

Local Development Plan
Charrette Report - Appendices

May 2013

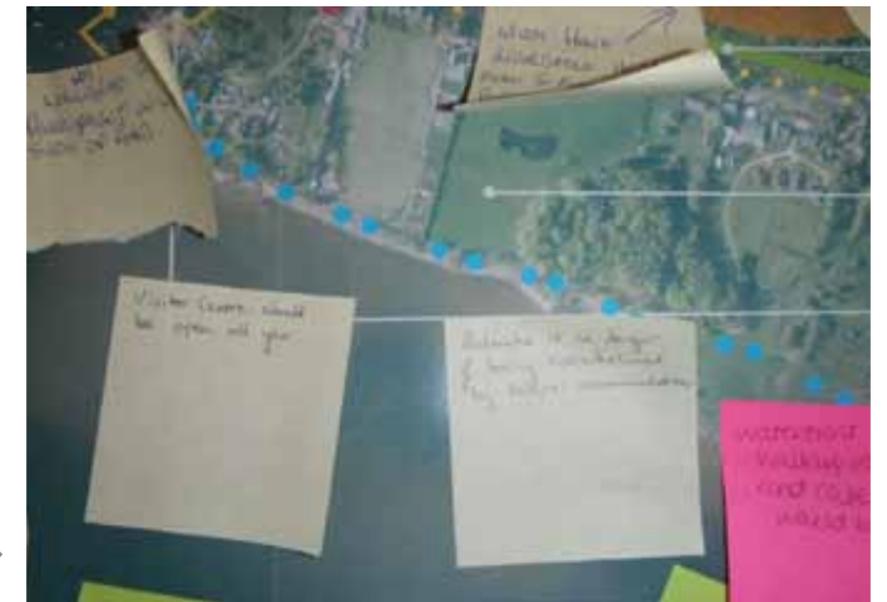
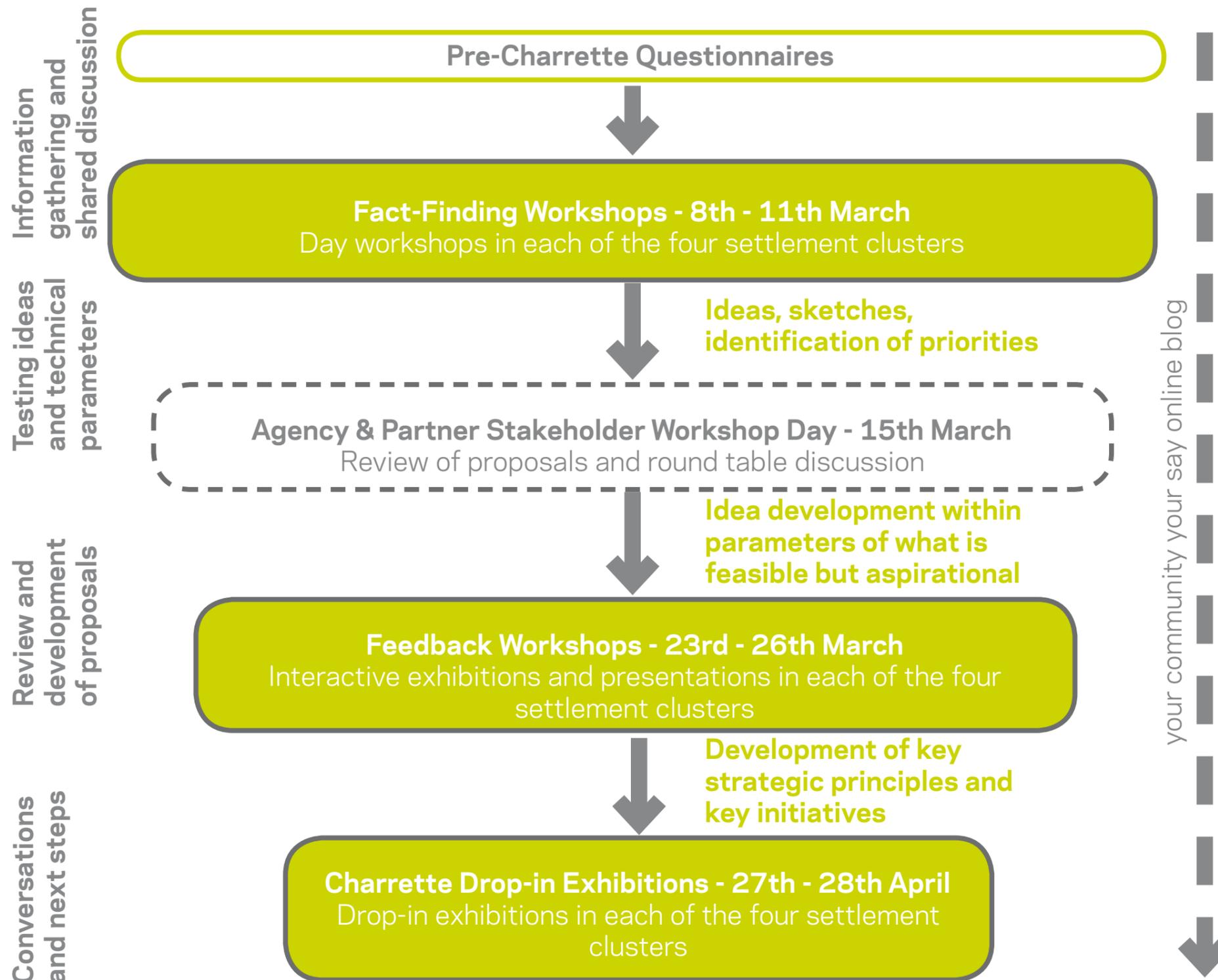


Charrette Launch, Monday 4th February, Balloch

Speakers:

- Derek MacKay MSP - Minister for Local Government and Planning
- Gordon Watson - Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park Authority Director of Rural Development & Planning
- Ewan Anderson - 7N Architects
- Chris Martin - Manager, Callander Youth Project
- Kate Sankey - Loch Lomond & Trossachs Community Partnership

Appendix A - Community Engagement



Pre-Charrette

The National Park Local Development Plan Charrette

Your Community Your Say
Aberfoyle

Talking! Drawing on maps! Scribbling notes! Interactive and fun workshops - led by a Design Team.

Friday 8th March **Fact-Finding Workshop**
Your Community
Aberfoyle Memorial Hall (refreshments will be available)

4 - 5pm - Drop in session for families with young children
- What do young people want for the future of Aberfoyle?
- How does having visitors to the town have an impact on Aberfoyle?
- How can provision for visitors benefit the young people who live around here?

