



Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Poltonhall Neighbourhood Plan 2015 – 2020

June 2015

Midlothian Moving Forward
Community Planning for Midlothian

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1. Introduction

Do local residents have any chance of creating change within their own community? This is a question that must be at the forefront of thoughts when activities like the preparation of a Local Neighbourhood Plan are underway. The answer must be an emphatic YES! – if those residents are in overwhelming agreement about what needs doing.

“The Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Poltonhall Neighbourhood Plan encourages the community to work together through shared responsibility, promoting pride in the community and fostering good community spirit”.

(The Heart of our Community exercise 23/10/13)

2. About Neighbourhood Planning

The Local Government Act 2003 places a duty on all public bodies to work together in a Community Planning Partnership (CPP). Midlothian Council has a key role in supporting the Midlothian CPP who are committed to placing communities at the heart of Community Planning.



This includes producing neighbourhood plans in each of Midlothian's sixteen Community Council areas.

Neighbourhood Planning is about improving local communities in a way that brings together local residents with agencies in order to identify and find solutions to local issues. This plan is focused on the Bonnyrigg, Lasswade & Poltonhall Community Council areas.

It describes the area it represents and lists the changes, developments and improvements local residents would like to see taking place. The Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Poltonhall Neighbourhood Plan recognises and values the strengths of local communities and local residents, and seeks to build upon their knowledge, skills and expertise.

Bonnyrigg & Lasswade Community Council, and Poltonhall & District Community Council have worked together with Police Scotland, NHS Lothian, local churches, Lasswade Civic Society, Bonnyrigg Community Hub, Mondo Loco and local residents to produce this Neighbourhood Plan.

This plan provides a snapshot of a period of time in 2014 of the issues, concerns and aspirations of local people. However, we recognise that it's a plan that's flexible and will be added to in the future as new challenges emerge.



3. Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Poltonhall

Bonnyrigg, Lasswade & Poltonhall collectively make up the ward of Bonnyrigg, between the A7 to the east and the North Esk valley to the west. The ward contains two Community Council areas. Bonnyrigg & Lasswade Community Council area covers central Bonnyrigg, housing estates to the north and east of the town, and the old village of Lasswade. Poltonhall & District Community Council area covers the housing estates of Poltonhall and the newer housing developments of Hopefield and Burnbrae to the south.



Population and housing

As can be seen from the consultations a number of the issues raised are as a result of “growing pains” due to the explosive growth in housing in the last 10 years. At the time of the 2014 Midlothian Profile the population of Bonnyrigg Ward at 2012 was 16,299. At the 2011 census there were 6,565 households in the area. The population of the area has grown from 11,446 at the time of the 2001 census. This represents a population increase of almost 30% in ten years, mostly connected with the construction of new housing estates. Due to committed housing development at Hopefield the population will continue to increase putting pressure on established infrastructure (particularly health and education services). Housing development and proximity to Edinburgh means that this is a changing community, with a large number of families who have moved into the area creating potential for the community to develop in exciting new ways.



Health

On the whole, people living in the Bonnyrigg area experience slightly better health than the Scottish average. From the 2014 Midlothian Profile 84.4% of Bonnyrigg residents assessed their health as good, which is higher than the Midlothian and Scottish figures. 14% of people aged 16-74 are economically inactive due to long-term illness or disability, compared with 16.6% across Scotland.

The area is served by three GP practices based at the Bonnyrigg Health Centre. Bonnyrigg also contains the Midlothian Community Hospital, which opened in 2011 and provides services for older people with mental health problems as well as a range of services including Out of Hours GP services.

Orchard Centre Services operate throughout Midlothian from Bonnyrigg. The service offers a wide variety of person centred support and projects which promote positive mental health and wellbeing.



Education

The area is served by five primary schools: Bonnyrigg Primary School, Lasswade Primary School, Burnbrae Primary School, Hawthornden Primary School, and



St Mary's RC Primary School. Bonnyrigg Primary School was rebuilt in 2009 and Burnbrae opened in 2012, replacing the old Hopefield Primary School and is located more centrally within the new Hopefield/ Burnbrae housing development.

All of the primary schools have nursery classes, with the exception of Hawthornden. However, Mount Esk Nursery School located nearby provides a consistently high level of service. Nursery facilities are now available in The Lasswade Centre. Bonnyrigg After School Club provides after school childcare in the area.

Lasswade High School, which provides secondary education for pupils primarily from the Bonnyrigg area, Loanhead, and Rosewell, moved into its new building in 2013. The new Lasswade Centre includes the High School, Library and Leisure facilities, replacing the library on the high street and the Bonnyrigg Leisure Centre in George V park.

School leaver results from Lasswade High School are generally near the Scottish average, though slightly fewer pupils tend to progress directly into Higher or Further Education than the Scottish average. For example in the 2011-12 academic year, 32% of pupils leaving Lasswade High School went directly into Higher Education compared with the Scottish average of 36%. Conversely, 34% progressed straight into employment compared with 24% in Scotland more widely.

This trend fits with the overall qualification levels of the Bonnyrigg population, which are slightly lower than the Scottish average.



Economic Activity

Currently, Midlothian's largest employers remain the public sector: Midlothian Council with 3,827 employees; NHS Lothian (553); and Police Scotland (346). The largest private sector employers were Arthur McKay (551), Tesco (485) and ASDA (300).

As part of Midlothian's Economic Recovery plan there is support for key economic sectors including tourism, life sciences, animal biosciences, culture / heritage and rural development.

The town centre mostly dates from the 19th century, though buildings at the main crossroads were rebuilt in the 1960s. Bonnyrigg Town Centre is still home to a weekly market. The area has a selection of shops and the sub post office is housed in the Spar.

There are several examples of successful companies located in the area and a noticeable increase in the numbers of those self employed.

Crime/Community Safety

During the year 01/04/14 – 31/03/15 there were 797 (Group 1-7) crimes recorded in the Bonnyrigg locality. Compared to the 3-year average for 2011-2014 there were 6% fewer crimes in 2014/15 (down from 849).

The following information provided by Police Scotland gives a breakdown of the crimes recorded in the area:

Crime Type	2014/15	%	3-year ave	%
Group 1: Crimes of Violence	14	2%	18	2%
Group 2: Crimes of Indecency	16	2%	10	1%
Group 3: Dishonesty Crime	254	32%	228	27%
Group 4: Vandalism (incl Fireraising)	134	17%	149	18%
Group 5: Other Crimes	66	8%	87	10%
Group 6: Miscellaneous ASB Offences	225	28%	242	29%
Group 7: Motor Vehicle Offences	88	11%	115	14%
Total	797	100%	849	100%



Bonnyrigg Police Station does not have a Public Enquiry and Support Assistant at the front counter and although police officers are based there, the majority of their time is spent out on patrol and attending incidents.

Transport

The area is well served by public transport. The reopening of the Borders Railway, which opens in September 2015, will re-connect Bonnyrigg to the national rail network via a station one mile away at Eskbank. The cycle path from Penicuik to Musselburgh passes through the area and provides a safe off road route.



Environment

The area is semi-rural which includes open space for recreational purposes including King Georges Field. 4 conservation areas are included within the community council area (see appendix A for detail). Bonnyrigg is home to Bonnyrigg Rose and Lasswade Rugby Football Club which both have their own grounds.



