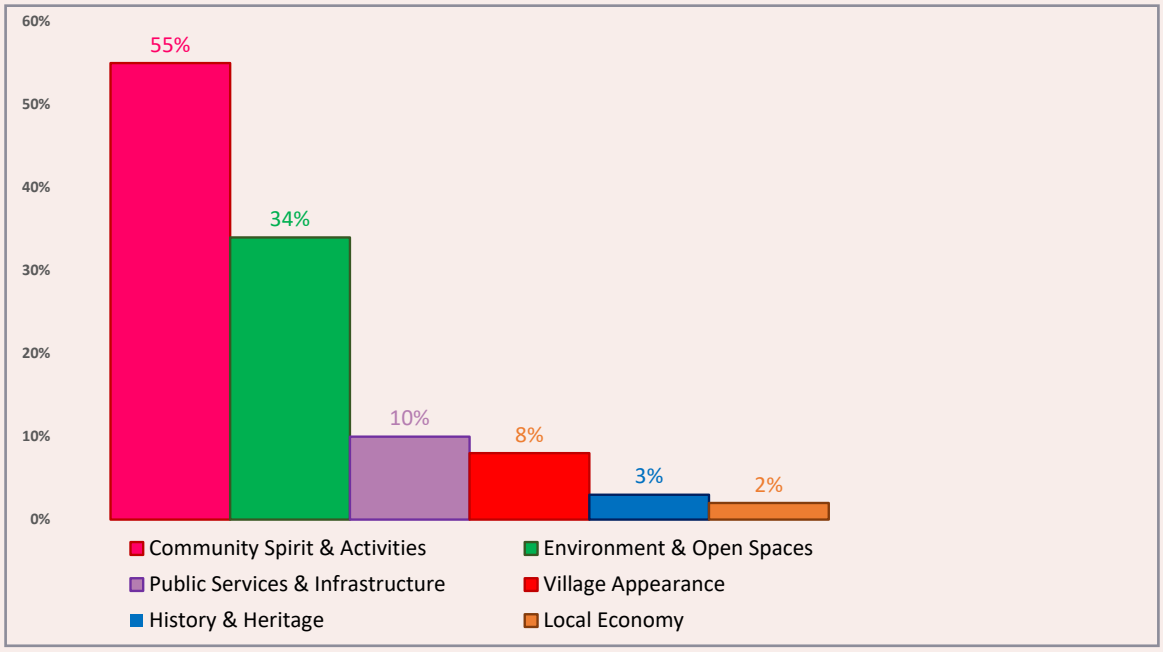
Further Education and Adult Education

East Ayrshire Council, Vibrant Communities provide opportunities for adult learning within the community.

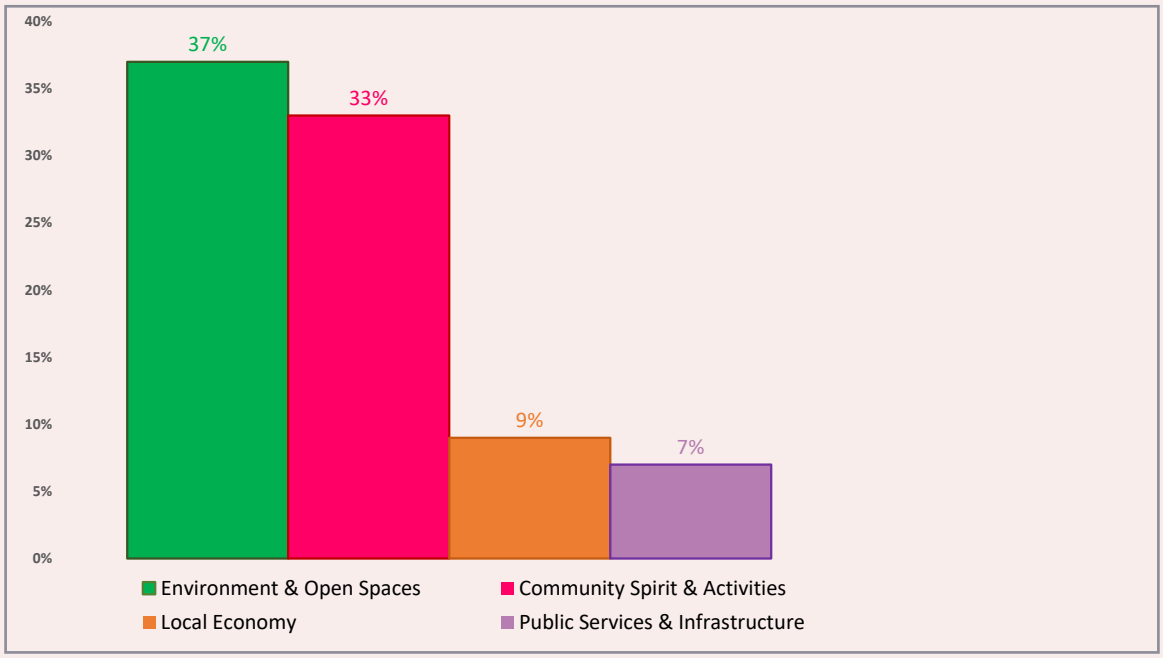
The nearest Colleges are in Kilmarnock and Ayr.