5.30 - 8.30pm - Public workshop
Some of the topics we will discuss, through drawings, sketches and scribbles:
- What is special and different about Aberfoyle and its surrounds and what do you like about living here?
- A focus on flooding in Aberfoyle - update on options for future management
- What would you do to shape the future economy and environment in the area?
- Are there issues that stop the visitor economy in Aberfoyle working as well as it could?
- What do you see for the future of Aberfoyle within the wider context of the National Park, and how should this be taken forward?

During the time between workshops, the Charrette team will take forward your ideas, discuss them with statutory agencies, relevant landowners and the Park Authority and shape them into draft proposals for Aberfoyle and the National Park.

Sunday 24th March **Feedback Workshop**
What do you think of the Draft Proposals?
Aberfoyle Memorial Hall (refreshments will be available)

1 - 2pm - Drop in session for families with young children
- Members of the Charrette team will talk through the proposals, what do you think?
- If you were in charge, what would you do first?

3 - 5.30pm - Public workshop
- View your ideas drawn up into a plan for Aberfoyle and surrounds
- See the ideas for the wider National Park
- Tell us what we've got right, and what you think needs more work
- What would you do first?

For further information, go to www.lochlomond-trossachs.org

The National Park Local Development Plan Charrette

Your Community Your Say
Arrochar and Tarbet

Talking! Drawing on maps! Scribbling notes! Interactive and fun workshops - led by a Design Team.

Sunday 10th March **Fact-Finding Workshop**
Your Communities
Three Villages Hall (refreshments will be available)

1 - 2pm - Drop in session for families with young children
- What do young people want for the future of Arrochar and Tarbet?
- How does having visitors to the area have an impact on Arrochar and Tarbet?
- How can provision for visitors benefit the young people who live around here?

3 - 6pm - Public workshop
Some of the topics we will discuss, through drawings, sketches and scribbles:
- What is special and different about Arrochar, Tarbet and the surrounding area and what do you like about living here?
- What would you do to shape the future economy and environment in the area?
- Are there issues that stop the visitor economy working as well as it could?
- How do Arrochar, Tarbet and Sucooth work together for mutual benefit?
- What do you see for the future of Arrochar and Tarbet within the wider context of the National Park, and how should this be taken forward?

During the time between workshops, the Charrette team will take forward your ideas, discuss them with statutory agencies, relevant landowners and the Park Authority and shape them into draft proposals for Arrochar, Tarbet and the National Park.

Tuesday 26th March **Feedback Workshop**
What do you think of the Draft Proposals?
Three Villages Hall (refreshments will be available)

4 - 5pm - Drop in session for families with young children
- Members of the Charrette team will talk through the proposals, what do you think?
- If you were in charge, what would you do first?

5 - 7pm - Public workshop
- View your ideas drawn up into a plan for the Arrochar and Tarbet area
- See the ideas for the wider National Park
- Tell us what we've got right, and what you think needs more work
- What would you do first?

For further information, go to www.lochlomond-trossachs.org

The National Park Local Development Plan Charrette

Your Community Your Say
Drymen and Balmaha

Talking! Drawing on maps! Scribbling notes! Interactive and fun workshops - led by a Design Team.

Saturday 9th March **Fact-Finding Workshop**
Your Communities
Drymen Village Hall (refreshments will be available)

2.30 - 3.30pm - Drop in session for families with young children
- What do young people want for the future of Drymen and Balmaha?
- How does having visitors to the area have an impact on Drymen and Balmaha?
- How can provision for visitors benefit the young people who live around here?

4 - 7pm - Public workshop
Some of the topics we will discuss, through drawings, sketches and scribbles:
- What is special and different about Drymen and Balmaha and what do you like about living here?
- What would you do to shape the future economy and environment in the area?
- Are there issues that stop the visitor economy working as well as it could?
- Could the two places work together to gain mutual benefit?
- What do you see for the future of Drymen and Balmaha within the wider context of the National Park, and how should this be taken forward?

During the time between workshops, the Charrette team will take forward your ideas, discuss them with statutory agencies, relevant landowners and the Park Authority and shape them into draft proposals for Drymen and Balmaha and the National Park.

Monday 25th March **Feedback Workshop**
What do you think of the Draft Proposals?
Buchanan Arms Hotel (refreshments will be available)

4 - 5pm - Drop in session for families with young children
- Members of the Charrette team will talk through the proposals, what do you think?
- If you were in charge, what would you do first?

5.30 - 8pm - Public workshop
- View your ideas drawn up into a plan for the Drymen and Balmaha area
- See the ideas for the wider National Park
- Tell us what we've got right, and what you think needs more work
- What would you do first?

For further information, go to www.lochlomond-trossachs.org

The National Park Local Development Plan Charrette

Your Community Your Say
Tyndrum

Talking! Drawing on maps! Scribbling notes! Interactive and fun workshops - led by a Design Team.

Monday 11th March **Fact-Finding Workshop**
Your Community
Tyndrum Village Hall (refreshments will be available)

4 - 5pm - Drop in session for families with young children
- What do young people want for the future of Tyndrum?
- How does having visitors to the area have an impact on Tyndrum?
- How can provision for visitors benefit the young people who live around here?

5.30 - 8.30pm - Public workshop
Some of the topics we will discuss, through drawings, sketches and scribbles:
- What is special and different about Tyndrum and what do you like about living here?
- What would you do to shape the future economy and environment in the area?
- Are there issues that stop the visitor economy working as well as it could?
- What do you see for the future of Tyndrum within the wider context of the National Park, and how should this be taken forward?

During the time between workshops, the Charrette team will take forward your ideas, discuss them with statutory agencies, relevant landowners and the Park Authority and shape them into draft proposals for Tyndrum and the National Park.

Saturday 23rd March **Feedback Workshop**
What do you think of the Draft Proposals?
Tyndrum Village Hall (refreshments will be available)

1 - 2pm Drop in session for families with young children
- Members of the Charrette team will talk through the proposals, what do you think?
- If you were in charge, what would you do first?

3 - 5.30pm Public workshop
- View your ideas drawn up into a plan for Tyndrum
- See the ideas for the wider National Park
- Tell us what we've got right, and what you think needs more work
- What would you do first?

For further information, go to www.lochlomond-trossachs.org

Posters circulated to all of the Charrette settlements

Pre-Charrette

The National Park Local Development Plan Charrette
Your Community Your Say

Many of the young people living in The National Park today will be the people who live and work here in 20 years time, so decisions made about the towns, villages and the Park today are actually about YOUR future!