There were several other consultations held, detailed below:

- 14/10/13 – Open consultation at Lasswade Centre
- 16/10/13 – Open consultation at Lasswade Centre
- 24/10/13 – Open consultation at Lasswade Centre
- 04/11/13 – Lasswade Youth Forum
- 05/11/13 – Midlothian Muslim/Multicultural Group
- 07/11/13 – Extra curricular fair at LHS
- 30/11/13 – Christmas Lights Switch On
- 03/12/13 – Lasswade Primary
- 03/12/13 – Bonnyrigg Primary
- 17/12/13 – Lasswade High Learner Forum
- 16/01/14 – Burnbrae Primary
- 29/01/14 – Hawthornden Primary
- 17/02/14 – Brightsparks
- 19/02/14 – The Orchard Centre

All the feedback was collated and the issues were presented in themes at a special event held on Saturday 29 March 2014 at The Lasswade Centre, attended by over 100 local people, including children and young people. An additional afternoon was held at Bonnyrigg Medical Centre on Tuesday 1 April 2014, attracting feedback from another 35 people. At these events people were asked to prioritise the issues. The results were collated and the Steering Group then sent out the top 26 priorities to those people who had completed the original questionnaire to determine the accuracy of these priorities (see next page). A further priority was identified through conversation with residents of Hopefield area around setting up a Residents' Association.

4. The Neighbourhood Plan consultation process

Methods

In November 2013, 7,500 surveys were distributed across the area and a Survey Monkey link was made available. 575 surveys were returned, an 8% return rate.

Where do you live?

Bonnyrigg	351	61%
Lasswade	49	9%
Poltonhall (inc Hopefield)	133	23%
Other	42	7%

Age

0-21 years old	6	1%
22-49 years old	214	42%
50-65 years old	166	32%
66+ years old	127	25%

Gender

Male	158	28%
Female	352	61%
Not given	65	11%

5. What people said about their area?

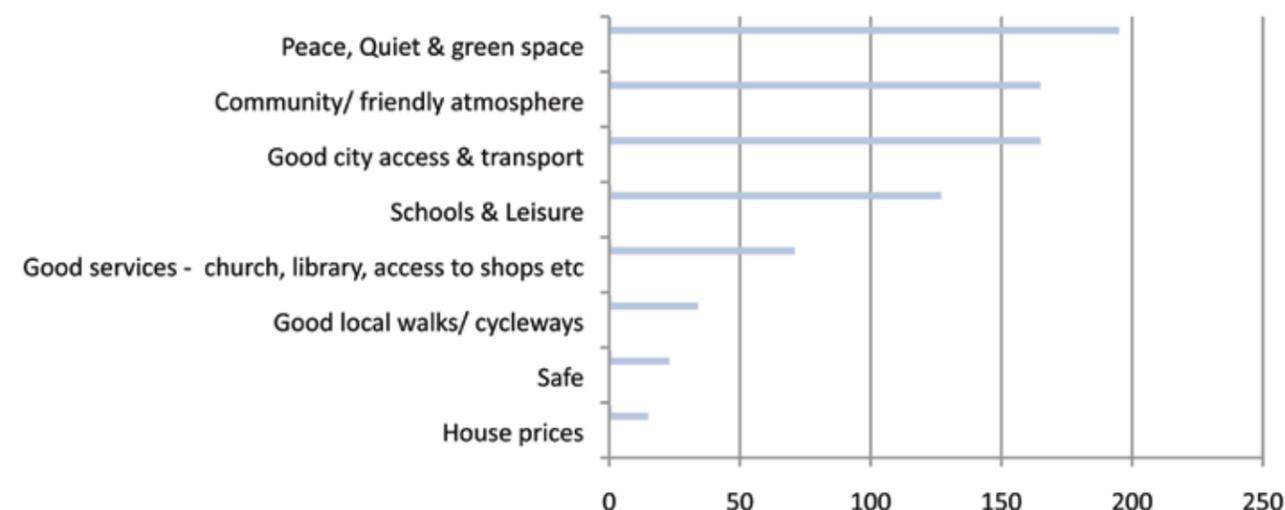
What do you like about living in Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Poltonhall?

When asked the above the most common response was the quiet and green space of the area, this was closely followed by the community atmosphere and good city access and transport links.

“The scenery, environment and views.”

“Fresh air and friendly people.”

“The local people are very friendly towards the new people coming to live in the area.”



What would make it a better place to live/work/visit?

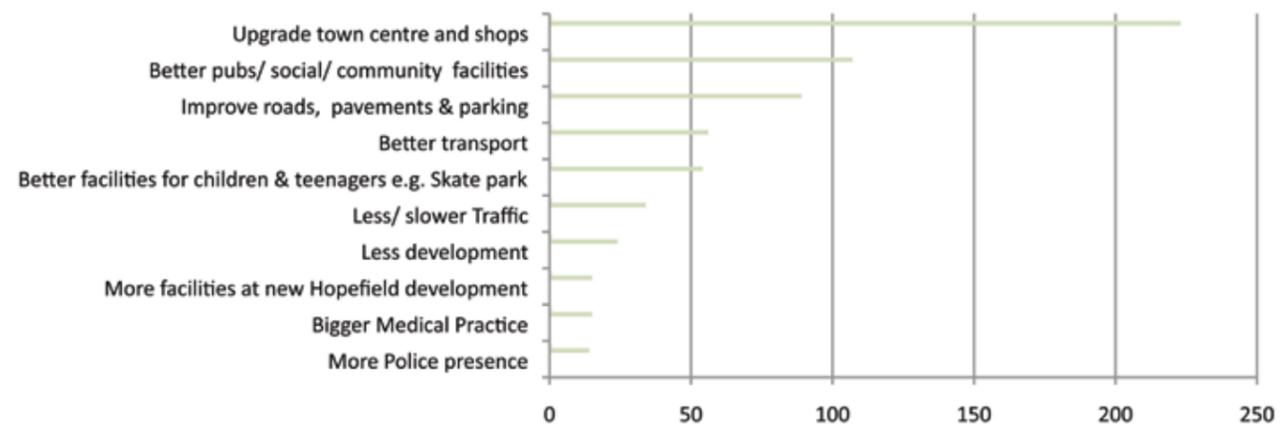
While there were many issues raised the most common desire is for the town centre to be upgraded and the range of shops, social and community facilities be expanded and improved.

“Less take away food shops in the high street.”

“Bonnyrigg is growing all the time so bigger/more facilities would be helpful.”

“A better selection of shops, coffee shops and a community centre in Bonnyrigg.”

“Need better community information such as a notice board somewhere.”

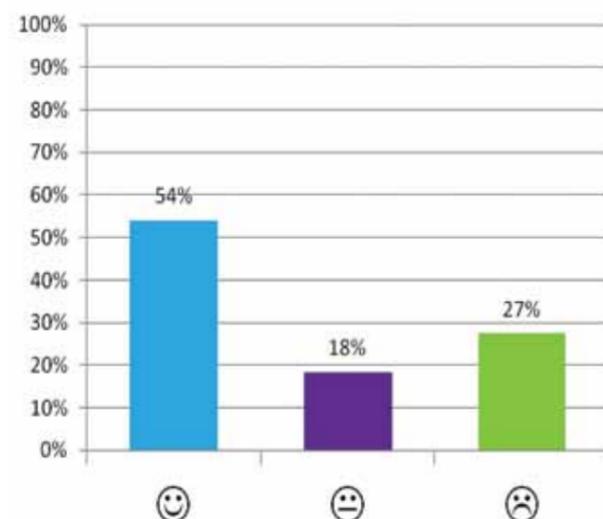


Findings – What do you think about facilities and activities in the area?

