

Drongan, Rankinston & Stair



Regeneration Group

2014 - 2019

Our Vision is to be an area proud of its identity, that is flourishing and prosperous, where our community aspires to greater things while working together.

OUR JOURNEY SO FAR...

May 2019

Our Achievements for our Communities

1 Action Plan

5 Themes

45 Projects

38 Completed Projects



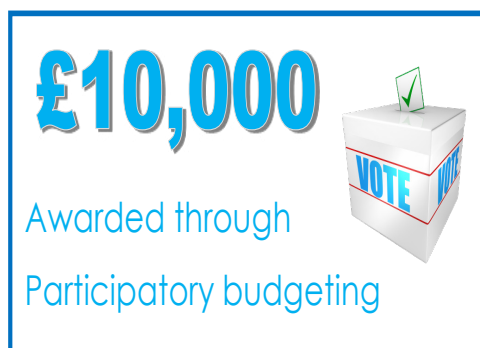
Training opportunities within the 3 communities include:

First Aid
Food Hygiene
Employability Classes
Committee skills
Financial skills
Defib training
PVG
Protecting People
Food Safety

Community Activities

Race Night
DRS Gala Day
Fitness Classes
Fun Days
Pantomime
Whist Drives
Summer Camp
Tea Bingos
Bowling
Christmas Dinners / Parties

Our Achievements for our Communities



In the Beginning...

The first Steering Group meeting was held in November 2013. A Community Views survey was delivered to all houses in Drongan, Rankinston and Stair. Young people's views were gathered from Doon and Auchinleck Academy as well as Drongan and Littlemill Primary schools. There were twenty stakeholder meetings held involving various local businesses and focus groups within the three communities. Each gave their views, ideas and vision for the future.



A profile of the three communities was compiled through gathering a range of information and data from local Council and National sources. A photographic record was collected to illustrate the likes and dislikes of the three communities. There was a Community Action Plan Open Event on Saturday 31st May 2014 at Drongan Primary School. Two hundred and twenty two people attended, of which, two hundred and ten people were eligible to vote on the five main themes and action points raised through the surveys to determine the priorities going forward.

The Community Led Action Plan was launched at an event held in Rankinston Community Centre on Friday 29th August 2014. The DRS Steering Group was formally disbanded and a new Regeneration Group decided to become an unincorporated group with an active committee, a constitution and its own bank account. The group publishes a bi-annual newsletter to inform the communities of progress. The group pledged to take forward the five main themes of the Action Plan 2014 - 2019.

The benefits of this process were meeting and speaking to the communities; finding out more about the communities we live in; communities feeling empowered; communities planning their future; raising aspiration of our young people; changing the negatives into positives with a 'can do' attitude and encouraging pride in our communities. New ideas and initiatives are emerging, raising the profile of all three areas and seeing all three communities working together.



The DRS Community Chest Event

Saturday, 11th March 2017

This Participatory Budgeting (PB) event was held at Drongan Community Centre to give community groups the opportunity to present a range of projects within a market place forum. A total of thirty groups applied with twenty-two presenting their ideas in the form of an A1 poster to compete for a funding boost of up to £750. Each member of the three communities, from the age of five upwards, was allocated a ballot paper to give a graded vote to each group's project at the event. Once all the ballot papers had been collected, they were counted by EAC Vibrant Communities team. Two committee members from the DRS Regeneration group then announced the results of the count and the successful community groups' bids were as follows:



Drongan Grassroots Football Club

To buy football nets



Stair Community Association

To replace the heaters



Drongan Mini Kickers

To buy training equipment



Stair Craft Club

Arts and craft demonstrations.



Drongan Primary Netball Team

To buy new netball bibs and jackets



Stair Community Association

A fire detection and alarm system



Drongan Divas

To subsidise a family summer trip



Sinclairston & Hayhill Rural Initiative

Hayhill play park and fencing.



Drongan Divas

To provide Christmas activities



The Zone

To provide equipment for Rankinston.



Drongan Primary Parent Council

School trips / transportation.



Rankinston Community Association

Fitness classes for young people.



Happy Hens

DRS Gala Day.



Rankinston Indoor Carpet Bowlers

Let fees.



Happy Hens

Outdoor toys.



Stair Community Association

Folding tables



Rankinston Community Association

OAP Christmas Party.