As part of the Local Development Plan Charrette, community workshops will be held in Aberfoyle, Drymen and Balmaha, Arrochar and Tarbet and Tyndrum during March 2013. These workshops will look at the future development of the villages and their surrounding areas but will particularly focus on issues and opportunities relating to tourism.

What's really good about living in your village in the National Park? Why do you think people choose to live here?

Tourism is part of life in the National Park. What do you think are the positive and negative impacts of this?

Please think about the questions we've shown here, and write what you think on a sheet of paper. These will be used during the Charrette events, to tell everyone what young people think about their own future in the National Park.

Please note at the top what village you live in.

Do you see yourself living in the park in 20 years time? Where would you like to live and work and what would you like to do?

What would you improve in the park, so that more could be made of tourism for local benefit, particularly for what local young people need?

If you could pick three things to change about where you live, what would they be?

Please come along to the Charrette workshops, when you can, you will be very welcome.

Friday 8th March Aberfoyle 5.30-8.30pm Aberfoyle Memorial Hall	Saturday 9th March Drymen 4 - 7pm Drymen Village Hall	Sunday 10th March Arrochar 3 - 6pm Three Villages Hall	Monday 11th March Tyndrum 5.30-8.30pm Tyndrum Village Hall	Saturday 23rd March Tyndrum 3 - 5.30pm Tyndrum Village Hall	Sunday 24th March Aberfoyle 3 - 5.30pm Aberfoyle Memorial Hall	Monday 25th March Drymen 5.30 - 8pm Buchanan Arms Hotel	Tuesday 26th March Arrochar 5 - 7pm Three Villages Hall
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Sample of questionnaires issued to every household in the Charrette settlements and to the high schools attended by local young people. Some of these were combined with Community Action Planning questionnaires being issued at the same time.

The National Park Local Development Plan Charrette
Your Community Your Say

As part of the Local Development Plan Charrette, community workshops will be held in Aberfoyle during March 2013. These workshops will look at the future development of the town and the surrounding area but will particularly focus on issues and opportunities relating to tourism.

Friday 8 March
Fact-Finding Workshops
Aberfoyle Memorial Hall
3 - 8.30pm

Sunday 24 March
Feedback Workshops
Aberfoyle Memorial Hall
12 - 5.30pm

Saturday 27 April
Final Presentation Day
LLTNPA HQ Carrochan,
Carrochan Road, Balloch,
G83 8EG

What's happening

we will circulate a more detailed programme very soon

What are the key attractions to both residents and visitors (to live and spend time in the town or the surrounding area)?

Aberfoyle describes itself as the "Gateway to the Trossachs". What benefits do you think being the Gateway should bring to the local community?

For information, go to www.lochlomond-trossachs.org

The National Park Local Development Plan Charrette
Your Community Your Say

What drawbacks come with being a Gateway, and what suggestions would you make to improve the current situation?

If you had one wish, what would you wish for to increase the long term benefits that local people could get from visitors to the National Park?

Thank you for your views, if you would like to be kept informed during the Local Development Plan process then please provide your details below.

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

By providing your email address you consent to its use for being kept informed of the Local Development plan process.

If anything that you have mentioned is on these maps, please mark or note...

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK

What's happening

we will circulate a more detailed programme very soon

For information, go to www.lochlomond-trossachs.org

Aberfoyle

For information, go to www.lochlomond-trossachs.org

The National Park

If anything that you have mentioned is on these maps, please mark or note...

LOCH LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK

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Returns info:
You can find in this questionnaire to:
Visit Scotland Information Centre,
Main Street,
Aberfoyle,
FK9 9LQ

Post it to:
Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park HQ,
Carrochan,
Carrochan Road,
Balloch,
G83 8EG

or email it to ldp@lochlomond-trossachs.org

If you have any queries about this questionnaire please contact the Forward Planning Team on 01369 722600 or by email ldp@lochlomond-trossachs.org

Please return your questionnaire by Monday 4th March

There will also be the opportunity to discuss these matters at the workshops

Pre-Charrette Questionnaires - Appraisal

Aberfoyle

Key Attractions

Peace and tranquillity	3
Beautiful scenery	3
Proximity/distance to major cities	3
Outdoor activities	3
Feels safe	3
Cafes	2
David marshal lodge	1
Community	1
Loch Katrine boat	1

Benefits of being a 'Gateway'

Visitor should spend more money	3
Should be the start of an adventure	3
Bike hire	3
More for young people to do	3
No multi court for sports	3
Litter	3
Hub with tourist centre museum	2
Should be busy year round	2
Should have a "Quality" feel	1
It doesn't	1

Drawbacks and Suggestions

Too much passing trade	3
Bad road surfaces	3
Litter bins	3
Shortage of parking at peak times	3
No public toilets	3
Little spread of benefits outside the co op	2
Not enough amenities [nursery, leisure, sports]	2
Co op too busy	2
Convert old railway into a cycle track	1

One wish, for long term benefit from visitors in National Park

A major attraction to keep people in the village	3
Keep the village tidy	3
Fill empty shop fronts	3
Improved road surfaces	3
Consistent signage	2
Village needs vision, leadership and plan	1
Consultation of locals	1
Larger heritage museum	3
Litter bins	3
Keep the toilets open	3
Cycle hire	3
Improved public transport	3
Create a country park	2
Restrict large vehicles on B roads	2
Create some lochs to create holding capacity and reduce flooding	1
Paragliding lessons	1
Creation of a crafts village	1

Drymen & Balmaha

Key Attractions

Countryside	3
Tranquillity	3
Not over developed	3
Variety of wildlife	3
Local housing for local people	3
Good pubs and restaurants	3
Free parking at village shop	3
Highland way	2
Farmers market [or market]	1
A stand for music and dance	1

Priorities and Issues

Poor toilet facilities	3
All weather launches for improved boating	3
Wider footpath into Balmaha	3
Road resurfacing	3
Litter bins	3
Pavements widened	3
Attractive development of sympathetic size in vacant site	3
Disproportionate accommodation for tourists/locals	3
Improve picnic area	3
Make waterfront more attractive	3
Better sign posting	3
Improve information available,	3
Boat/canoe hire/ sailing school	3
The Drymen park has very poor play facilities	3
No activities for visiting coach parties	2
Cycleway off road between drymen and balmaha	2
Update play park	2
Cottage hospital for emergency and chronic care	2
Fire and mountain rescue facility	2
Calgary bay art in nature walks	1
BBQ sites	1