We asked for thoughts on the facilities and activities that are available to a number of different groups. The satisfaction ratings vary quite significantly with older children, young people and older people least happy with the facilities and activities that are currently available

😊 Young children & Families	35%
😊 Older Children & Young people	22%
😊 Working Age Adults	37%
😊 Older People	23%

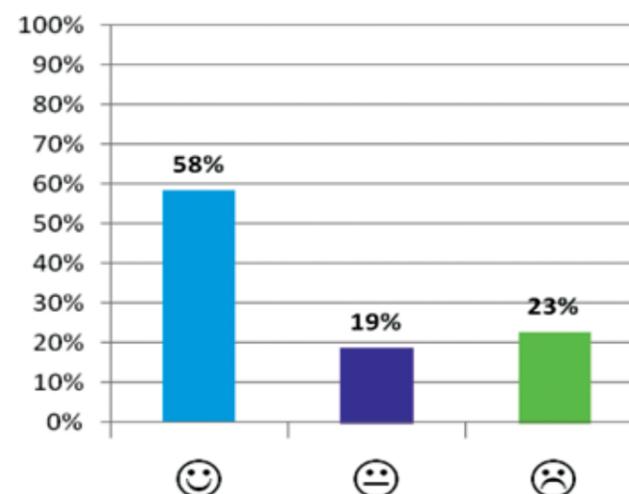
Findings – What do you think about transport (including public transport, parking traffic and cycle paths) serving the Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Poltonhall areas?



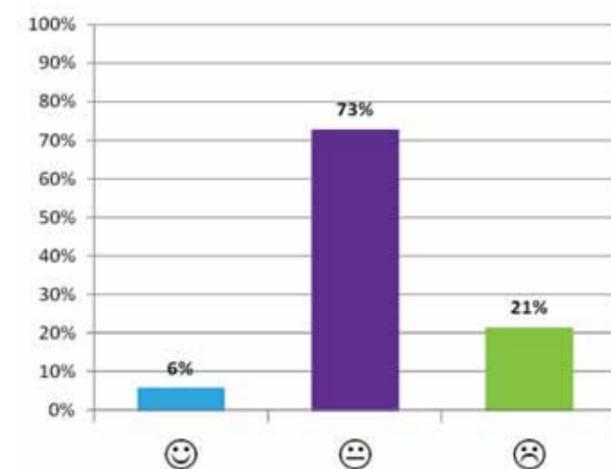
There were a lot of positive comments on the public transport currently available, though evening services could be a bit more comprehensive. Access to the major road networks was also seen as a major benefit in the area.

While many people commented on the scenic cycle paths and walkways in the area these are unfortunately marred by dog fouling and owners not clearing up after themselves.

Findings – What do you think about health and care services in the area, and about support and opportunities for keeping yourself healthy?



Findings – What do you think about available support for businesses and self employed people, business premises and help for people to find jobs?

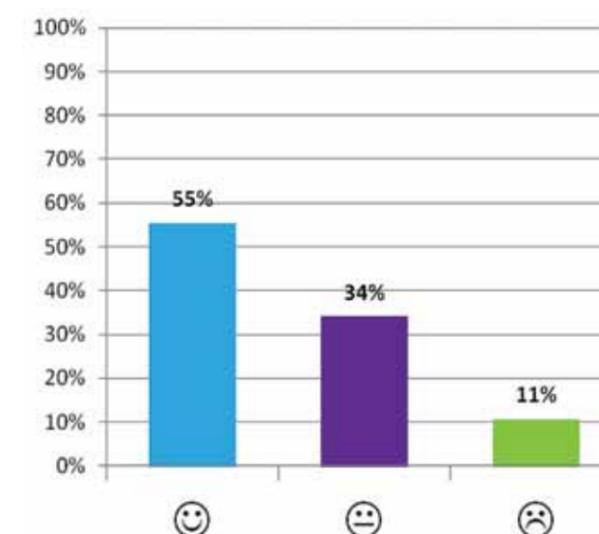


One of the main concerns raised was about the speed of broadband which doesn't make the area attractive for businesses. In addition the difficulty with accessing the job centre in Dalkeith was commented on.

The standard of care and range of health services available in the area received a very positive 58% 😊 rating.

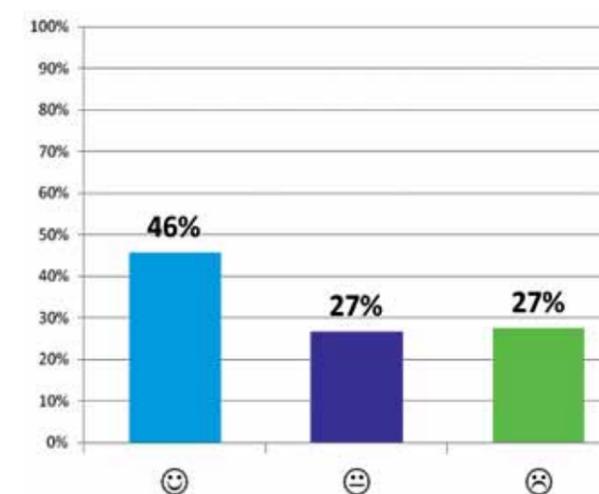
The most common complaint however was the unacceptable time patients had to wait for an appointment. There is also concern that the Health Centre is not big enough to cater for the expanding community due to the influx of new housing developments.

Findings – Do you feel safe in the Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Poltonhall area?



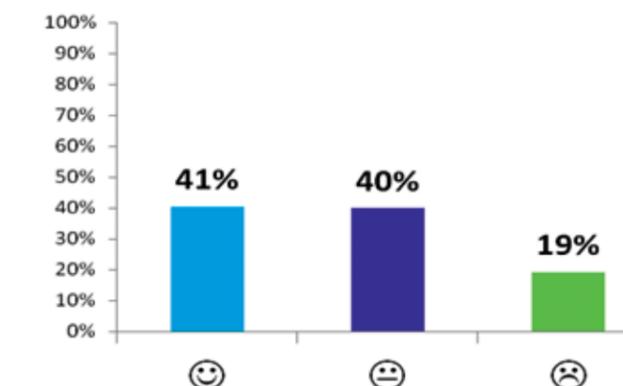
While the majority of respondents do feel safe in the area there were recurring comments about not feeling so safe going out at night. The most common concern is with the number of young people 'hanging around' as there is no where else for them to go. Drugs and drunkenness were also highlighted as an area of concern.

Findings – what do you think about the local environment (parks, green spaces, pavements, buildings, community growing etc)



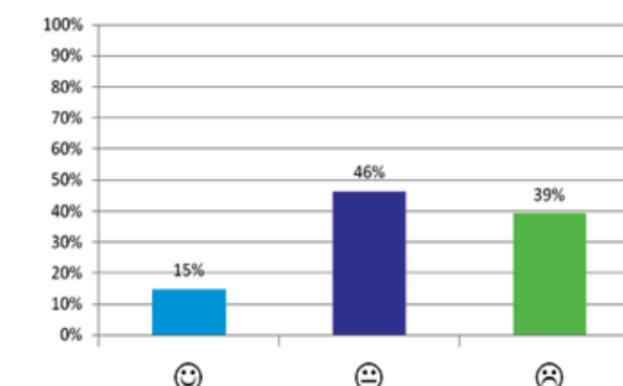
There is a lot of appreciation for the rural setting we live in but there is a concern that with the level of housing development going on the green spaces we have are being eroded. Many respondents commented on the poor state of repair the roads/pavements are in as well as the ongoing issue of dog fouling and litter.

Findings – What do you think about cultural, leisure, social activities in the area?

