

# WEST KINTYRE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2017-2023

### Background

In 2011, with the help of SKDT the first survey of households within the West Kintyre Community Council area resulted in the development of the Community Action Plan 2012 -2017. This plan summarised and prioritised the issues that mattered most to our community and has been our guide for what we have tried to make happen within the community over the past 5 years.

Despite the challenging economic climate over this period we have as a community worked with our locally elected members, and partners such as Argyll & Bute Council, Transport Scotland, HIE, BT and the Windfarm Trust to name but a few achieved much but by no means all the targets the community set out to achieve. However, as with all “Living Plans” during this period other priorities such as the damage caused by flooding in Clachan have also been tackled, with the repairs helped by majority funding via the Windfarm Trust.

A brief resume of what has been happening over the past few years follows:

- New signage is now in place in all villages.
- The A83 has seen many improvements although there is still some way to go.
- Tayinloan playing fields has a new drainage system.
- Broadband connectivity has been improved in some areas but remains a priority to be lobbied for across the whole area
- Mobile phone coverage remains an issue throughout the area, we will continue to lobby for improvements
- Muasdale surgery remains open
- Tayinloan toilets remain open and have been upgraded due to a ground-breaking agreement between Argyll & Bute Council, the Community Council and Windfarm Trust.
- Empty buildings and affordable housing remain a priority.

The above is not an exhaustive list but indicates some of the community achievements over that past 5 years. Plus, to ensure our village and Church halls remain viable and sustainable for the foreseeable future the Windfarm Trust has given funding towards the fitting of solar panels to three village halls and one church hall plus the same funding to the other church hall for the installation of energy efficiency measures.

The current action plan will remain a “living plan” for further work over the next few years. However, in September 2016 with the help of the local Community Development Officer a short-term focus group consisting of residents, Community Councillors, local businesses and local Councillors was set up tasked with reviewing the current action plan and gathering community priorities for further action over the next 5-6 years. There followed the distribution of a community survey with a freepost return address for ease of return by residents. With rural depopulation continuing to be an issue throughout the area new questions asking for ideas on how we as a community might encourage young people and families to stay/move into the area, plus ideas for enterprise and development within the area were included in the survey. Some excellent ideas have been put forward and are now incorporated into the new plan for 2017-2023. This “living plan” will form the basis of our work for the next few years. However, as with all community’s other priorities may well emerge over the years and will be tackled as they arise. The plan shows priorities for to be undertaken with 1 being the highest and 4 the lowest, it also indicates who might be responsible for the implementation of each priority.

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VISION	OBJECTIVES	ACTION	PRIORITY	BY WHOM	TIMESCALE
<p><b><u>Health and Wellbeing</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Community that is physically active and has access to good health and social care services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure everyone has all ability access to physical and social activities throughout the area.</li> <li>Inform community of changes in Health and Social Care services and how to access</li> <li>Advertise events throughout the area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seek to open new all ability tracks and paths into the interior of the peninsular by encouraging all future windfarm developers to include all ability access tracks as part of their planning application.</li> </ul>	<b>3</b>	WKCC, A&B SUSTRANS	2-4yrs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support further development of the Kintyre way</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	WKCC, WKWT	2-4yrs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the development of Tayinloan playing fields into an all age recreational facility</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	WKCC, WKWT, WKDT, Resident's association	2-4yrs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain current GP services at Muasdale</li> </ul>	<b>1</b>	WKCC, LPG, A&B, Muasdale patient focus group	ongoing
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support local voluntary and third sector groups operating social activities within the area.</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	WKCC, WKWT, WKDT	ongoing
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regular newsletters distributed throughout the area, GP surgery and posted on web sites</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	LPG, WKCC, A&B, patient focus group	ongoing
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage local groups to advertise events throughout the area not just locally</li> </ul>	<b>3</b>	LOCAL GROUPS	ongoing

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<p><b><u>Communication and Transport</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure 21<sup>st</sup> century communication and transport links are available for all.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Young people and Families</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To make Kintyre the “home of choice” for young people and families</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure access to superfast broadband for all.</li> <li>Seek to have 3G/4G mobile signal throughout the area</li> <li>Improve the A83 throughout the area. In particular between Clachan &amp; Tayinloan and Muasdale area.</li> <li>Reduce use of cars by increasing bus services between Tarbert and Campbeltown.</li> <li>Seek to increase better paid, career progression and permanent employment opportunities for young people and families.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to lobby for whole area access to superfast broadband</li> <li>Continue to lobby for mobile phone coverage throughout the area</li> <li>Continue seeking for the whole of the A83 improved throughout the area. Including the installation of bus stops and shelters in all villages.</li> <li>Explore the feasibility of setting up a community owned and run bus service to allow better access for all to cinemas, shopping, hospital visits and social activities.</li> <li>Encourage/create entrepreneurial small businesses throughout the area</li> <li>Create more easily accessible business start-up grants</li> <li>Offer bursaries for those wishing to undertake training and qualification opportunities</li> <li>Improve housing opportunities for single persons</li> </ul>	1	WKCC. A&B HIE, BT	ongoing
			1	WKCC, A&B Mobile phone companies	ongoing
			1	WKCC, A&B Transport Scotland	ongoing
			3	WKDT	2-4yrs
			2	WKCC. WKDT.A&B. Rural re-settlement fund.	1-5yrs
			1	Business gateway. HIE WKCF	1-5yrs
			1	WKCF	1-5yrs
			2	Housing associations A&B	1-5yrs

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VISION	OBJECTIVES	ACTION	PRIORITY	BY WHOM	TIMESCALE
<p><u><b>Young people and families (cont.)</b></u></p> <p><u><b>Development and Enterprise</b></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop the area of West Kintyre into a “must be” place to live, work, rest and play”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To develop a West Kintyre Development Trust limited by guarantee with charitable status.</li>   <li>• Explore options for community ownership of a wind turbine.</li>   <li>• Promote Kintyre and its opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve availability of affordable, efficient and mortgage-able or rental properties suitable for young families</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	Housing associations A&B	1-5yrs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up a Community Development Trust managed by a project manager to run the day to day business of the trust.</li> </ul>	<b>1</b>	WKCC, DTAS, local community	1yr
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development Trust to undertake feasibility studies for the purchase and conversion of unused buildings for community and small business use.</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	WKDT	1-3yrs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake feasibility study for the development of a community bus service</li> </ul>	<b>3</b>	WKDT	1-3yrs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undertake a feasibility study for the development of a footpath between Muasdale village and the GP surgery.</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	WKDT, SUSTRANS	1-3yrs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trust manager to undertake these tasks</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	WKDT	Once appointed ongoing
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertise and promote the area of West Kintyre as a place to live, work and bring up children</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>	WKCC, A&B WKDT	1-5yrs

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### GLOSSERY:

WKCC	West Kintyre Community Council
A&B	Argyll & Bute Council
WKWT	West Kintyre Windfarm Trust
WKCF	West Kintyre Community Fund
WKDT	West Kintyre Development Trust
HIE	Highlands and Islands Enterprise
ACT	Argyll and the Isles Countryside Trust
LPG	Locality Planning Group

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