

Local Place Plan (LPP) Update: September to December 2024

Glencairn Community Council

There were no general meetings of the GCC between 1st September and the December meeting on the 6th. This, therefore, is the summary of the lengthy report I gave to the GCC at the December meeting.

Project Support Officer

The LPP group met at the end of September to agree terms of the advert for a Project Support Officer for 70 hours to support community consultation, and mainly for writing the draft LPP. The post was widely advertised in October. Shortlisting took place on 21st October with interview on 2nd November. Dr Stephen Connolly from Dalry gave a very strong interview. He was part of the team that produced the draft LPP for Dalry which the group had just heard that morning had been approved by D&G Council with no amendments. The plan is now available as an exemplar on the D&G website. Stephen was appointed and starts work in January 2025.

Meeting with Shona McCoy 12th November

Shona McCoy, leader of the D&G Council LPP team, was appointed as our support/contact officer and met with the group (Kate Craig, Deborah Iden, Peter Roberts, Stephen Sparrow, Mike Staples, Annie Wright) and Stephen Connolly on 12th November to go through questions and the support available.

The draft LPP needs to be registered or able to be registered by July 2025. The group must engage in an extensive statutory period of consultation on the draft, culminating in a presentation of the final draft LPP before it is registered with D&G Council.

S McC praised Moniaive Initiative's Action Plan as exemplary and advised that it be attached to the draft LPP in due course. The 7 key themes of the Action Plan will be taken forward into the LPP. Some eg flooding and resilience, housing, and economic regeneration have come forward as particularly high priorities in recent months. S McC outlined the planning tools available to support the development of the LPP.

- A good LPP needs to cover all we think is important. Any land that we want safeguarded should be included on the map.
- Housing was identified as a key priority for the LPP, particularly as falling rolls in both Moniaive and Dunscore primary schools led to both schools having to reduce to 2 classes. S McC advised that in identifying land for potential housing, the LPP must have regard to the Local Development Plan and the statutory National Planning Framework. For villages and/or settlements, (Moniaive, Kirkland and Wallaceton), D&G Council has advised that land that could support small housing groups of 3+ homes could be identified, provided that the scale of proposed development adds up to 10% additional housing stock and does not significantly change the shape of the village/settlement. Suitable potential sites can be identified and shown on the map. The need particularly for social housing for rent, suitable for young families, was highlighted for all 3 areas.
- The importance of protecting all the businesses in Moniaive and the school was acknowledged as was the need to protect all the premises offering community facilities, including rooms to hire. The plan can be aspirational eg rebuilding/refurbishment, even if the aspirations may take longer than the timescale of the Local Development Plan to achieve.
- Consultation with all relevant groups will start in January. When the first draft of the LPP is done, it will be submitted to Glencairn Community Council and Moniaive Initiative for comments and advertised widely to the local communities, following the statutory rules.