Village Appearance & Open Spaces

Priority and Project	Comments	Impact
Priority 1 : Provide more Dog and Litter Bins		
Projects: Display signs throughout the village and investigate fines for leaving a mess. Organise community litter picks and ensure Schools involvement.	COMPLETE Annual litter picks, white goods amnesty, free skips, more bins installed with dog waste stickers.	Improved environment. Raised awareness of areas. Empowered community. Local pride instilled in their community. Attractive areas to visit .
Priority 2: Clean up Burn and Identify Plans to Improve the Surrounding Area.		
Projects: Work with East Ayrshire Council and local residents in village clean ups. Consider environmental engagement.	COMPLETE River Coyle banks cleaned by local volunteers. Environmental awareness raised through Hannahston Woods Project.	New partnerships formed. Increased knowledge on environmental issues. Reduction in rubbish.
Priority 3: Improve / Remove Derelict Buildings		
Projects: Liaise with East Ayrshire Council and local businesses. Identify potential areas for improvement in all communities.	COMPLETE Toll Garage, Library, Games Hall and empty houses in Rankinston removed. Investigated Rankinston derelict buildings, however due to being privately owned no progress has been made.	Areas being developed for the benefit of the communities. Increased opportunities, activities and community engagement.
Priority 4: Encourage house and garden clean up.		
Projects: Introduce a Nice Neat Neighbourhood competition. Work with garden projects to identify who would benefit from assistance to keep their garden and home tidy.	COMPLETE EAC Housing and Irvine Housing host annual competitions. Annual litter picks carried out.	Cleaner areas. Raising awareness of the environment. Improved education. Team work. Increased number of volunteers.
Priority 5: Improve Entrances to all Areas		
Projects: Identify funding to buy Miners Memorial objects, plaques and signs.	COMPLETE All entrances and areas have been improved through planting daffodils. Village signs have been upgraded. Rankinston awaiting coal cart planters. Miners memorial being investigated.	Nice areas to visit, work and live. Instil pride in our communities.

Community Facilities / Services

Priority and Project	Comments	Impact
Priority 1 : Develop facilities for young people.		
Projects : Liaise with School, Youth Club and develop a Youth Committee / Forum.	COMPLETE Weekly youth club and after school activities are incorporated in all 3 areas and Eco Committee within schools.	Increased social and life skills. More opportunities. Encouraging positive play. Team work.
Priority 2 : Astro Turf to be open more		
Projects: Liaise with East Ayrshire Council and negotiate times. Introduce volunteer opportunities.	COMPLETE More activities within the astro turf including mini kickers and youth football.	Young people have learned new skills. More activities and groups established. Increased volunteering and employment opportunities.
Priority 3 : Improve Broadband		
Projects: Investigate opportunities to improve broadband in all areas. Engage with service providers.	COMPLETE Fibre optic broadband installed in areas, however, some issues with rural areas of Rankinston and Stair. Rankinston cable installed but not connected.	Connected communities. Increased opportunities.
Priority 4 : Develop a Community Hub Incorporating Sport		
Projects: Integrate all sports activities into one hub. Develop an action group to drive forward.	COMPLETE All 3 areas have a community centre that allow sport activities, groups to meet and services to be retained within their areas. All 3 Community Associations have done fantastic.	Great partnerships. Increased knowledge and skills. More opportunities. Healthy lifestyles.

Contact in Council and partners



Vibrant Communities
 Outdoor Amenities
 Waste Management
 Community Pay Back Team
 East Ayrshire Woodland Trust
 Funders



Contact in Community

DRS Regeneration Group
 Community Association
 Local residents
 Community Council
 Volunteers



