






PROGRESS TO DATE


DALMELLINGTON PARISH COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

THEME 1: TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENT	
Priority 1	<p>Improve the Buildings and Frontages in the Town Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission artist to depict a vision for what the Town Centre could look like, using traditional colours and signage styles • Work with businesses and community groups to agree this vision, and create an overall plan of town centre improvements • Secure funding and support for a shop front and building improvements scheme, including liaison with East Ayrshire Council Planning and Economic Development
Priority 1 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dalmellington Partnership secured funding to recruit a Historic Shop Front consultant to take a survey of the commercial buildings in the centre of the village. A detailed report on the current condition and recommendations for improvement was completed. • The report was used to attract additional funding, from Ayrshire LEADER, Coalfield Regeneration Trust and the Community Futures Fund to recruit a regeneration officer to try to progress the vision in the report. • East Ayrshire Council Planning & Economic Development Section was approached to look at funding a pilot scheme to carry out cosmetic improvements to identified buildings in the report. £15,000 was secured for this purpose. • Prominent buildings that would have a real impact on the look of the village were identified and agreement sought from the property owners on what work could be carried out and estimates for this work were obtained. • To date the following buildings have undergone improvements with grants from the building improvements fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 18 High Main Street, the Greengrocers, the exterior frontage was painted and new signage installed  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 13 High Main Street contains two shops, the florist had a bespoke window to match the original manufactured and installed, the exterior frontage painted and window decals installed. 

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Priority 1 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4 High Street, a butchers shop, had a new window canopy installed.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 21 Main Street, a vacant shop, was purchased by a hairdresser who owned the adjoining shop and converted into a beauty salon. Assistance was given to carry out the exterior frontage painting, new windows installed to match the adjoining shop, new signage and window decals installed.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Eglinton Hotel, Main Street, had the original sandstone facia cleaned of paint, stonework repointed and repaired and new signage installed.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two buildings 2 & 8 Main Street are still to be completed. 2 Main Street, a butchers shop, has had the cast iron guttering and downpipes replaced with new cast iron guttering and downpipes and is awaiting painting. Number 8 has had old signage removed, some stone work repaired and is awaiting painting.



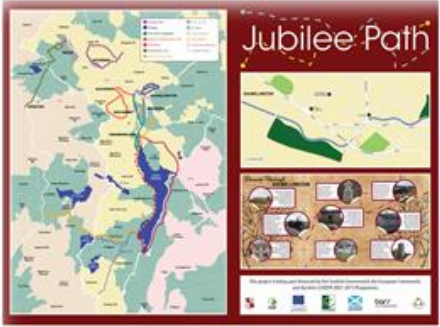
PROGRESS TO DATE

THEME 1: TOWN CENTRE IMPROVEMENT	
Priority 2	<p>Environmental Improvements – less litter and more flowers!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct litter campaign involving schools • Ask local gardening group to work with school to produce plants for hanging baskets and floral displays • Involve businesses and school in maintenance of floral displays
Priority 2 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalmellington Primary School now conduct a yearly litter campaign (ongoing). • Six double hanging basket stanchions were purchased from funding secured from the Southern Local Grants Committee & the Minerals Trust (June 2013). • The Zone Initiative have taken responsibility for the maintenance of the floral displays (ongoing).
Priority 3	<p>Traffic and Parking Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with East Ayrshire Council to commission a traffic management study • Implement results of study • Improved signage to direct traffic to existing parking
Priority 3 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalmellington Community Council worked in partnership with East Ayrshire Council to commission a traffic management study. • East Ayrshire Council conducted a site visit in October 2012, as a result of this 3 new parking signs were installed to direct traffic to existing parking facilities (June 2013). <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>
Priority 4	<p>Business Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore potential for Dalmellington Business Association to provide a strong business voice in these projects
Priority 4 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The association has not yet been developed. 8 – 9 local businesses have currently been contacted to gauge their interest. It is anticipated that if the CARS application is successful, more interest will be shown from local businesses to form an association.