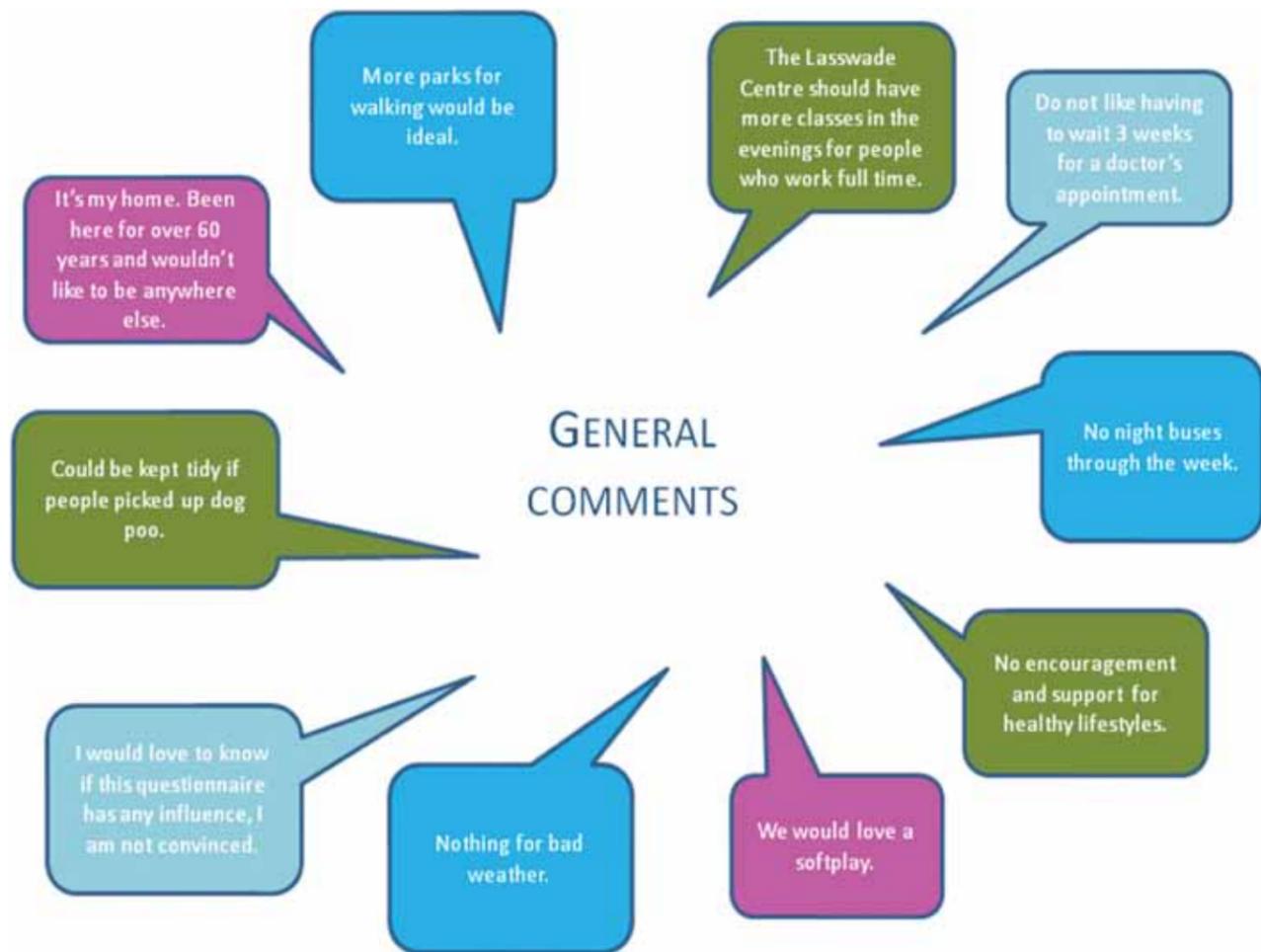


While the new Lasswade Centre has provided a good hub for people to meet and engage in a variety of activities there seems to be a feeling that there is a lack of social/community areas such as cafe's in the town centre. Many people commented that there is little culture to speak of.

Findings – Do you feel you have an influence on matters in your community?



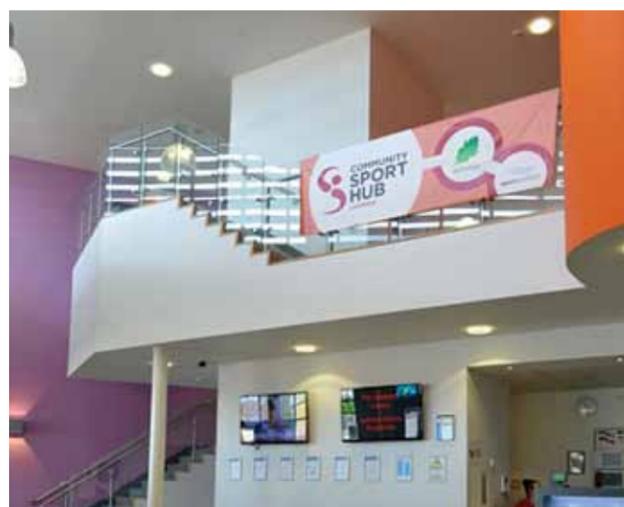
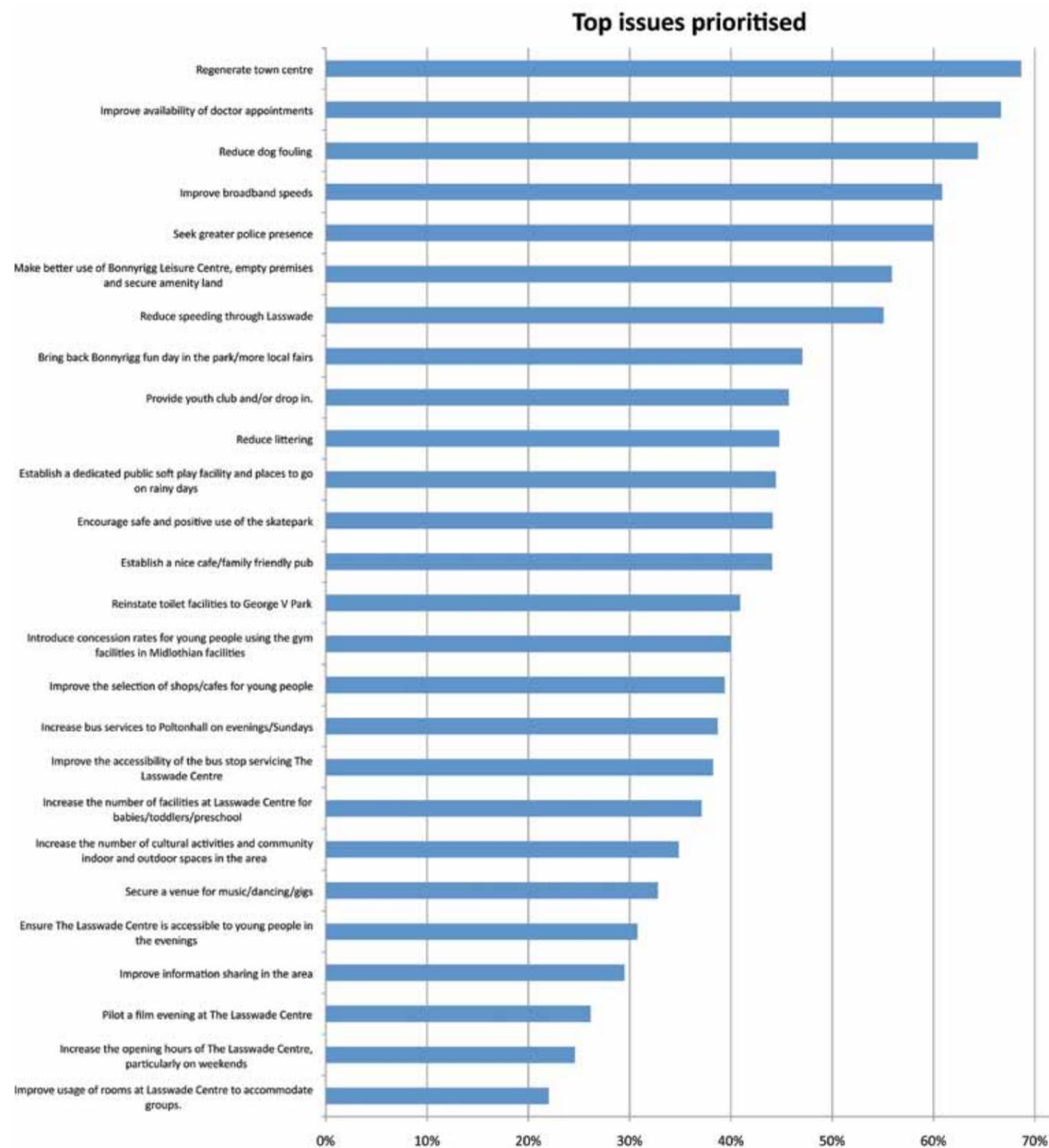
The survey has shown that not many people feel they are able to have an influence in their community. While for some it is because they don't know how to go about it, or don't have the time, for others it is down to the assumed bureaucracy or frustration of not being able to solve an issue.



