



Local Development Plans - Local Development Plan 2 Progress

The Examination of the East Ayrshire Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) is continuing to progress. Over the summer, we have received and responded to 13 Further Information Requests. Our most recent update from the Scottish Government Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) has indicated that site visits are now all complete and that the Reporters are writing up their findings and recommendations. We expect to receive the Examination Report in the autumn.

During the ongoing Examination, we are working hard to prepare a number of pieces of Supplementary Guidance that will support the policies of LDP2. These will likely be published for consultation in the early part of 2024.

Whilst LDP2 is not yet adopted, we are starting some very early work on LDP3, the first stage of which will be to invite communities to prepare Local Place Plans. Please keep an eye out for further updates towards the end of the year.

Ayrshire Growth Deal—Community Renewable Energy Project



A new CoRE Project Lead has been appointed, Diarmid Turnbull, who started in the post in July 2023.

The Project Team has been actively working on establishing the CoRE partnership Board as part of the governance structure. The first Board meeting is scheduled to take place in September 2023 and the Board will work with the Project Team to deliver the projects vision, aims and objectives.

The University of Strathclyde have completed an appraisal report for the proposed Demonstrator Projects to be delivered in the Cumnock and surrounding areas. The Project Team will now work with partners to further develop and implement the

Demonstrator Projects, including a series of early pathfinder projects.

AMIC Project

The Ayrshire Manufacturing Investment Corridor Project (AMIC) & Ayrshire Engineering Park (AEP) Pre-App Planning consultations will be held on the 18th September 2023 (Grange Academy, Kilmarnock) & 4th October 2023 (Crosshouse Church Hall, Crosshouse). The Ayrshire Growth Deal website has been updated to include the proposed plans and design concepts for the co-location of both projects at Moorfield, Kilmarnock.

Further information can be obtained by visiting the Ayrshire Growth Deal website <https://www.ayrshiregrowthdeal.co.uk/ayrshire-innovation-park/> or scan the QR Code.



East Ayrshire Woodlands (EAW)



We would like to welcome our new modern apprentices who have just recently started their Modern Apprenticeship; Trees and Timber with East Ayrshire Woodlands.

From left to right, Tom, Taylor, Derren, Scott, Mark and Bailey

Mauchline CARS

A key objective within Mauchline CARS was to support the traditional building skills market by establishing a [Training Programme of traditional building skills courses](#) to raise heritage skills awareness and encourage future tradesmen and women. To do so, we appointed The Scottish Lime Centre Trust (SLCT) as our Training Provider and with their help formulated a catalogue of courses.

Courses scheduled include;

- [Traditional Masonry](#)
- [Traditional Scottish Slate Roofing](#)
- [Traditional Joinery for Windows & Doors](#)
- [Traditional Signwriting](#)



All courses are fully funded by Mauchline CARS, based in and around Mauchline utilising local venues and caterers and being delivered at a level for all to participate.

All four courses are now fully booked with three of the courses being fully booked within three days of launching on social media and StayConnected, many thanks to the communications team for their ongoing support with all Mauchline CARS marketing. Furthermore we have a waiting list of prospective attendees interested in being considered for future courses. A clear indicator to the requirement for these specialised trades and also to our engagement with the local community. Mauchline CARS project Officer Darran Littauer-Dolan plans to visit each course to get to meet the attendees and share live footage across our social media platforms.

CARS Updates

Mauchline CARS continues to proceed with progress in a number of our scheduled projects;

- Two priority Projects submitting applications for required consents to proceed with their applications for Mauchline CARS grant funding.
- Five applicants currently reviewing tenders returned, offers of grant being compiled.
- Three applicants reviewing costings.
- Two applicants reviewing proposals.
- Two further educational projects completed including our [Heritage Awareness Course "Out of This World"](#) and our [Summer Parkour School](#), with a special thanks to East Ayrshire's Creative Minds Team for their ongoing support.
- Third Educational project, [The Mauchline Town Heritage App](#) ongoing at Robert Burns Academy. Provisional completion date being December 2024
- Tenders currently being reviewed for our planned improvements to [Mauchline's street lighting](#), with thanks to the support of The Place Based Investment Programme we are planning on carrying our improvements across Loudoun Street, Loudoun Street Carpark, The Lanes and The Churchyard.

- Public Realm open spaces currently being costed for planned improvements. Five areas in total including;

The Cross,

Poosie Nansies,

4 & 6 Loudoun Street,

Loudoun Street Carpark and

Rear of Abbot Hunter's Tower

- Replacement of standard street signs costed and awaiting approval from Historic Environment Scotland.
- Restoration of a historic boundary wall currently being reviewed by our conservation accredited architects at Wylie Shanks, and to be costed with Armours.
- Inaugural meeting of the East Ayrshire Conservation Area Group scheduled for September. A forum aimed at reviewing any planned works towards East Ayrshire's Conservation Areas with the hope of collaborative working and increased communication across departments.