Outdoor Play and Recreation

Priority and Project	Comments	Impact
Priority 1 - Upgrade and Develop Parks and Picnic Areas		
Projects Work with young people in garden projects. Liaise with East Ayrshire Council and businesses for funding and opportunities.	COMPLETE 200 oak trees, 3000 daffodil's and wild flowers planted in partnership with young people and East Ayrshire Woodland Trust. Funding Secured.	Improved environment. Improved education. Increased social and life skills. Training provided. Increased funding/investment in the area.
Priority 2 - Upgrade Sport Facilities and Pitches		
Projects: Contact East Ayrshire Council regarding upgrade. Set up a group of volunteers to progress.	COMPLETE Drongan Amateur Football Club secured Drongan Pavilion through asset transfer.	More activities delivered for the community. Raise awareness of community in a positive manner. Increased number of volunteers. Volunteers more confident in applying for funding.
Priority 3 - Promote Healthy lifestyles through Walking and Cycling		
Projects: Develop safe walking and cycling paths.	COMPLETE Hannahston Woods phase one and two complete. Pathways and drainage completed. Decking completed.	Safe, clean walking areas with increased footfall. Opportunities for healthier lifestyle. More friendly atmosphere in the area. Beautiful scenery and wildlife.
Projects: Distribute safe walking and cycling posters. Set up a safe walking and cycling group.	NO PROGRESS Link with school to develop poster competition.	Still to progress.

Contact in Council and partners



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Contact in Community

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Roads, Traffic, Parking and Transport

Priority and Project	Comments	Impact
Priority 1 - Improve Maintenance on all Roads and Paths		
Projects: Liaise with Ayrshire Roads Alliance regarding improvements. Inspect roads and paths on a regular basis and report Ayrshire Roads Alliance.	COMPLETE Ayrshire Roads Alliance attended meeting to inform the group of improvement plans. Local residents and Community Council report issues to Ayrshire Roads Alliance.	Improved relationship built with Ayrshire Roads Alliance. Good reporting system established.
Priority 2 - Introduce Rural Bus Service		
Projects: Lobby for a better bus service from Rankinston to Drongan to Stair to Ayr. Liaise with Strathclyde Passenger Transport. Lobby for better timetable from Rankinston.	NO PROGRESS Contact was made with SPT and was advised that it wasn't viable.	This could be looked at again.
Priority 3 - Explore Traffic Calming Measures		
Projects: Work with community police officers to identify hot spots. Look into working more closely with Police. Explore calming measures.	COMPLETE Sinclairston and Hayhill Rural Initiative have been in discussion / meetings with Ayrshire Roads Alliance and Police Scotland. Local police officers attend Community Council meetings and update the community on any crime. Enforcement officers visit the communities.	Raised awareness of community safety. Closer working with Police Scotland and Enforcement Officers.
Priority 4 - Better Signage		
Projects: Liaise with East Ayrshire Council regarding updating signs. Work with schools to develop designs through an art competition.	COMPLETE Village sign funding was secured and new signs have been installed. School competition to be completed.	Stair and Drongan have new village signs. Rankinston awaiting new coal cart planter.

Local Economy and Tourism

Priority and Project	Comments	Impact
Priority 1 - Potential Shops in Rankinston		
Projects: Lobby for a community shop. Work with residents to identify the need for a shop. Identify potential businesses that are looking to invest in the area.	COMPLETE Mobile shop, Post Office Van, Ice Cream Van and Chippy attend Rankinston. Community Association has a tuck shop. Some interest in a shop but no progress made. Centre stage provide a Food provision.	Improved access to services. Access to external partners. Increased business opportunity for small business.
Priority 2 - Develop Training Opportunities within Communities		
Projects: Liaise with Skills Development Scotland Employability Services regarding trainings opportunities. Liaise with East Ayrshire Council Adult Learning. Work with DWP regarding supporting people into employment. Liaise with external training providers.	COMPLETE Skills Development Scotland, East Ayrshire Council, Adult Learning and Career advisors attend Drongan on a weekly basis to give advice on employment. CV Drop-in on a weekly basis for Job opportunities and support with applications. Training has been delivered from East Ayrshire Council and external trainers.	An increase in the number of educational opportunities delivered. Enhanced Social Life Skills and confidence of participants. Volunteers more skilled and have completed training in Committee Skills, First Aid, Food Hygiene, PVG Protecting People, Defib and funding applications.
Priority 3- Encourage investment into the Area		
Projects: Liaise with local businesses. Promote vacant premises in all areas. Raise the profile of all areas.	COMPLETE Bowling Green - 2 expressions of interest submitted. All areas have been promoted through social media and press. Gym and Café open in a vacant shop. Chemist moved to bigger premises. Investment for various groups for activities and upgrades successful.	Increased opportunities and activities. Increased community engagement. Nicer place for people to live, visit or work.
Introduce a Tourist Attraction Incorporating Histor		
Projects: Develop a Mining Museum. Work with schools to include young people on a history project.	NO PROGRESS However could still be carried out through engagement with schools and communities.	Still to progress.