6. Priorities

Following the consultation the following priorities were identified. It is recognised that many of these issues are common across Midlothian particularly litter, dog fouling, traffic, access to doctor appointments and provision for young people.

We received many positive comments about the public transport, education provision, sport and leisure facilities.



7. Action plan

The Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Poltonhall neighbourhood plan has identified 31 actions which address the Community Planning Partnership priorities:

- Adult Health and Community Care
- Getting it Right for Every Midlothian Child
- Sustainable Growth
- Improving Opportunities in Midlothian
- Safer Communities

For the Community Planning Partnership structure please see Appendix B

With the continued support of all partner agencies, community groups and individuals we propose the following action plan. We encourage all community partners to take on board the aims and actions of this

plan and to consider the best way forward to implement this plan. We encourage where possible that individuals and groups working in this community would endeavour to collaborate with one another for the wider good of the community.

Following the production and launch of this plan the steering group will ensure the actions are progressed, monitor progress, feedback to the local community on what has been achieved and address future issues and concerns as they arise.

If you or any group that you work with are able to take on board or help tackle some of these priority issues we would welcome your input and ask you to contact Derek Welsh on 0131 271 3452 or email: neighbourhood.planning@midlothian.gov.uk

People will be able to access GP appointments more easily

Dalhousie Medical Practice

We will aim to	Action	Time span	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
1	Prevent missed appointments	6 months	Less missed appointments – recorded by practice	Dalhousie Medical Practice
2	Improve ability to get through on the phone	6 months	Patient satisfaction with ability to get through on the phone – Health and Care Survey 2015/16	Dalhousie Medical Practice

Quarryfoot Medical Practice

We will aim to	Action	Time span	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
3	Increase availability of appointments	6 months	Shorter waiting time for GP and nurse appointments – recorded by practice	Quarryfoot Medical Practice
4	Direct people to the right help and support	6 months	Higher proportion of appropriate GP appointments – self-reported by GPs	Quarryfoot Medical Practice
	Reception staff to ask people why they need an appointment	6 months		Quarryfoot Medical Practice

Strathesk Medical Practice

We will aim to	Action	Time span	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
5	Reduce time people have to wait for an appointment	6 months	Patient Access fully implemented – means all appointments will be “on the day”	Strathesk Medical Practice
6	Improve communication with patients	6 months	Patient group established, group members feel they make a difference, wider community say they are well informed	Strathesk Medical Practice

More people will feel better about their local environment

We will aim to	Action	Timespan	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
7	Reduce dog fouling	Ongoing	Group formed to consider appropriate actions e.g. street audit and green dog walker training. People feeling better about their local environment.	Community councils Lasswade Civic Society Local residents Environmental Health, Midlothian Council
8	Reduce littering	Ongoing	Group formed to consider appropriate actions e.g. litter picks, recycling projects. Increased environmental awareness amongst the community. People feeling better about their local environment.	Community councils Lasswade Civic Society Schools eco groups Local residents Environmental activists Environmental Health, Midlothian Council



More people are actively engaged in their local community

	We will aim to	Action	Timespan	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
9	Regenerate town centre	<p>Make links to the Midlothian Economic Recovery Plan.</p> <p>Get a copy of the Bonnyrigg town centre health check report.</p> <p>Support a local business network.</p>	3-5 years	<p>People shopping locally.</p> <p>No empty shops.</p> <p>Greater satisfaction about the town centre.</p>	<p>Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council</p> <p>Economic Development, Midlothian Council</p> <p>Local traders</p>
10	Make better use of Bonnyrigg Leisure Centre, empty premises and secure amenity land	<p>Produce a list of premises in the area that can be used for community use (eg bowling clubs, church halls etc)</p> <p>Identify empty premises, ownership and available space and make the information available through Resident's Forum on FB.</p>	1 year	<p>All groups are accommodated.</p> <p>New groups are aware of spaces available, costs and contacts.</p>	<p>Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council</p> <p>Poltonhall Community Council</p> <p>St Leonard's Church</p> <p>Communities Team, Midlothian Council</p>
11	Bring back Bonnyrigg Fun Day in the park/ more local fairs.	To establish the fun day as an annual family event and encourage more community groups to come on board.	Ongoing	Regular, well attended event that brings all sections of the local community together.	<p>Bonnyrigg Fun Day Group</p> <p>Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council</p>
12	Establish a dedicated soft play facility available for public use and places to go on a rainy day.	<p>Identify appropriate accommodation</p> <p>Source funding for equipment and staffing</p> <p>Visit and learn from other local soft play facilities.</p>	3-5 years	A local soft play is available for the public to use.	<p>Bonnyrigg Community Hub</p> <p>The Lasswade Centre</p> <p>Communities Team, Midlothian Council</p>
13	Establish a nice cafe/family friendly pub	<p>Identify appropriate accommodation</p> <p>Speak to existing businesses about opportunities</p>	1-3 years	A range of facilities will be available for local shoppers and residents.	<p>Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council</p> <p>Poltonhall and District Community Council</p> <p>St Leonard's Church</p>
14	Reinstate toilet facilities to George V Park	Explore options – Bowling Club, Pavillion and Bright Sparks (old leisure centre)	6 months	Park users, including young people using the skatepark and play facilities, will have access to toilet facilities.	Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council

	We will aim to	Action	Timespan	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
15	Increase the number of facilities at Lasswade Centre for babies/toddlers/ preschool	Identify level of demand and interest	6 months	Completed survey identifying gaps in provision	<p>Leisure Services, Midlothian Council</p> <p>Early Years Team, Midlothian Council</p>
16	Increase the number of cultural activities and community indoor and outdoor spaces in the area	Conduct an audit of current activities and map available spaces	6 months	Completed audit and plans in place to develop cultural activities.	<p>Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council</p> <p>Poltonhall and District Community Council</p> <p>MMCC</p> <p>Communities Team, Midlothian Council</p>
17	Explore venues for music/ dancing gigs	Identify level of demand and interest	6 months	Suitable premises identified	<p>Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council</p> <p>Poltonhall and District Community Council</p> <p>Communities Team, Midlothian Council</p>
18	Improve information sharing in the area	Build on the success of the Resident's Forum FB page and Bonnyrigg Community Hub newsletter	1 year	Residents are better informed and information is more effectively shared.	Bonnyrigg Community Hub
19	Pilot a film evening at The Lasswade Centre	Secure venue in The Lasswade Centre and organise a pilot	1 year	Well attended and supported film nights	Bonnyrigg Community Hub
20	Increase the opening hours of The Lasswade Centre, particularly on weekends	Identify level of demand and interest	6 months	Completed survey	Leisure Services, Midlothian Council
21	Improve usage of rooms at Lasswade Centre to accommodate groups.	Identify level of demand and interest	6 months	Where possible all groups are accommodated in The Lasswade Centre or other venues in the community.	Leisure Services, Midlothian Council
22	Establish a resident's association in the Hopefield area.	Make contact with local residents through street stall or an event	6 months	Association established and issues presented and prioritised to the factors	<p>Poltonhall and District Community Council</p> <p>Communities Team, Midlothian Council</p>



More people will have access to improved broadband speeds

We will aim to	Action	Timespan	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
23	Improve broadband speeds	1 year	Residents have access to faster broadband	Scottish Government Economic Development, Midlothian Council Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council Poltonhall and District Community Council
	According to Scottish Government Openreach plan 12 of 19 cabinets in the Bonnyrigg area have been updated. Over the next year most of Hopefield and and Polton Road will be completed.			