Pre-Charrette Questionnaires - Appraisal

summary of 155
returned questionnaires*

Arrochar & Tarbet

Better facilities for the disabled folk	1
Close the pier to traffic at peak times	1
Look to Killearn & Fintry as a precedent	1
Lighting in car park	1
Need to Masterplan village development	1

Working together

Improved road	3
Wider footpath into Balmaha	3
Improved drainage	3
Give locals housing priority	3
More bins	3
Develop riding holidays	2
Police station never manned	2
Remove police station from the main square	2
No	1
Remove footpath southeast of main street to widen road	1
Pedestrian crossings opposite post office	1
New parking below ground at salmon leap	1

Favourite things

New 3 village hall	3
Situation	3
Doctors surgery	3
Landscape	3
Schools	3
The village school	3
Proximity to transport	3
Good place to bring up kids	3
Good local services	3
Play area	2
Generally friendly	2
Gets together when the chips are down	1

Things needing change

New multi sport area	3
Street sweeper reinstated	3
Speed camera	3
Reduce litter	3
Pontoon	3
Shore front	3
Lack of facilities	3
Bank/ cash machine	3
More social housing	3
Opening hours of tourist office	3
Elements of the community not engaging	2
A Taxi service	2
Linking up paths	2
Better infrastructure i.e. Broad band, DAB, gas etc	2
Restrictions placed on the community by national park	2
Land to be made available at a reasonable price with outline planning permission	1
Pit stop cafe	1

Make your community better

Clean streets	3
Improved Public transport especially evenings	3
Dog control	3
Affordable housing	3
Improved high quality community cafe	3
More local enterprise	3
Less seasonal economy/jobs [year round work]	3
Small pontoon at 3 village hall	3
Toilets	3
Attractions	3
Boat/bike trips/hire	3
Parking	3
Eating	3
Better tourist info	3
Welcome to Tarbet sign	3
Bowling green	2
Subsidised workshops	2
A local garage	2
Something indoors to do	2
More places of interest	2
Reduce dog fouling	2
More outdoor seating	2
Small wind farm	1
Golf course	1
Leave the national park	1
Provision for the elderly facility/unit	1
Database of local skills to enable local trade	1
Local childcare provision	1
A laundrette	1
Fishing permits	1

*Returned during the Charrette project questionnaire review period. Community Action Planning questionnaires were still being returned and collated at this point.

Pre-Charrette Questionnaires - Appraisal

Priority Improvements

Speed calming	3
Community run minibus	3
Road re surfacing	3
Cafe	3
Policing littering	3
Baker/deli	3
Affordable housing	3
More for the youth	3
Small industrial estate	2
Tourist marketing	2
Arrochar alps promotion	2
Golf club	1
Arrochar's got talent?	1
Better gritting	1

Community working together

beer/food/craft festivals	3
Hogmanay party	3
Mini highland games	3
Seasonal festivals [fireworks /bonfire, midsummer, storytelling, music etc)	3
A new cafe/toilets at 3 village hall	3
Five-a-side pitch	3
New car park	3
Visitor heritage attraction	3
Pontoon/marine access	3
integrated public transport	3
Community flowers	2
Water sports day	2
Boat race [long boat]	2
Remove illegal signs	2
A full size pier	2
Retail outlet	2

By pass for A83/A82	2
Adventure park in the woodland	2
community garden	2
Music groups/tuition	1
Swimming pool	1
Theme park	1
pub	1
marine based link to Glasgow/ Greenock	1

Benefits and challenges of tourism

Jobs	3
Facilities i.e. shopping	3
Bike hire,	3
Free stopping places	3
Better signage	3
Improved communication/education	2
Bunk houses for walkers	2
Planning gain with new approvals	1
Inclusive new developments.	1
Facilities i.e. Shower, WC, drying room and pier	1
Improving the rail bridge crossing the A83	1

Tyndrum

Favourite things

Nature	3
Views	3
Sense of community	3
Location	3
Safe	3
Peaceful	3
School	3
Travel links	3
Nursery	3
No crime	3
Clean air	2
People	2
Fishing	1
Where is the community?	1
Handy shop	1
Close to skiing	1

Things needing change

More Buses better public transport	3
More jobs	3
More attractions	3
Less litter	3
Fix broken fences	3
A village green with seats and flower beds	3
Paint houses/ improve housing stock	3
Tidy up signage	3
Too many second homes	3
Safer walking	3
Public health spa	3
Less midges	3
Better internet	3
Reduce unemployment	3
Traffic calming	3

Pre-Charrette Questionnaires - Appraisal

Arrochar & Tarbet and Tyndrum questionnaires were incorporated into Community Action Plan information gathering. The Tyndrum questionnaires included Crianlarich, which was not part of the Charrette, but it is acknowledged that the community feel as one, across both villages.

More art	2
There is no village centre in Crianlarich	2
Re surface pavements	2
More community involvement	2
Reinstate post bus	2
Rates are too high	2
Better support for arts/cultural events	2
Better electric back up	2
Reinstate village officer	2
Holiday lets	2
Number of gold diggers	2
Remove trees obstructing views	1
Weekly doctors surgery	1
Alternate route between villages	1
An air of neglect entering Crianlarich on the left from the east	1
Re install swimming pool at pinetrees	1
A Good shop	1
Community ownership of undeveloped land	1
Support to local emergency services	1
Traffic noise	1
Hardwood planting	1

Make your community better

Better local links	3
Fewer lorries	3
Slower traffic	3
Cycle path	3
Swimming pool	3
Less social housing due to insufficient employment	3
New businesses	3
Better wages	3
Full time/ year round jobs	3
Accommodation	3
Local information/ history	3
Visitor centre	3
Better signage	3

Hotel	3
Grass cutting park area	2
More social events	2
Good shop	2
Football pitch	2
Street lighting	2
Expand Tyndrum's main street	2
Good food	2
Tennis court	1
Remove real food tent 'eyesore'	1
Good coffee	1
Camping and picnic areas	1

Priority Improvements

Wind Hydro power	3
Good public spaces	3
Veg plots/ planters	3
30mph through village	3
Village green	3
Improve pavements	3
Build cycleway	3
Evening classes	3
Free up unused land for house building	2
Small business units	2
Help enable living more 'off grid'	2
Places for motor homes to overnight	2
Street lighting	2
Free community bus	1
More live music events	1
New village eco homes	1