Recognising Volunteers

Citizen of the Year

Shivonne Logan and Hayley Watson have been active members of the Action Plan Regeneration group for the past 4 years and have been instrumental in the delivery of some of the priorities including: Managing the Happy Hens, organising and fund raising for the Fun Day and Summer Camp providing breakfast and lunch for 40 children throughout the summer holidays. They have joined the Community Council and Community Association and now assist Centre Stage with the dignified food provision. They have volunteered many hours of their time to helping their community and this was recognized at the Drongan Presentation Dance 2019 when they were voted Citizens of the Year.



Supporting young people to reach their potential

Malcolm Gray volunteered his time while studying for his exams at the very start of the Action Plan Process where he helped to deliver the household survey and assisted with fun days etc. Centre Stage came into the Drongan area where Malcolm then volunteered within the mobile food provision facility to help cook and provide a valuable service to the community. He was then successful in gaining employment with Centre Stage and is currently working as a Café Assistant and lives in Irvine.



Linda Hair - DRS Committee Member

Linda attended the first steering group meeting in November 2013 held at Drongan Community Centre and has been an active member of both DRS groups. Her key responsibilities within the committee have been as the Roads, Traffic, Parking and Transport Theme Co-ordinator; the Local Economy and Tourism Co-ordinator; the editor of the bi-annual community newsletter; a representative at the Community Action Plan (CAP) quarterly forum meetings and the annual CAP conferences.



Quote from Linda:

"The highlight for me over the past five years has been how the DRS Community Action Plan has brought together and transformed the three communities through improved interaction and co-operation between local people, partnership groups, East Ayrshire Council, the Scottish Government and local and national businesses. I think everyone who has been involved with the Action Plan has striven to realise the three communities' vision '*...to be an area proud of its identity, that is flourishing and prosperous, where our community aspires to greater things while working together.*'"

Hannahston Community Woodland

‘If you go down in the woods today you’re sure of a big surprise...’

The DRS Regeneration group has worked in close partnership with East Ayrshire Woodlands to complete the Hannahston Community Woodland project; thanks to the generosity of TESCO’s Bags of Help grant funding programme.

There is a much more user friendly opening to the woods close to Lomond View Road. A new gentle, meandering pathway through the trees will take woodland users to the top of the site close to the interpretation shelter. The footpaths and drainage have been improved and 200 new trees were planted thanks also to a donation from [TreeAppeal.com](https://www.treeappeal.com).

East Ayrshire Council has sited a new combined litter and dog waste bin near the road entrance from the B730 for woodland users to dispose of their rubbish and dog waste appropriately. This will help keep the woodland a sanctuary for all to enjoy!



A few of my favourite things about Hannahston Woods

(To the tune of my favourite things)

Good paths for dog walks and less need for wellies

Old folk and young folk and weans in their buggies

Lovely new gates with great fences surround

New planted bulbs and spring flowers abound

When the weans greet!

When my head hurts!

When I feel I could scream!

I go for a walk in the woods

Then I have time to dream

Roe deer and buzzards with hawks on the wing

Oak trees and fairies in the wee magic ring

Boardwalk on loch..... the swans to admire

Wild flowers and meadows all help to inspire

When the suns out!

Or the rain pours!

When I want to yell!

We all go for a walk in the woods

Then we all feel so well.....

Written by Hannah Corbett

What's Going On...