More people will feel safer in the community

We will aim to	Action	Timespan	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
24	Seek greater police presence	1 year	Local residents are better informed of how Police Scotland operate in the area and how to report incidents and who to contact to discuss community safety issues.	Police Scotland Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council Poltonhall and District Community Council
	Produce regular information for the resident's forum FB and the Bonnyrigg Community Hub newsletter. Continue to build the relationship between local organisations and Police Scotland			
25	Reduce speeding through Lasswade	18 months	Reduction in speeding through the area	Midlothian Council Lasswade Civic Society Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council
	Midlothian Council has introduced a pilot 20mph			

More young people feel valued in the community

We will aim to	Action	Timespan	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
26	Provide youth club and/or drop in	6 months	Views of young people gathered and recommendations presented to potential youth providers	Lifelong Learning and Employability, Midlothian Council Bonnyrigg Community Hub Faith based organisations Mondo Loco Uniformed organisations
	Carry out a youth consultation designed by young people which identifies the demand and interest			
27	Encourage safe and positive use of the skate park	1 year	Families and young people feel safer using the park and skate park.	Lifelong Learning and Employability, Midlothian Council Bonnyrigg Community Hub Police Scotland
	Build on the positive impact of the Transgression sessions and the Bonnyrigg Community Hub jam. Continue to promote positive use of the park.			
28	Introduce concession rates for young people to access Midlothian Council leisure facilities.	6 months	Increased uptake in concessionary memberships	Leisure Services, Midlothian Council
	Introduce concession rates for young people to access Midlothian Council leisure facilities.			
29	Improve the selection of shops/cafes for young people	1 year	Shop/cafe available for young people	Lifelong Learning and Employability,, Midlothian Council Faith based organisations Bonnyrigg Community Hub
	Establish a group of young people who we will work with to consider options including an approach to an existing cafe to discuss a pilot evening/ weekend drop in.			
30	Ensure The Lasswade Centre is accessible to young people in the evenings	6 months	Consultation completed and young people present results to Leisure Services	Leisure Services, Midlothian Council Lifelong Learning and Employability, Midlothian Council
	Conduct a consultation with young people and staff			

Improved public transport

We will aim to	Action	Timespan	How will we know it has worked?	Who is involved?
31	Increase bus services to Poltonhall on evenings/Sundays.	Ongoing	Improved transport links in the evenings and Sundays	Travel Team, Midlothian Council Lothian Buses
	Continue to meet and build relationships with Lothian Buses in order to improve public transport provision in the area Gather evidence of demand			



8. Progress to date

Several issues raised through the consultation have already been addressed, with considerable success. These are:

People will be able to access GP appointments more easily

On Tuesday 23rd September 2014 an initial meeting was held with two of the Practice Managers and representatives of the neighbourhood planning group to discuss the availability of appointments. Each practice has contributed their planned actions including text reminders, telephone appointment only system and the setting up of a patient group.

Strathesk Medical Practice has designed an information sheet for patients and is currently recruiting for their Patient Participation Group. From 1st June a new appointment system was introduced.

Dalhousie Medical Practice have introduced a text reminder service that has been well received by patients. As at June 2015 49% of patients had signed up for this service, if you've not already done so then give the practice your mobile number to receive the alert.

In addition on 9th February 2015 there was a public meeting to discuss the proposed changes to the GP out of hours service.

Improved public transport

On Wednesday 7th January 2015 a meeting was held with representatives of Lothian Buses in response to public transport issues raised through the consultations. This meeting in January was too late to make significant changes to the proposals already worked up for implementation on 29 March 2015 however discussions for the Autumn change need to be underway in April or May 2015.

Since the meeting, Lothian Buses has reacted positively by adding "Festival Extras". From 10 August to 1 September inclusive, the N31 will operate nightly. They will be reviewing their express limited stop services for the autumn 2015 changeover. Some services may stay the same, others may be developed further.

More people will feel safer in the community

20mph zone – Growth in Midlothian has increased traffic flow on the A768 to such an extent that today 18,600 vehicles travel East and West through Lasswade Village every day. A Midlothian Council traffic survey carried out in 2014 show that 11,700 of these exceeded the 30 mph speed limit every day, making the life of residents, pedestrians and cyclists quite stressful and difficult.

In 2013, Lasswade District Civic Society (LDCS) listened to the concerns of their membership about vehicles speeding through the Village. They decided to take a petition to Midlothian Council's Petition Committee and very quickly had 244 signatures to support the introduction of a Twenty's Plenty zone in Lasswade.

In June 2013 representatives of LDCS presented their case to the Petitions Committee and won support from those Councillors attending on the day. However, the full Council delayed any action for a further 18 months until finally agreeing to implement the wishes of Lasswade residents at their December 2014 meeting. The new 20 mph speed limit was introduced on Monday 30th March, 2015.

Steering group member and Lasswade District Civic Society campaigner commented "Success! – no, not quite. Compliance with the new speed limit is poor and many vehicles still speed through the Village. So the work is not done. LDCS will continue to monitor the trial and press for further "self policing" measures".

In addition he added "improving the quality of life in Midlothian is the aim of the Neighbourhood Plans and if residents of any Community want to see change don't just complain, get mobilised!"

Police Scotland – Local policing continues to be the focus of Police Scotland with a Local Policing Plan specifically designed for Midlothian. The priorities set out in this Plan have been developed in consultation with local people and partner agencies, and take account of crime analysis and national policing priorities. The priorities specific to the Bonnyrigg Ward are Drugs and Alcohol Abuse, Road Safety, Anti-social Behaviour and Violence and Housebreaking and other theft.

The overall aim of Police Scotland is for officers to be highly visible on foot, push bike, quad bike and vehicle in order to keep people safe, tackle, detect and prevent crime and to provide reassurance to enable members of public to feel safe in their community. In Midlothian, Response Team Officers are based within Bonnyrigg Police Station. Community Policing Team Officers are based at each of the 6 Police Stations, Bonnyrigg, Penicuik, Loanhead, Dalkeith, Newbattle and Gorebridge and they are allocated to specific Wards however they will also provide assistance in other Wards when required.

More people are actively engaged in their community

Leisure – On Wednesday 22nd October 2014 a meeting was held with Midlothian Council Leisure Services and representatives of the neighbourhood planning group to explore issues that local residents had raised during the consultation and to find solutions if possible. There was recognition that some of the issues raised during the consultations had been resolved and it was agreed that there was a need for better information and communication to keep people informed. A further meeting was held to look at the booking system. All prospective groups looking for a let are encouraged to get in touch to discuss availability and cost.

Bonnyrigg Fun Day – A successful, well attended fun day was held in August 2014 organised by The Bonnyrigg Community Hub group, supported by local residents. As a result of the success a further fun day will be held in August 2015. In addition other fun community activities which have successfully brought together families have included a cart race in the park, skate park jam and a willow weaving project.

Town Centre – On Wednesday 17th June 2015 a meeting was held with Midlothian Council's Planning Manager to discuss the challenges for the town centre. 11 vacant sites in the town centre were identified.



More young people feel valued in the community

Skatepark – Since the opening of the skatepark in Summer 2014 Transgression were employed to deliver 2 sessions around safe use of this new facility. All local schools were approached to design and paint a graffiti board to be displayed around the park.

Concession rates – From August 2014 Junior monthly concessionary fee was introduced as part of the Tonezone membership options. In January 2015 103 junior memberships had been issued across Midlothian, of these 67 were issued at The Lasswade Centre.