Likes and Dislikes

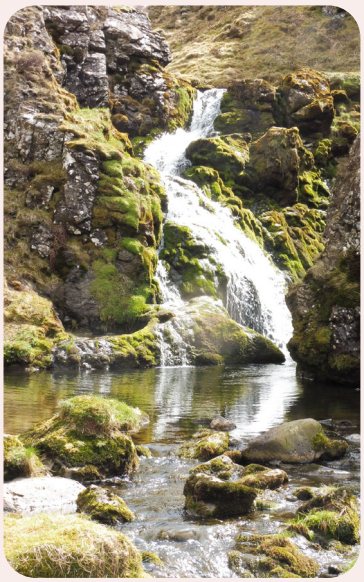
What we LIKE!



What we DISLIKE!



Likes and Dislikes



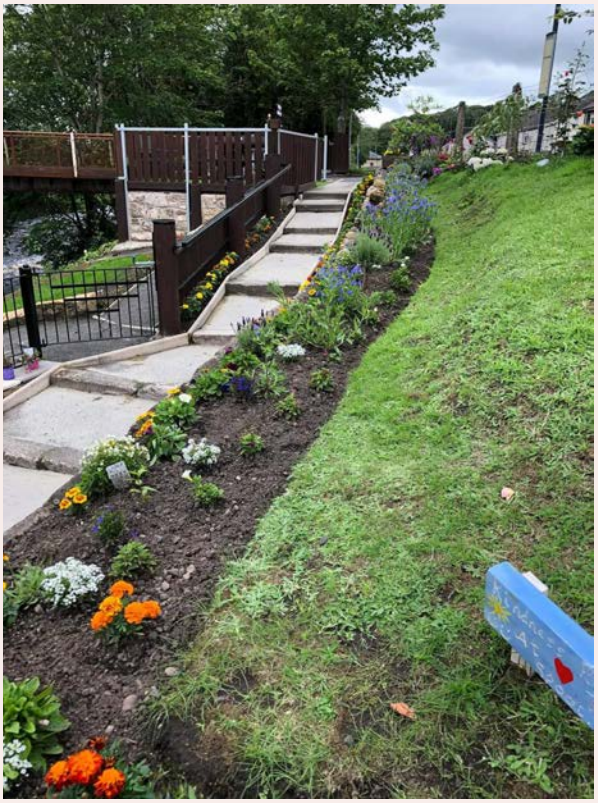
Likes

- "Community spirit around Christmas, playgroup, events in Logan Day Centre"
- "I like the sense of community everyone helping even in a small way"
- "We like it tranquil beauty and village pace of life where people who come across each other take time to pass the time of day"
- "The Day Centre"
- "Having access to nature and being able to walk in it"
- "Peaceful, rural community"
- "Lugar is a lovely village, nice quiet area with friendly people"
- "Able to walk and enjoy the peace and quiet (Cronberry)"
- "That it is litter free"
- "Friendly, volunteers collecting rubbish dropped in the streets, paths etc"
- "Little crime"
- "It's close to main roads for Dumfries, Kilmarnock, Ayr & Glasgow"
- "Covenanting history, great history in the area"
- "It has some of Scotland's oldest Football teams, namely Lugar Boswell Thistle FC"
- "Food larder is great value and has a range of items"

Dislikes

- "Badly need pathway on Bello path would make a massive difference to people walking especially people with buggies etc. It is a very dangerous place to walk"
- "More signs to deter fly tippers"
- "Bins for walkers to use"
- "Lack of activities for kids and adults lack of shops"
- "Quad bikes going all over the grass areas around Logan"
- "No youth clubs"
- "Lack of employment"
- "Few sign posts directing to local or areas of interest"
- "Vehicles speeding in through Lugar and in the scheme in Logan"
- "Cars parking near school"