Drongan			
Monday			
Activity	Venue	Date and Time	Age Group
Arts and Crafts	Community Centre	Every Monday Sep - April 7.00pm - 9.00pm	ALL
Young Conquerors	Community Centre	Every Monday 7.00pm - 8.00pm	Members
Fitness Classes x 2	Community Centre	Every Monday 6.30pm - 8.30pm	16+
Chair Based Exercise class	Rowantree Court	Every Monday 1.00pm	ALL
Councillor Surgery	Community Centre	(Monthly) 6.30pm - 7.00pm	ALL
Chair Based Exercise class	Rowantree Court	Every Monday - 12.45pm	ALL
Lunch Club	Rowantree Court	Every Monday 12.00noon	ALL
Dementia Café	Rowantree Court	Every 2nd Monday - 10.00am	ALL
Tuesday			
Councillor Surgery	Community Centre	(Monthly) 7.00pm - 8.00pm	ALL
Youth Club	Community Wing	Every Tuesday 7.00pm - 9.00pm	S1 - S6
Lunch Club	Rowantree Court	Every Tuesday 12.00noon	ALL
Skills Development Scotland	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 9.30am - 12.30pm	ALL
Job Club	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 10.00am - 12.00noon	ALL
Centre Stage - Dignified food	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 11.00am - 12.00noon	16+
Bingo	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 7.00pm - 9.00pm	ALL
Fitness Class	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 6.30pm - 8.30pm	16+
Regeneration Group	Community Centre	Last Tuesday of Month - 7.00pm	ALL
Wednesday			
Happy Hens Toddler Group	Community Wing	Every Wednesday 09.30am - 11.30am	Pre 5
Fitness Class	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 6.30pm - 8.30pm	16+
Lunch Club	Rowantree Court	Every Wednesday 12.00noon	ALL
Community Association Meeting	Community Centre	1st Wednesday of the month 6.30pm	ALL
Community Council Meeting	Community Centre	1st Wednesday of month 7.00pm	ALL
Councillor Surgery	Community Centre	(Monthly) 6.00pm - 6.30pm	All
Employability Class SDES	Community Centre	Every Wednesday 10.00am - 12.00noon	16+
Thursday			
Bingo	Community Centre	Every Thursday 6.00pm 9.00pm	ALL
Lunch Club	Rowantree Court	Every Thursday 12.00noon	ALL
Fitness Class	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 6.30pm - 8.30pm	16+
LOL	Community Centre	Every Thursday 6.30pm - 8.30pm	Members
Friday			
Lunch Club	Rowantree Court	Every Friday 12.00noon	ALL

What's Going On...

Rankinston

Monday

Activity	Venue	Date and Time	Age Group
Councillor Surgery	Community Centre	(Monthly) 7.15pm - 7.45pm	ALL
yipworld - Family Time	Community Centre	Every Monday 2.00pm - 5.00pm	All

Tuesday

Centre Stage - Dignified food	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 11.15am - 11.45am	16+
Bowls	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 7.00pm- 9.00pm	10+
yipworld - Food Share	Community Centre	Every Tuesday 5.30pm	ALL

Wednesday

Councillor Surgery	Community Centre	(Monthly) 5.15pm - 5.45pm	
Unemployed & Retired Group	Community Centre	Every Wednesday 1.00pm - 3.00pm	16+
Community Association Meeting	Community Centre	2nd Wednesday of month 7.00pm	ALL

Thursday

Coffee Morning	Community Centre	Every Thursday - 10.00am	ALL
Zone - Youth Club	Community Centre	Every Thursday 7.00pm 9.00pm	5+
Food Bank	Community Centre	Every Thursday 10.00am - 12.00noon	ALL

Friday

Nursery Soft Play	Community Centre	Once a month	Pre 5
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Stair - Monday

Monday

Activity	Venue	Date and Time	Age Group
Crosshill Recreational Bowling Club (table bowls)	Community Centre	Monday 7.30pm	16+
Craft Club	Community Centre	Monday 7.30pm	All
Yoga Class	Community Centre	Every Monday 11.00am	ALL

Tuesday

Stair Players - Amateur Dramatic	Community Centre	7.30pm	ALL
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Wednesday

Community Association Meeting	Community Centre	1st Wednesday of month 7.30pm	16+
Mauchline Young Farmers Club	Community Centre	Every Wednesdays - 7.30 p.m.	16+
Pilates	Community Centre	Every Wednesday 9.30am	16+
Stair SWI	Community Centre	2nd Wednesday of month	16+
Yoga		Wednesday 2.00pm	

Traboch Fiddlers	Community Centre	Thursday 7.30pm	ALL
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Saturday

Mindfulness Class	Community Centre	1st Saturday of the Month 10.00am	All
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Some classes will only run Term Time contact the groups or centre for more information

Thanks to the following Partners/Organisations



Drongan
Rankinston & Stair

Participatory
Budgeting (PB)



East Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir an Ear

Grants



Drongan Primary School and ECC



Littlemill Primary School and ECC