Community working together

Cycle race / sporting events	3
BBQ	3
Bonfire night	3
Upgrade the village hall	3

New houses	3
Cycleway from Killin to Oban	3
Steam trains to run	3
Railway museum	3
Swimming pool	3
Leisure centre	3
Gala Day	2
Mobile cinema	2
Art and craft exhibitions/ festivals	2
A foot bridge across the river at railway?	2
Upgrade main street	2
Big garden fete	1
Big annual fair	1
Charity car wash at the fire station	1
Canoe club	1
Farmers market	1
Bingo	1
Clean the burn	1
Barn dance	1
Biogas plant	1
Compulsory purchase of unused building stock	1
Boxing show in Crianlarich	1

Benefits and challenges of tourism

Building plots	3
Develop new skills/ training	3
Planning consent for buildings	3
Develop pilgrims trail St. Fillan	3
More house building	3
Signage	3
Goldmine	3
Job security	2
Retain young people	2
Parking	2
Bike hire	2
Public toilets	2
Make it a Mecca for outdoor types	1
Good publicity for local achievements	1

Full Programme of Events

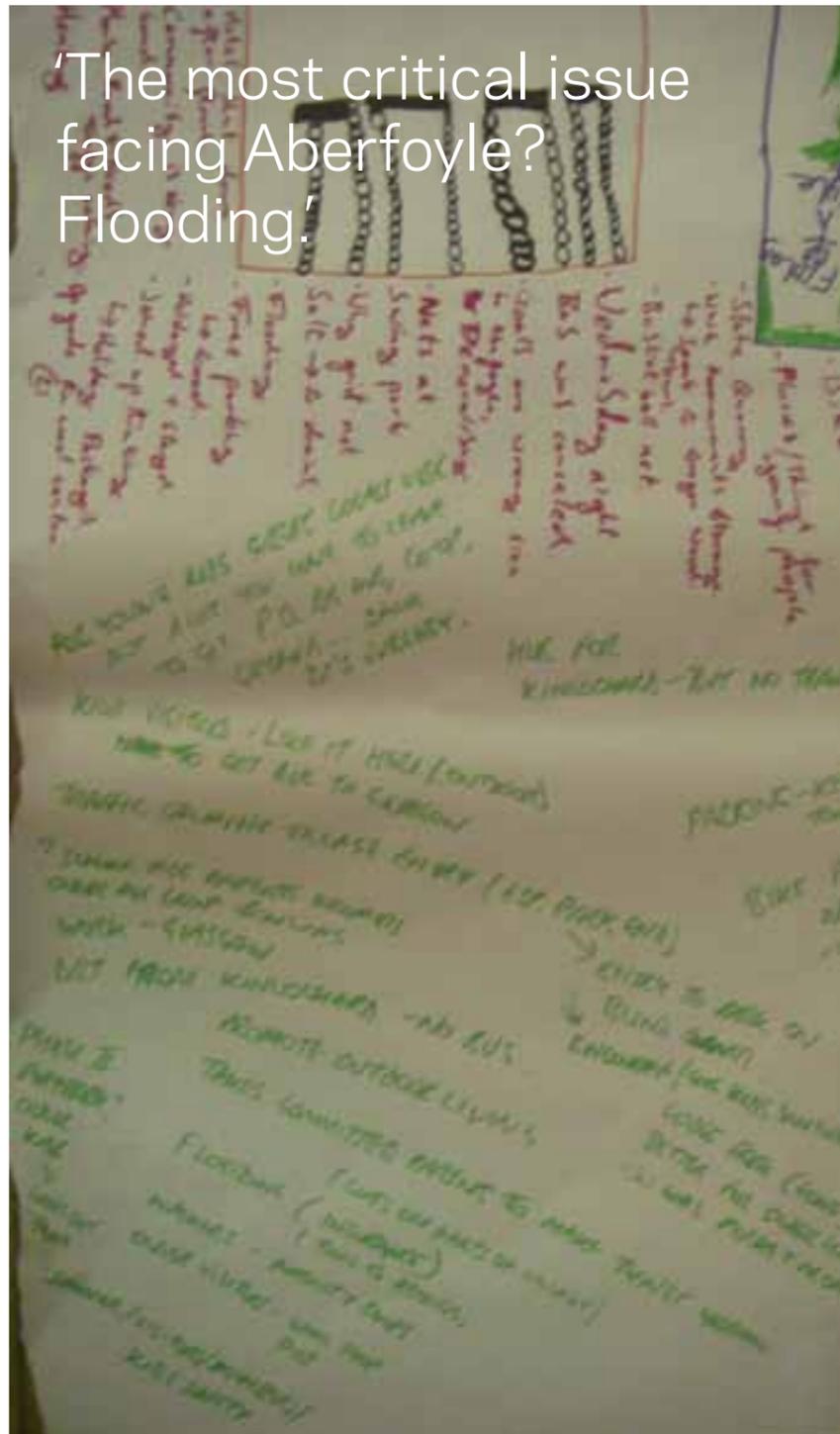
Event	Day	Time	Session	Where
Charrette Launch	Monday 4th Feb	2 - 5pm	Presentations and Q&A	Balloch
Fact-Finding Charrettes	Friday 8th March	12.55 - 1.45pm	School Session - McLaren High School	Callander
		3 - 4pm	Community stakeholder group discussion	Aberfoyle
		4 - 5pm	Young family drop-in	
		5.30 - 8.30pm	Public Workshop	
	Saturday 9th March	1.30 - 2.30pm	Community stakeholder group discussion	Drymen
		2.30 - 3.30pm	Young family drop-in	
		4 - 7pm	Public Workshop	
	Sunday 10th March	12 - 1pm	Community stakeholder group discussion	Arrochar
		1 - 2pm	Young family drop-in	
		3 - 6pm	Public Workshop	
	Monday 11th March	10 - 10.50am	Hermitage Academy	Helensburgh
		1 - 2pm	Crianlarich Primary School	Crianlarich
		3 - 4pm	Community stakeholder group discussion	Tyndrum
		4 - 5pm	Young family drop-in	
		5.30 - 8.30pm	Public Workshop	