More people will have access to improved broadband speeds

There are 19 cabinets in total. 12 are upgraded and the seven which remain to be upgraded are detailed below:

Cabinet 19 – on Eskbank Road, near the road bridge over the cycleway.

Cabinet 30 – on Polton Road. Scheduled for upgrade by summer of 2015.

Cabinet 39 – on the Distributor Road outside the Brixwold estate. This is on hold due to the high cost of upgrade.

Cabinet 47 – Baird's Way/Cockpen road junction

Cabinet 49 – on the Distributor Road at Burnbrae (about half way along)

Cabinet 50 – on the Distributor Road at Burnbrae (Rosewell end) are scheduled for upgrade at the end of 2015

Cabinet 56 – near Burnbrae Primary School (Hopefield). The hope is that it will be included in the 'Superfast Extension Programme' but we won't know until summer of 2015.

9. Strategy for the future

The steering group propose that the action plan should be taken forward by the appropriate partners, both statutory and voluntary. This should be achieved through collaboration and involve Councillors and Community Councillors. Midlothian Council Communities Team will continue to support the Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group and sub groups.

Following the launch of the plan the Steering Group will meet a minimum of twice a year to monitor progress, ensure the actions are being implemented and support the subgroups.



10. Further information and contact details about community planning:

To find out more about the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003

http://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2003/1/pdfs/asp_20030001_en.pdf

To find out the current membership of the community planning board look here:

http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/3344/community_planning_board_membership_list

To view the profile for Midlothian which provides current information on Midlothian

http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/5243/midlothian_profile_2014

To find out more about community planning in Midlothian

http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/200172/community_planning

Who is my councillor:

<http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/councillors/specificWard/12/bonnyrigg>

Get involved:

Bonnyrigg and Lasswade Community Council

<http://bonnyriggandlasswade.weebly.com/>

Meet on 3rd Thursday of the month, 7.30pm, Pavillion in George V Park

Poltonhall and District Community Council

<http://www.spanglefish.com/poltonhallanddistrictcommunitycouncil/>

Meet on 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7.30pm, Poltonhall Sports Field Pavillion

Lasswade Civic Society

<http://www.lasswadecivic.com/>

Meet 5 times per year

If you want to report something to Midlothian Council:

<http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/report>

Local information:

For information on local activities, services, facilities, classes and groups check the community folder in the library.

To report a crime to Police Scotland

If you are a victim or witness to crime you can contact:

101, the Non-Emergency Number, calls to 101 from landlines and mobiles cost 15 pence per call, no matter what time of the day you call or how long your call lasts.

999 The Emergency number.

In an emergency you should always dial 999 if:

- There is a risk of personal injury or loss of life
- A crime in progress
- Someone suspected of a crime is nearby.

Deaf, deafened, hard of hearing or speech-impaired callers using Textphone (minicom) should dial 18000 in an emergency.

Alternatively if you are deaf, hard of hearing or speech-impaired, you can register with emergency SMS text service. The emergency SMS service lets people in the UK send an SMS text message to the UK 999 service where it will be passed to the police, ambulance, fire rescue, or coastguard.

The Contact Us Form

This can be used for general enquiries and can be found on the official Police Scotland Website, <http://www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us-form> Once submitted your enquiry will be directed to the relevant department or police office.

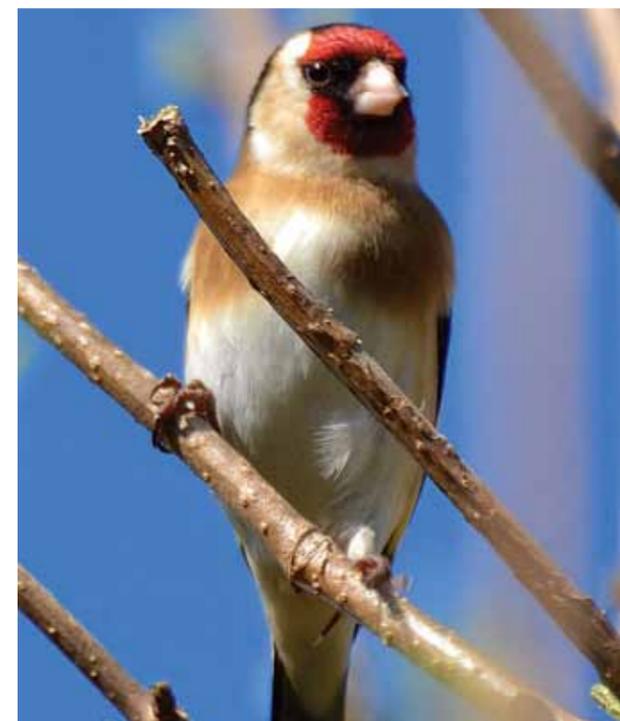
Community Police

If you would like to make police aware of any policing issues in your local area you can e-mail your Local Police Community Team, for the Bonnyrigg ward the e-mail address is LothianScotBordersPenicuikCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Hate Crime & Third Party Reporting and Domestic Abuse can be reported online through the official Police Scotland Website, www.scotland.police.uk, and accessing <http://www.scotland.police.uk/contact-us/hate-crime-third-party-reporting/> <https://www.scotland.police.uk/secureforms/domestic-abuse/> or by visiting a third party Reporting Centre. The Domestic Abuse form can be used if you have been a victim of domestic abuse, if you have witnessed an incident of domestic abuse or if you are reporting domestic abuse on behalf of someone else (known as third party reporting).

Making a complaint to Police Scotland

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/police-scotland/complaints-about-the-police/>



11. Membership of the Bonnyrigg, Lasswade and Poltonhall Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group:

Rev Peter Harris (St Leonards Church)

Keith Fuller (PDCC)

May Fuller (PDCC)

Fiona Warner (PDCC)

Elaine Ferguson (BLCC)

Councillor Ian Baxter

Councillor Bob Constable

Darius Namdaran (BLCC)

Paul Glynn (Mondo Loco)

Alison Thomson (PDCC)

Catherine Evans (NHS Lothian)

Rosemary Mackay (Lasswade Civic Society)

Ed Angus (Lasswade Civic Society)