Future Vision



- **"I think if we could use our open spaces for growing local produce and maybe get local schools to help"**
- **"Lugar has a few fields maybe its own garden growing shop like the Knowe Garden Centre where we could grow our fruit and vegetables"**
- **"There's lots of greenspace so maybe a community vegetable garden and get the kids involved"**
- **"Have own power company"**
- **"Better recycling"**
- **"Community charge"**
- **"Recycle point for cans and plastics"**
- **"Maybe some local clothes or bottle banks would help with recycling"**
- **"Create a public area and building that people will use and interact"**
- **"I would like to see some of the restrictions used on large lorries and trucks going through the village of Lugar"**
- **"Engage all existing groups; many are already working to this agenda. This work needs to involve a whole community not a small handful"**
- **"More activities for everyone"**
- **"Lugar is a conservation village"**

Young People's Vision

- "People playing football at the pitch and kids playing at the park with no litter"
- "A bigger and better park"
- "To look amazing"
- "Nice flowers and plants"
- "Fun parks"
- "Cleaner with less litter"
- "Kinder and greener"
- "Tidy and pretty"
- "Nice houses and gardens"
- "More people involved"
- "More things to do"
- "Very peaceful and fun"
- "Happy, safe and fun"
- "A nice welcoming place"
- "Community to work together"
- "More exciting"
- "More activities"
- "A place to get food other than the shops"
- "No more alcoholics and drugs"
- "More tidy, less trouble"

Did you Know?

Up to **69%** of young people would like to see better or new play parks in the area.

Community Groups

Community Groups:

- Cronberry, Logan & Lugar Community Council
- Glenmuir Arms Darts Team
- Logan Loyal Orange Lilies
- Logan Loyal Orange Lodge (LOL38)
- Logan Youth Club (aiming to reopen in 2023)
- Logangate Arms (Under new management)
- Logan Parent Council
- Lugar Boswell Thistle Football Club (The Jaggy Bonnets)
- Lugar Bowling Club
- Glenmuir Spiritual Group
- Logan Boxing Club
- Logan Arts & Crafts Group
- Women's Rural Institute
- Logan Spiritual Healing Group
- Logan Church & Lunch Club
- Logan Day Centre User Group

Village Halls/Community Centre

The Logan Centre on Paterson Avenue in Logan has disabled access. It consists of a main hall with capacity for about sixty people; two small room's with the capacity for six in each. There is a medium sized kitchen, disabled toilet, but limited storage. Letting is managed by the Logan Day Centre User Group.

Church Halls

Lugar Parish Church Hall, Glenmuir Road, Logan.

Library

The Mobile library visits Lugar and Logan.

Parks

There are currently two children's play parks in the area, one in Logan and one in Lugar.

Sport Facilities

East Ayrshire Leisure Trust: Sports field and Pavilion, Park Terrace, Lugar.

Lugar Boswell Thistle Football Ground, Muirkirk Road, Lugar.

Did you Know?

Lugar Boswell Thistle FC made nine consecutive Scottish Cup appearances in the 1880's. In March 1883 they recorded a 10-2 victory over Hearts. This still remains the Edinburgh clubs record defeat.

Before and After

Please find below projects which have been refurbished since the first plan was launched. These include the upgrade of Logan Day Centre kitchen and hall, the development of Lugar Heritage Centre, the refurbishment of Lugar Church and the upgrade of Lugar Boswell Thistle Football Club kitchen area. All of these projects were supported from a range of funders including Renewable Energy Fund (REF), The Lintel Trust, Corra Foundation, Coalfield Community Landscape Partnership (CCLP), Shire Housing and East Ayrshire Council.

Logan Day Centre

Lugar Boswell Thistle Football Club

Lugar Parish Church

History

Lugar

There was some form of settlement in the Lugar area as far back as 1000B.C. A battle-axe was found dated from around that time. Two stone axe-hammers were found in the gravel bank of Lugar Waters. These are believed to date from the early Bronze Age Period. From a similar period is the Rocking Stone at Bello Path near Lugar. A large boulder of some tons in weight was set on top of two others. The exact purpose of the stone is not known, but no doubt its location was extremely significant to Bronze Age people.