Full Programme of Events

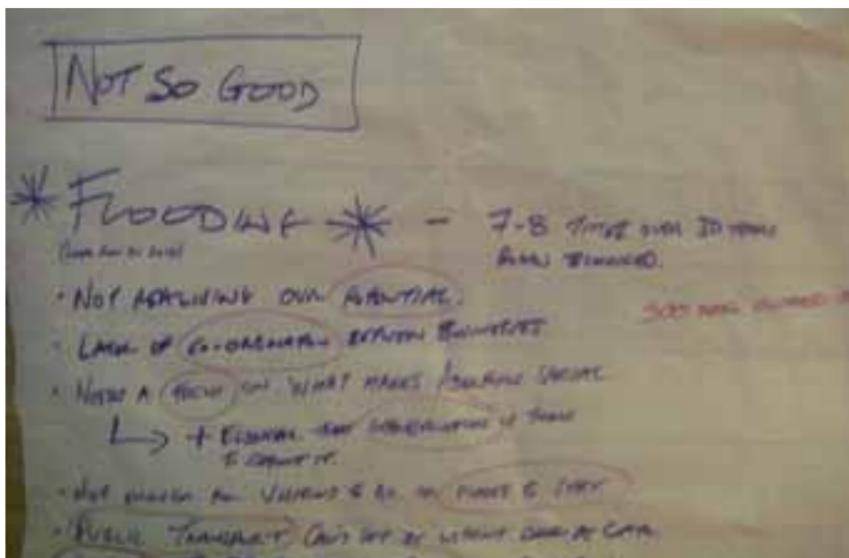
Agency/Partner Stakeholder Day	Friday 15th March	10 - 4pm		Balloch
Feedback Charrettes	Saturday 23rd March	1 - 2pm	Young family drop-in	Tyndrum
		3 - 5.30pm	Public Workshop	
	Sunday 24th March	12 - 1pm	Community stakeholder group discussion	Aberfoyle
		1 - 2pm	Young family drop-in	
		3 - 5.30pm	Public Workshop	
	Monday 25th March	10.30 - 11.30am	Balfron High School	Drymen
		4 - 5pm	Young family drop-in	
		5.30 - 8pm	Public Workshop	
	Tuesday 26th March	4 - 5pm	Young family drop-in	Arrochar
		5 -7pm	Public Workshop	
Exhibition of Outcomes	Saturday 27th April	12 - 2pm	Aberfoyle Drop-In Exhibition	Aberfoyle
		4 - 6pm	Drymen & Balmaha Drop-In Exhibition	Drymen
	Sunday 28th April	12 - 2pm	Tyndrum Drop-In Exhibition	Tyndrum
		4 - 6pm	Arrochar & Tarbet Exhibition	Arrochar

Fact-Finding Workshops

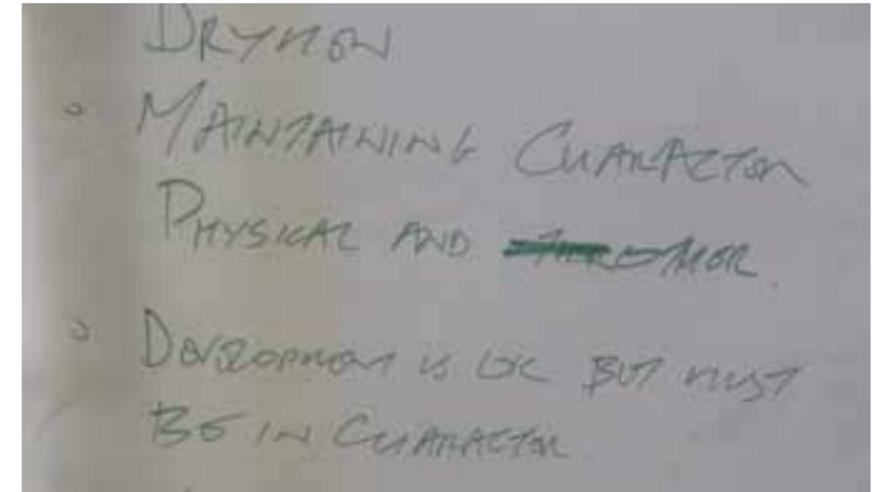
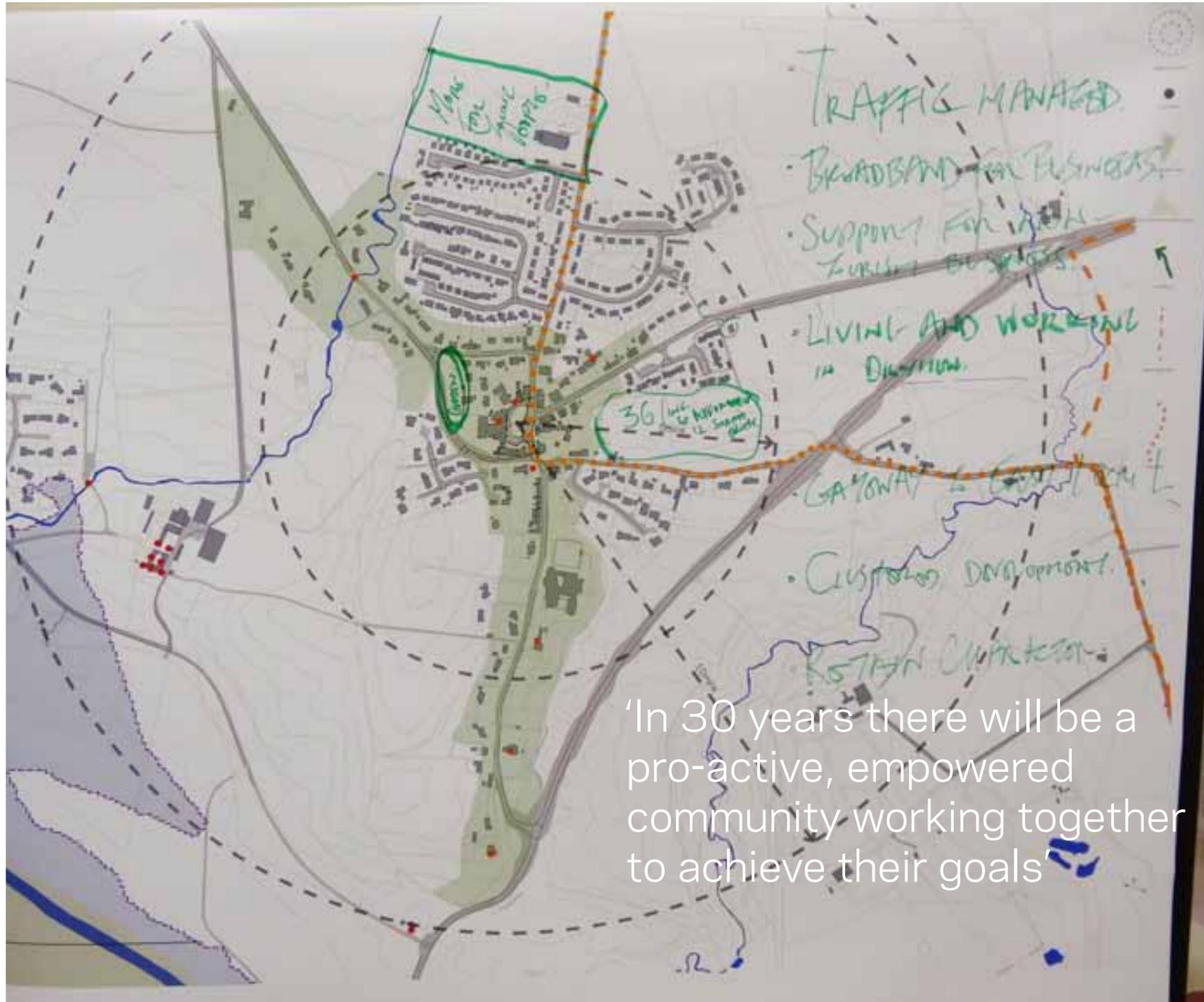
Over the following pages is a very small sample of the kinds of material produced during the Charrette workshops. The workshops were designed to facilitate wide-ranging discussions and importantly, ensure that everything was noted and recorded for the next stage of the Charrette process.