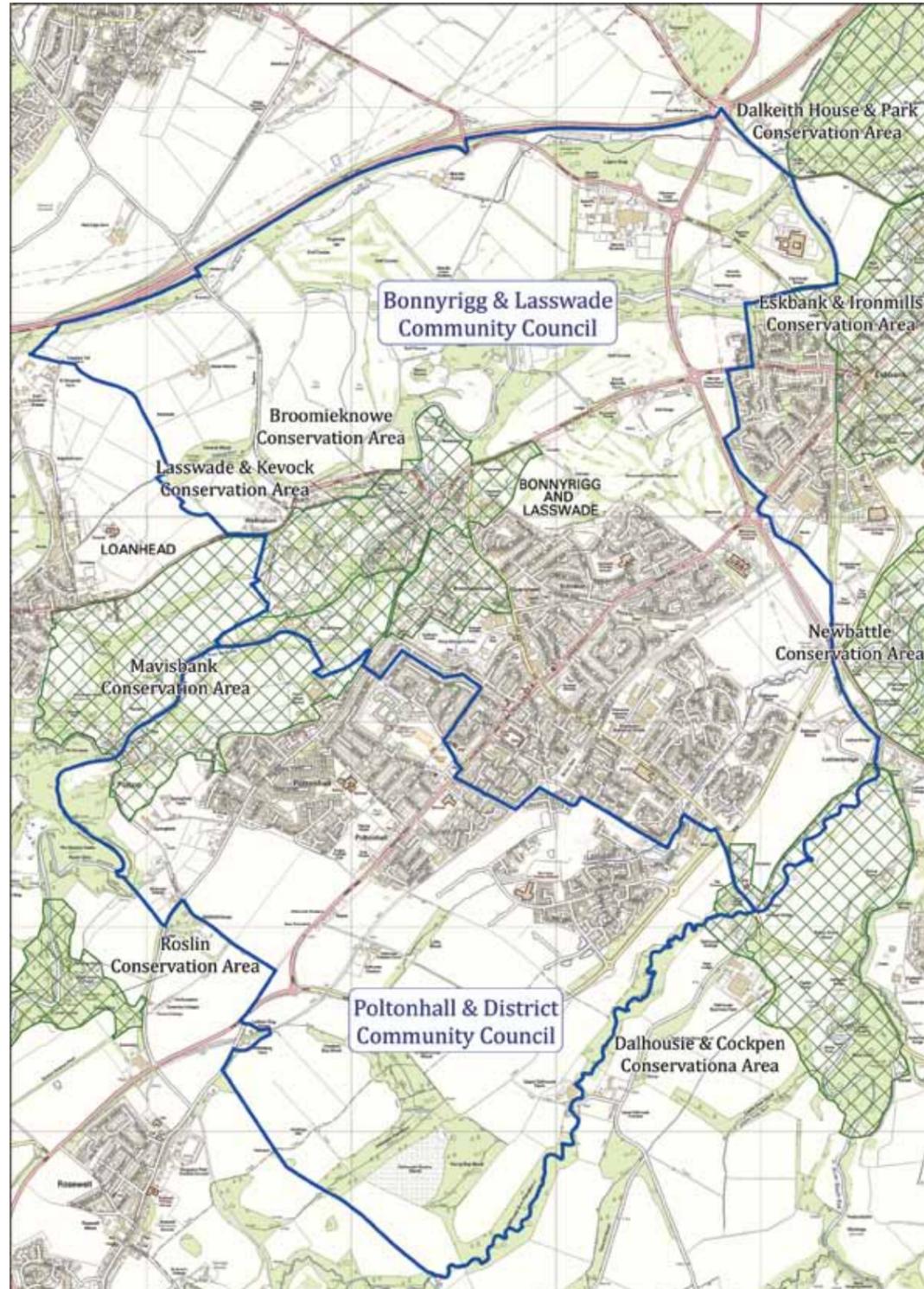
Sgt Michele Lindsay (Police Scotland)

Isabella Hessler (local resident)

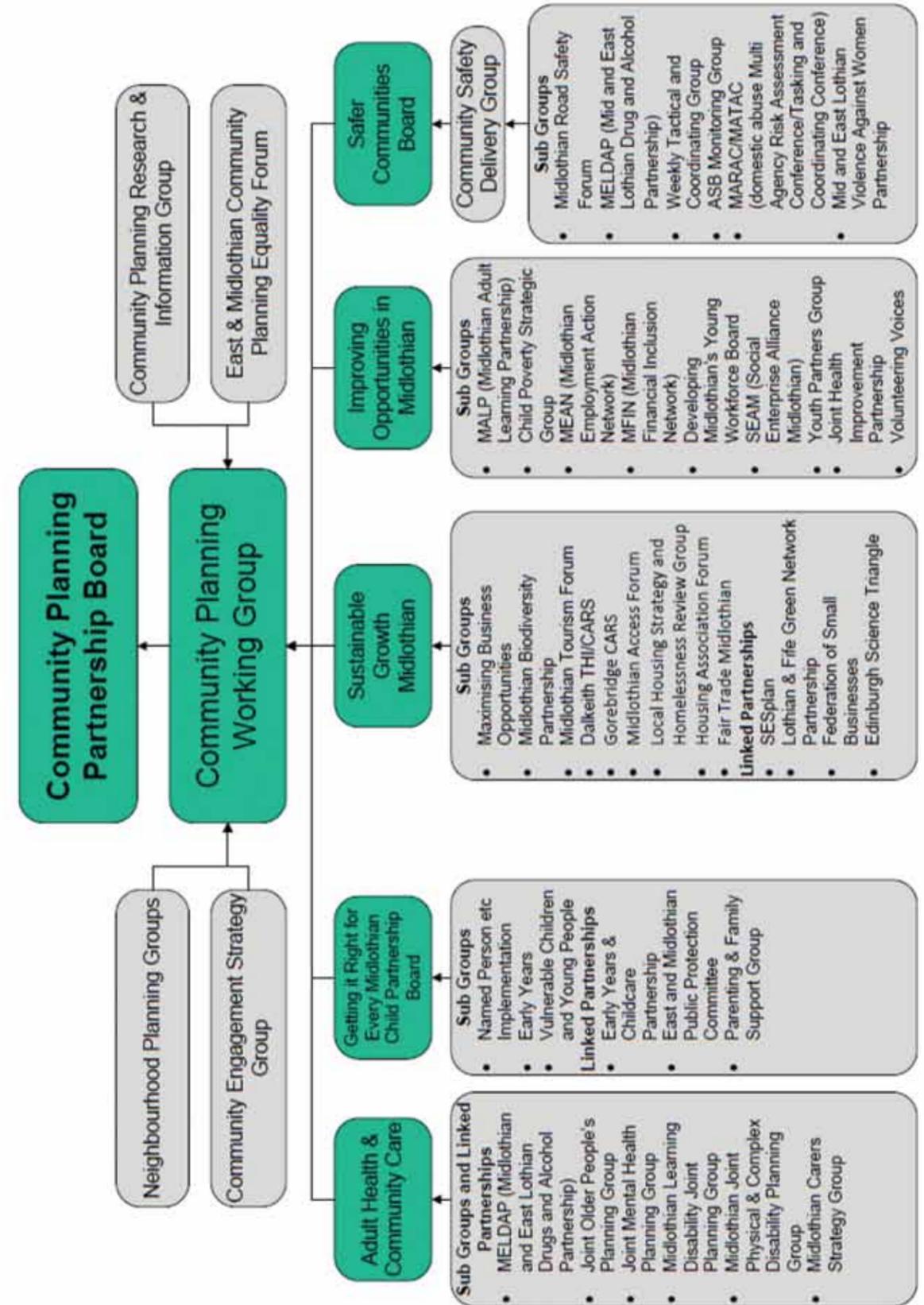
Karl Vanters (Midlothian Council Travel Team)

Jan Jerome (Lasswade Civic Society)

Appendix A



Appendix B Community planning structure





COMMUNICATING CLEARLY

We are happy to translate on request and provide information and publications in other formats, including Braille, tape or large print.

如有需要我們樂意提供翻譯本，和其他版本的資訊與刊物，包括盲人點字、錄音帶或大字體。

Zapewnimy tłumaczenie na żądanie oraz dostarczymy informacje i publikacje w innych formatach, w tym Braillem, na kasecie magnetofonowej lub dużym drukiem.

ਅਸੀਂ ਮੰਗ ਕਰਨ ਤੇ ਖੁਸ਼ੀ ਨਾਲ ਅਨੁਵਾਦ ਅਤੇ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਪ੍ਰਦਾਨ ਕਰਾਂਗੇ, ਜਿਨ੍ਹਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਬਰੇਲ, ਟੇਪ ਜਾਂ ਵੱਡੀ ਛਪਾਈ ਸ਼ਾਮਲ ਹਨ।

Körler için kabartma yazılar, kaset ve büyük nüshalar da dahil olmak üzere, istenilen bilgileri sağlamak ve tercüme etmekten memnuniyet duyuyoruz.

اگر آپ چاہیں تو ہم خوشی سے آپ کو ترجمہ فراہم کر سکتے ہیں اور معلومات اور دستاویزات دیگر شکلوں میں مثلاً بریل (ناپیدا افراد کے لیے) اُبھرے ہوئے حروف کی لکھائی (میں، ٹیپ پر یا بڑے حروف کی لکھائی میں) فراہم کر سکتے ہیں۔

Contact 0131 270 7500 or email: enquiries@midlothian.gov.uk