The Spoot

The Spoot is a natural spring, with pure water that was commonly visited by locals who would fill a jug up to add to their whisky, as it was said to make it taste better. But for years the spoot has lay untouched. In its glory days families would visit to enjoy the stunning views which are long gone. In 2020 during the lockdown period local volunteers from the village of Lugar came together to upgrade the spoot using reclaimed materials, planting trees and flowers in memory of loved ones.

William Murdoch

William Murdoch (1754 - 1839) was born at Bello Mill, Lugar. Educated at a School in Cumnock, he assisted his father in the millwright business before moving on to work for James Watt and Mathew Boulton at the Soho foundry near Birmingham. Many of Murdoch's experiments in gas lighting were undertaken at a cave near Bello Mill overlooking the River Lugar. The cave can still be seen today. Although Murdoch never patented the idea, he prepared a paper on the subject for the Royal Society and was awarded the Rumford Gold Medal by them in 1808.

(HYPERLINK "https://www.east-ayrshire.gov.uk/TourismAndVisitorAttractions/LocalHistoryAndHeritage/Famouspeople/WilliamMurdoch(scientist).aspx" William Murdoch (scientist) · East Ayrshire Council (east-ayrshire.gov.uk).

History

Logan

Present day Logan is built on the site of Logan House, there are photographic records. The settlement of Logan was greatly expanded in the post-war flurry of house building desperately needed to accommodate families from the mining villages. Logan Council housing scheme located above the valley of the Lugar Water. The community is set in open countryside on the outskirts of the Cumnock burgh. The minor road from the Glenmuir Water (NS6120) passes in front of the houses on its way to join the A70.