Aberfoyle



Fact-Finding Workshops



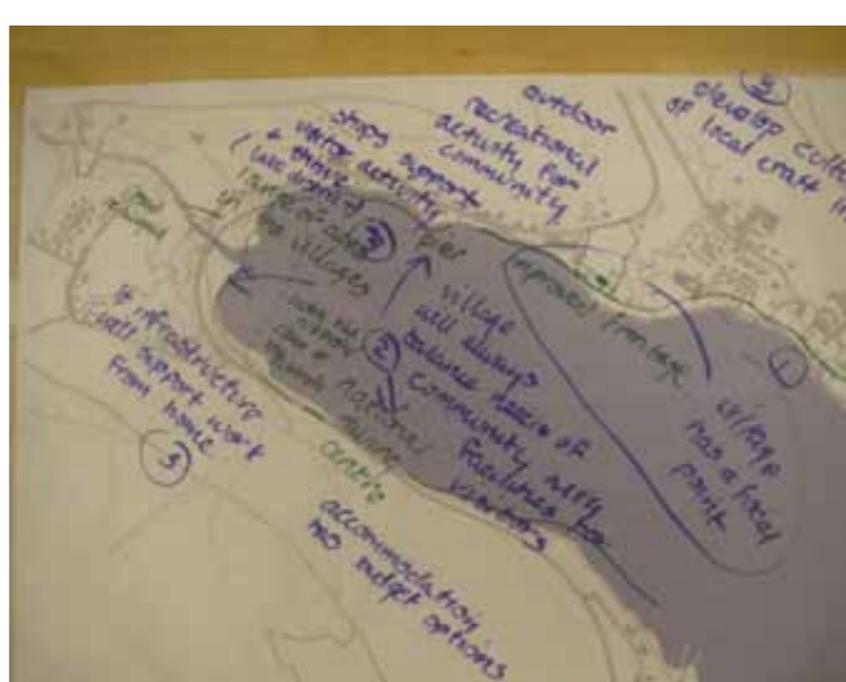
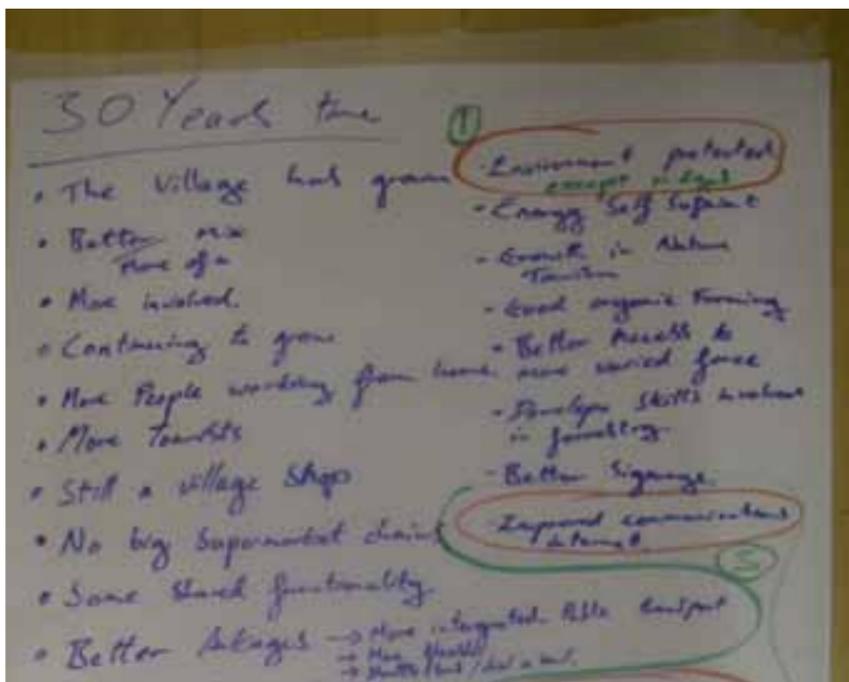
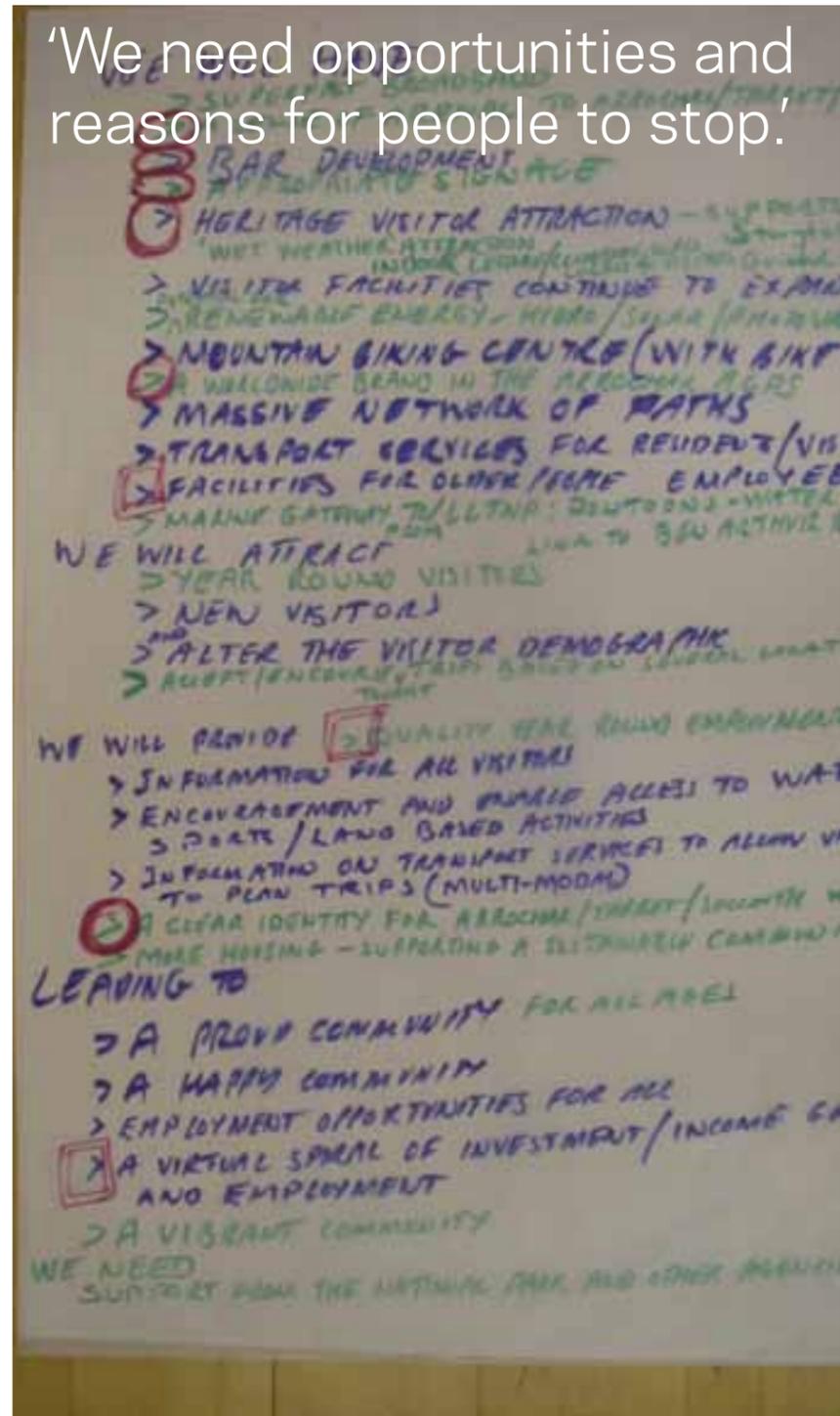
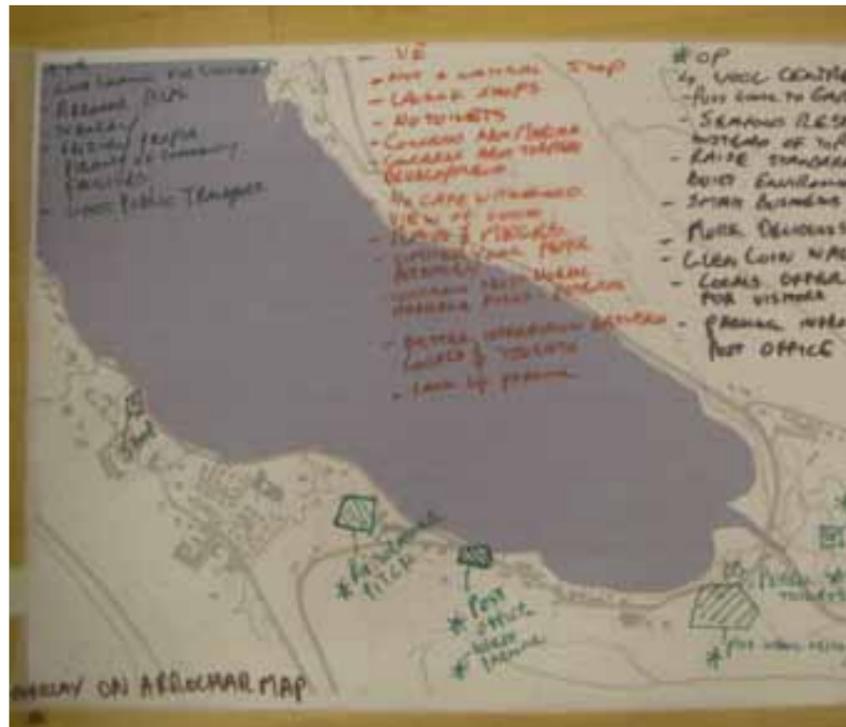
Drymen & Balmaha