PROGRESS TO DATE

THEME 2: TOURISM AND HERITAGE	
<p>Priority 1</p>	<p>Heritage Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at potential for Doon Valley Museum to be open by volunteers in addition to time when it is staffed by East Ayrshire Council • Research and design local history leaflets providing information about the heritage of the area • More information on the heritage of Loch Doon, to tie in with development of Loch Doon Caravan and Camping Park
<p>Priority 1 Progress to date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Doon Valley Museum is currently being considered under the community asset transfer process. • The History group have been working on a range of leaflets to promote and inform people about the history of the area. These leaflets / booklets include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loch Doon leaflet - Publication of 'Discovering Dalmellington's History' booklet - Publication of 'Dauner through Dalmellington' booklet - Publication of Dalmellington Cemetery 1931 Extension Book of Monumental Inscriptions - Publication of 'The Loch Doon Scandal' booklet - (W.W.1. Commemoration) • The History Group have also assisted Ross Associates with a Tourism Study of the Doon Valley area. <div data-bbox="638 1086 1077 1400" data-label="Image"> </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formation of Doon Valley Family History Website (ongoing).


PROGRESS TO DATE

THEME 2: TOURISM AND HERITAGE	
Priority 2	<p>Historic Sites</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the steps, signage and pathways at the Motte • Better maintenance and signage of the Old Graveyard • Explore project idea to have a heritage trail around historic sites in the area
Priority 2 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Futures Steering Group worked in partnership with East Ayrshire Council to commission signage for the Old Graveyard (June 2013).  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Futures steering group received grant for graveyard signage (June 2013)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance for old graveyard will be proposed under the CARS Scheme if successful. • The Town Trail and leaflet for the Jubilee Path was funded by the Scottish Government, Ayrshire LEADER & the European Community 2007-13 programme 




PROGRESS TO DATE

THEME 2: TOURISM AND HERITAGE	
Priority 3	<p>Signage and Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a list of what signage is needed in the area, and commission design of sign • Raise funding for signage and have it installed • Project to design a Dalmellington Map, showing points of interest to visitors, to be displayed in the Square, and be available widely in shops and businesses • Work with Dark Skies Observatory Project to ensure information is available for local businesses
Priority 3 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Council worked with East Ayrshire Council to produce signage for the motte and graveyard (July 2013). • Funding was applied for and Signage installed. • The Town Trail and Jubilee Path project incorporate points of interest for visitors. The town trail sign is located next to the Doon Tavern (July 2013). • Ongoing – still to be completed.
Priority 4	<p>Visitor Friendly Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve formal caravan and camping facilities at Loch Doon • Encourage local businesses to open longer hours to serve locals and visitors • Explore potential for local pubs/cafés to provide toilets for public use and publicise toilets available at the Area Centre
Priority 4 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Caravan Club secured funding of £123,284 from the following –Ayrshire LEADER, £67,323 – Minerals Trust and £56,072 – SCORE and a gift of 1.700 tonnes of stone from the Scottish Forestry Commission. Work started on site in June 2013. The work on phase 1 has been completed which was the initial construction of the park, shower/toilet block and reception area. The park has received visitors throughout the season. <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not progressed. • Ongoing – still to be completed.



PROGRESS TO DATE

THEME 3: ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS	
Priority 1	<p>Community Woodland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Forestry Commission Scotland to establish a Community Woodland area at the new cemetery above Dalton Avenue • Establish a volunteer Woodlands and Environment group
Priority 1 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Community Woodland has been established, this has consisted of the creation of a car park for 20 cars. The trees planted are bearing fruit and the edible hedge completed the project in March 2014. • The Community Futures Group are working in partnership with Forestry Commission to establish a Woodlands Environment Group – (Ongoing). 
Priority 2	<p>River Area Improvements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the project planned by Dalmellington Partnership to create a path from Cathcartson to Craigengillan, including a footbridge and two fish passes
Priority 2 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Dalmellington Partnership carried out the project to create a path from the centre of the village to the gatehouse at Craigengillan Estate. Funding for the project was provided by Ayrshire LEADER, Cumnock & Doon Valley Minerals Trust and Barr Environmental. After community consultation the path was named the Jubilee Path. • Two pairs of flow deflectors to aid migratory fish to go upstream were installed and were working well but a large spate showed that the deflectors had the unfortunate effect of raising the water level to the point that it could cause flooding. As a result, East Ayrshire Council asked for them to be removed and this was carried out. • Signposts showing the route and the connections to the network of paths in the area have been installed at each end of the path.