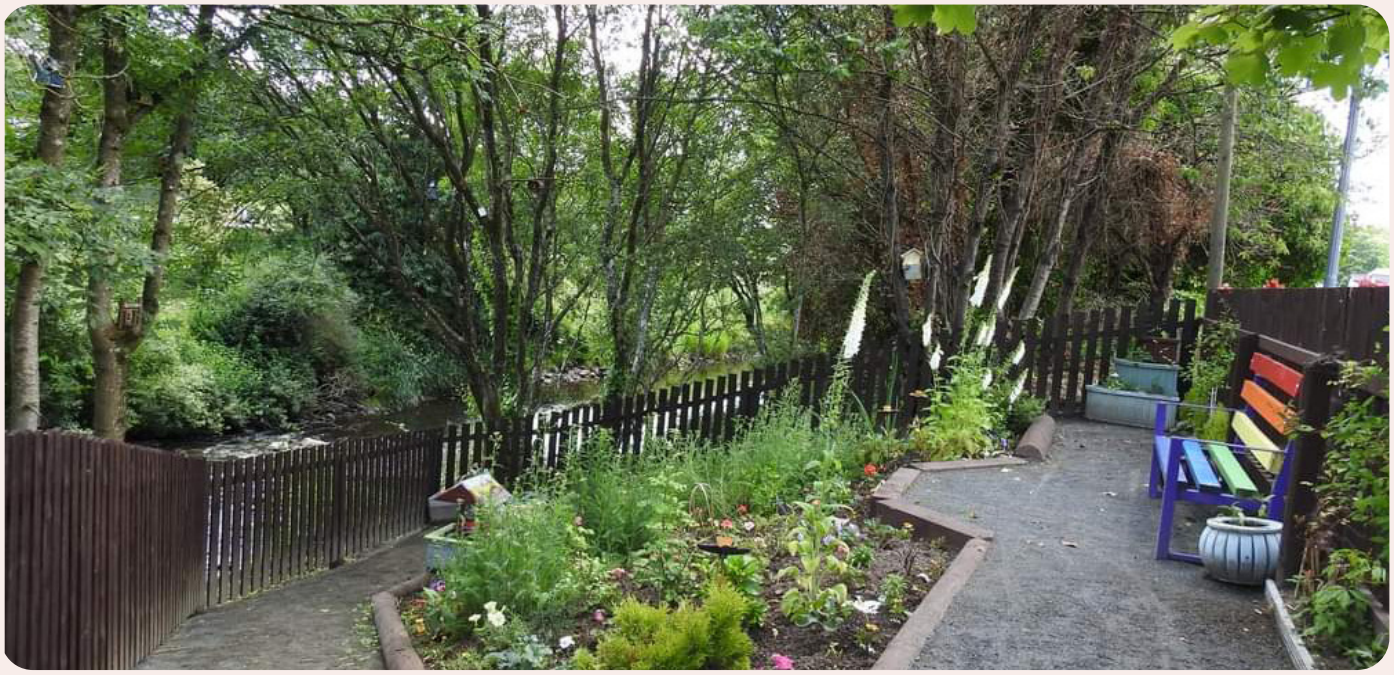
Cronberry

Cronberry (or Kronberry) dates back as far as 1654. The more recent Cronberry was built in the 1860's by the Eglinton Iron Company. Cronberry had seven miner rows set in lines and not streets or squares. In 1913 the population was approximately 600, and not a single washing house existed for the whole population. The Village was owned by William Baird & Co. The old miner's rows were demolished and the occupants rehoused in Lugar. Riverside Terrace houses were more modern, dating from 1920's and were converted to form private housing.

Did you Know?

Bill Shankly OBE once played right half for the Cronberry Eglinton youth football club.

Main Themes & Priorities



Village Appearance, Environment & Open Spaces

Priorities	What needs to be done?
Upgrade Public Spaces	• Create a new Play Park • Upgrade Play Parks • Upgrade walks around Cronberry Logan & Lugar • Improve all waste ground
General clean up	• Tackle dog fouling • Better outdoor maintenance of trees and hanging baskets • Encourage households to keep their garden clean and tidy • Improve seating and picnic areas • Introduce fly tipping and litter initiatives

Who could help move this forward?

The above actions can only be met through working in partnership with various groups. We have identified groups and organisations that could assist with these actions.

They are:

Businesses, Community Groups and Residents, East Ayrshire Council Cleaner Communities, Greener Communities & Vibrant Communities, East Ayrshire Council Housing and Environmental Health, Keep Scotland Beautiful, Logan Litter Team, Schools, Police Scotland, Shire Housing and Volunteers.

Main Themes & Priorities

Community Spirit, Activities & Events

Priorities	What needs to be done?
More Events	• Bring back Logan Gala day • Improved Christmas lights and Christmas events
Develop Activities within the area	• More active groups and activities • More youth clubs • More activities for older people
Community Participation	• Increase volunteers

Who could help move this forward?

The above actions can only be met through working in partnership with various groups. We have identified groups and organisations that could assist with these actions.

They are:

Businesses, Community Groups and Residents, East Ayrshire Council Cleaner Communities, Greener Communities & Vibrant Communities, East Ayrshire Council Housing and Environmental Health, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, External Funders, Schools, Volunteers and Youth Groups.

Main Themes & Priorities

Public Services and Infrastructure

Priorities	What needs to be done?
Community Safety	• Tackle anti-social behaviour • Tackle drugs and alcohol issues within the area
More Services	• Work with Council to improve recycling, waste management and bin collection • Better Health Care accessibility • Develop a Library Service • More bins around the area
Housing	• Upgrade Shire housing

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Businesses, Community Groups and Residents, East Ayrshire Council Cleaner Communities, Greener Communities & Vibrant Communities, East Ayrshire Council Housing and Environmental Health, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, External Funders, Schools, Shire Housing, Police Scotland and Volunteers.

Main Themes & Priorities

Local Economy

Priorities	What needs to be done?
More Shops	• Introduce a community café & charity shop • Investigate if the Post Office could be open more • Upgrade shops and encourage new businesses to come to the village
Increase employment	• Introduce renewable energy opportunities using the river and wind farms

Who could help move this forward?

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They are:

Businesses, Community Groups and Residents, East Ayrshire Council Planning and Economic Development, Financial Inclusion Team and Universal Credit Team, Department of Work and Pension (DWP), Employers, Funders, Renewable Energy Companies, Training providers and Volunteers.

Main Themes & Priorities

Roads, Transport & Parking

Priorities	What needs to be done?
Develop traffic calming measures	• Address speeding issue • Improve road safety and work with Traffic Police • Increase off-street parking • Better street lighting
Upgrade roads and paths	• Upgrade car park at Football ground • Upgrade walking and cycle paths • Liaise with Council for upgrade of all roads
Extend path network	• Pathway developed from Cronberry to Lugar • Create a safe pedestrian/cycle route/bike track in all areas
Improve local transport	• Improve bus services for Cronberry

Who could help move this forward?

The above actions can only be met through working in partnership with various groups. We have identified groups and organisations that could assist with these actions.