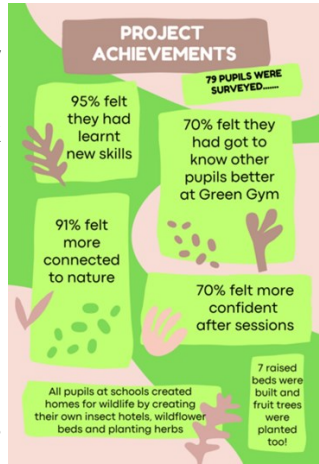


Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership

School Green Gym

The School Green Gym Project was delivered by The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) and took place between August 2021 and July 2023.

The project provided an alternative approach to exercise for school pupils across East Ayrshire. Young people and their teachers were encouraged to take part in a programme of outdoor activities linked to the environment and practical conservation activities.



TCV worked in partnership with nine schools and their teaching staff to deliver 101 sessions, engaging with 302 pupils. The sessions provided teachers with increased knowledge and confidence to deliver outdoor sessions themselves for the future.

Hedgerow Habitats



In 2020, Netherthird Community Action Training (NCAT) led by Jamie Campbell, began delivery of the Hedgerow Habitats project as part of the Coalfield Communities Landscape Partnership (CCLP). Since then, the project has implemented a planting programme across the Netherthird Community Garden area and the community woodland area at Holmburn Road in Netherthird.

The project has raised awareness of the heritage of the area, leaving a legacy for the local residents and school children at Netherthird Primary. Community members have also been trained in planting and maintenance of hedgerows and wooded areas and the skills learned have benefited those looking to gain employment.

On 10th August 2023, the CCLP team joined in with the annual Fun Day at Netherthird Community

Gardens to celebrate the completion of the Hedgerow Habitats Project. Jamie Campbell from Netherthird Community Action Training and CCLP Project Officer Kate Dickens were joined by dignitaries as they led a special guided tour of the garden. The event was a great success, attended by hundreds of family groups and supported by local businesses, charities and CCLP project partners.



Events

The CCLP team have worked in partnership with Cumnock Action Plan Group to deliver events at the Tower Street Pocket Park in Cumnock, hosting both the Animals of the Biosphere and Mammal Madness events in August.

Two project partner events have also taken place. Rediscover Woodroad Park Family Fun Day, shown on the poster on the right, was held in Cumnock in late July, and included a Fun Bus, Fairy Trail, Scavenger Hunt and much more for everyone to get involved in and enjoy.



On 20th August, The Galloway and Southern Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere officially concluded its 10th anniversary celebrations with a special event to launch two new walks

designed and created in partnership with residents of Ochiltree. The event funded by the CCLP saw more than 80 people turn out to collect the newly published route leaflets and test the Heritage and Lugar Water trails.

Read our latest [CCLP newsletter](#) OR follow the CCLP on Facebook [@EACCLP](#), twitter [@CoalfieldCLP](#), [LinkedIn](#) as well as our [website](#).



Regeneration Capital Grant Fund—Above Adventure

The West of Scotland Climbing Centre opened for business on 20th May 2023, following a two year conversion project at the former Grange church, a much-loved and B-listed Victorian building. The project secured £2.47m from the Scottish Government’s RCGF programme, a significant enabling contribution towards the total cost of £4.5m.

As a social enterprise and charitable organisation, Above Adventure is committed to creating a community of climbers who share a passion for the sport and a commitment to inclusivity. The facility is managed by a dedicated team of volunteers, part and full time staff and a Board of Trustees.

An official opening will be held later in 2023 and the Council will continue to work with Above Adventure to maximise the centre’s potential for Ayrshire both as a leisure and tourism attraction.



The Above Adventure project saw a charity who had never taken on a building before, be able to take on a Category B listed heritage asset that was at risk and successfully restore this in to a vibrant community and sport facility. Despite the myriad of challenges that the project has faced, the support of the EAC team was ever present throughout, providing advice and funding support in the difficult period during the pandemic.



Team Development Days

On 21st August, the Development Planning and Regeneration team gathered in the Visitor Centre at the Dean Park for their team away day. The day started with an overview from each of the team leaders on the roles and responsibilities of their teams, before a session spending time with each other and having discussion with colleagues not known to you. This was followed by two group discussions based on helping two of the teams with ideas for their current projects. In the afternoon, everyone took part in an outdoor team building activity, run by the park rangers, which involved working in small teams to build a den. Overall, an enjoyable day!



Take A Bow also hosted a joint team development day which was attended by members of the Community led Regeneration, Communities, Economic Development and DP&R teams. It was an opportunity for the different teams to come together, discuss the work that they do and see how they all link together.