PROGRESS TO DATE

THEME 3: ENVIRONMENT AND ACCESS	
Priority 3	<p>Improve Access in the King George V Field</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with East Ayrshire Council and Fields in Trust to secure necessary permissions for access improvements • Design improved entrance and paths to play area • Involve children and families in design of other potential improvements to the field (including seating, garden area, natural play area etc)
Priority 3 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Futures Group in conjunction with East Ayrshire Council achieved the Licence to Occupy for the King George V Field which would allow them to progress work with laying a new path. • Pillar to the entrance was removed, renovated and re-instated.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Community Futures Group received match funding from Britvic (£5000.00) to lay the path to the children's play area (September 2014). • Still to progress.  

PROGRESS TO DATE

THEME 4: COMMUNITY PRIDE, FACILITIES AND EVENTS	
Priority 1	<p>Reduce Anti-Social Behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice/leaflet to residents and businesses about how to contact Police • Work closely with Community Police • Monitor situation and continue to liaise with Divisional Commander
Priority 1 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police developed and provided residents with a contact card. • Police now attend monthly Community Council meetings and provide input on local crime statistics (ongoing). • Community Council continue to liaise with Divisional Commander when appropriate (ongoing).
Priority 2	<p>Improvements to Community Buildings and Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree a programme of improvements to Dalmellington Community Centre to be jointly implemented by Council and Community Association (e.g. toilets and external refurbishment) • Improve Dalmellington Scout Hall for wider community use • Improve kitchen facilities at Dalmellington Parish Church (Bellsbank) to be able to offer wider access by more groups
Priority 2 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset transfer of Dalmellington Community Centre being explored by the Community Association (ongoing). • Upgrading of the Scout Hall currently underway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New front door purchased & installed in March 2012.  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 33rd Ayrshire Scouts have embarked on a 'Save our Scouts' project and obtained funding to renew the internal ceiling of the hall, phase 2 is about to start which will involve the installation of a disabled toilet which will enable the hall to be used by the entire community. • The Dalmellington Community Futures Group provided a grant to upgrade the kitchen at Dalmellington Parish Church (Bellsbank). The kitchen has been installed and is now in use by local community groups (September 2014). 

PROGRESS TO DATE

THEME 4: COMMUNITY PRIDE, FACILITIES AND EVENTS	
Priority 3	<p>Better Youth Recreational Facilities and Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to work with East Ayrshire Council to secure an all-weather sports pitch at Craigmark, which would be available as a community facility • Encourage and support volunteers or organise youth recreation (e.g. football team, bowling, outdoor pursuits at Craigengillan, Loch Doon etc) • Expand community gym and changing facilities at Doon Valley Amateur Boxing Club
Priority 3 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Astroturf has been secured, change of venue from Craigmark to Dalmellington running track (work currently underway)  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craigengillan have horse trekking etc for community groups to access (ongoing). • Doon Valley Amateur Boxing Club (ABC) successfully secured Asset Transfer of units 3 and 4 at Dalmellington Area Centre (September 2014).
Priority 4	<p>Community Events and Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise a series of community wide events (including Jubilee Celebrations, Halloween Howl Walk, Hoolie, Christmas Fayre, Walking Weekend) • Produce a yearly calendar/diary of events in the area • Promote events using new noticeboard, website and newsletter (if there are volunteers to do this) • Regular meetings of all community groups to co-ordinate activities and share information
Priority 4 Progress to date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Council have organised Halloween Howl and Hoolie for past 3 years. The Gala Day has also been re-instated and has run now successfully for the past 3 years. (ongoing) • Still to be progressed. • Local groups regularly using notice board / website (ongoing).  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All groups meeting regularly and share information (ongoing).