They are:

Businesses and Residents, Ayrshire Roads Alliance (ARA), Ayrshire Rivers Trust, Coalfield Community Transport, Community Groups, Cronberry Residents Association, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, East Ayrshire Woodlands, External funders, Police Scotland, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) and Volunteers.

Main Themes & Priorities

History & Heritage

Priorities	What needs to be done?
Logan Day Centre	• Create employment opportunities • Create the day centre into a Community Hub • Promote all activities within the centre • Assist the Volunteers with the management of centre
Lugar Heritage Centre	• Encourage young people to get involved • Display information about local history
The Spoot	• Assist Volunteers with the upgrade

Who could help move this forward?

The above actions can only be met through working in partnership with various groups. We have identified groups and organisations that could assist with these actions.

They are:

Businesses and Residents, Coalfield Community Landscape Partnership (CCLP), Community Groups, East Ayrshire Council Vibrant Communities, East Ayrshire Leisure Trust, External Funders, Historical Scotland, History Groups, Tourist Information and Volunteers.

Working Together

Working for you

The Community Action Plan Steering group has completed the engagement and consultation process within Cronberry, Logan & Lugar. Within this plan the priorities have been identified exclusively through the views of those living and working in the local communities.

Throughout this document we have shared with you the results of the consultation and who amongst our community can help take them forward. The steering group will strive to ensure that each priority has a dedicated community volunteer, who will liaise with the residents and stakeholders to achieve the actions identified within the priorities.

The steering group cannot guarantee that all priorities will be achieved, however this plan enables various groups to take ownership of the actions and apply for funding for their activities and events, as this can be part of the evidence required for their applications.

We hope that you will consider helping within your community, as it has been identified that residents want to keep improving the areas. This will ensure Cronberry, Logan and Lugar remain beautiful rural locations, with a mixture of diverse housing, businesses and agriculture. A place where everyone feels safe, happy and proud to live in. Local groups and individuals will continue to work together to take forward the priorities within the Action Plan.

Working Together

We would like to thank everyone who has been involved since 2016 in trying to improve Cronberry, Logan and Lugar, whether you have been involved directly or have supported the people, groups and events.

Thank you to the Community Action Plan Steering Group who have helped shape the Second Generation Cronberry, Logan and Lugar 2023-2028 Action Plan. We would also like to thank all who have contributed to this action plan including providing photographs from individuals, groups, including; Morag Gordon, John Baird, John Guthrie, Elaine McLelland, Suzanne Montgomery, Samantha Monaghan and Coalfields Communities Landscape Partnership.

The Community Action Plan Steering Group; Alison Cameron, Justine Conn, Tony Esquierdo, Kerri Haining, Lauren Hannah, Morag Gordon, Elizabeth McGuiness, Maryse McGuire, Rae Milligan, Samantha Monaghan, Derek Montgomery, Suzanne Montgomery and Marion Wylie, .

Stakeholders; East Ayrshire Council Elected Members, Logan, Lugar and Cronberry Community Council, Logan Day Centre User Group, Lugar Parish Church, Logan Boxing Club, Keith Campbell (Chicken Produce), Derek Montgomery, Secretary (Lugar Boswell Thistle Football Club), David Brown (Lugar Bowling Club), Denise McColl, Head Teacher (Logan Primary School).

Apologies to anyone we might have missed from this list.

Additional Community Contacts

Logan Lugar & Cronberry, CAP Facebook Page: @LoganLugar&Cronberry,CAP
Logan Day Centre: 29 Paterson Avenue, Logan, Facebook: @LoganDayCentre
Logan, Lugar & Cronberry Community Council: Facebook: @LoganLugar&CronberryCouncil
Logan Boxing Club: 2a Holmhead Crescent, Logan: Facebook @LoganBoxingClub(Scotland) This is a private group
Lugar Bowling and Social Club: 16a Park Terrace, Lugar Email: lugar.b.c@outlook.com
Lugar Boswell Thistle: Muirkirk Road, Lugar. Facebook: @LugarBTFC
Lugar Parish Church: Craigston Square, Lugar: Telephone: 01290 420769 Website: lugarchurch.com

Finally, thank you to all who completed the survey or who participated in the voting event as well as the members of the action plan group and the stakeholders who helped shape the contents of this document.

Taken from Lugar Parish Church, Heritage Calendar 2023

Produced by:

Cronberry, Logan & Lugar Community Action Plan Steering Group

working together with East Ayrshire Vibrant Communities

East Ayrshire Community Led Action Planning is based on the Community Futures Programme designed by STAR Development Group.