Fact-Finding Workshops

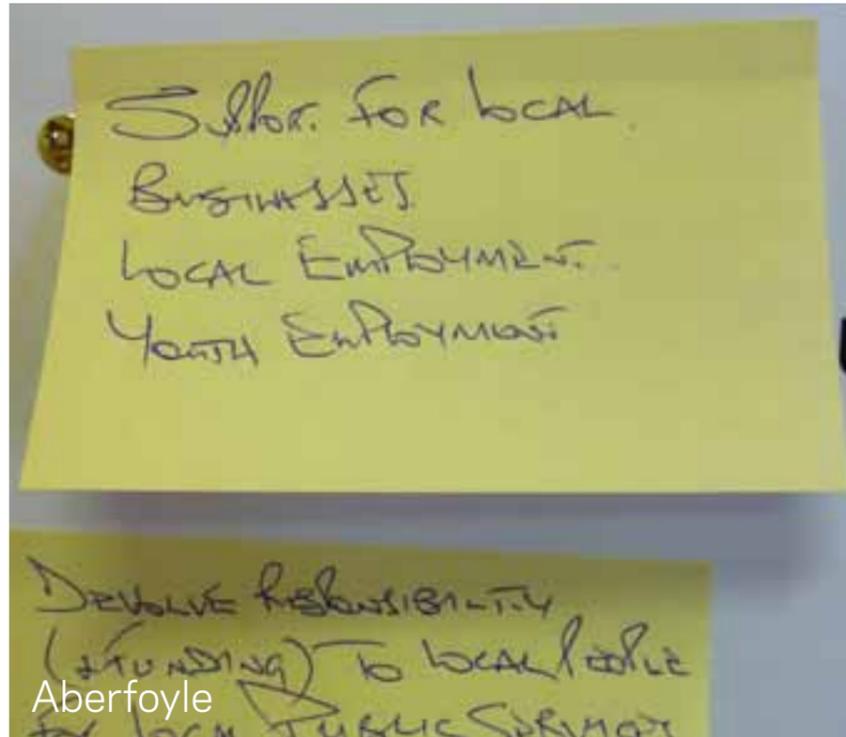


Arrochar & Tarbet

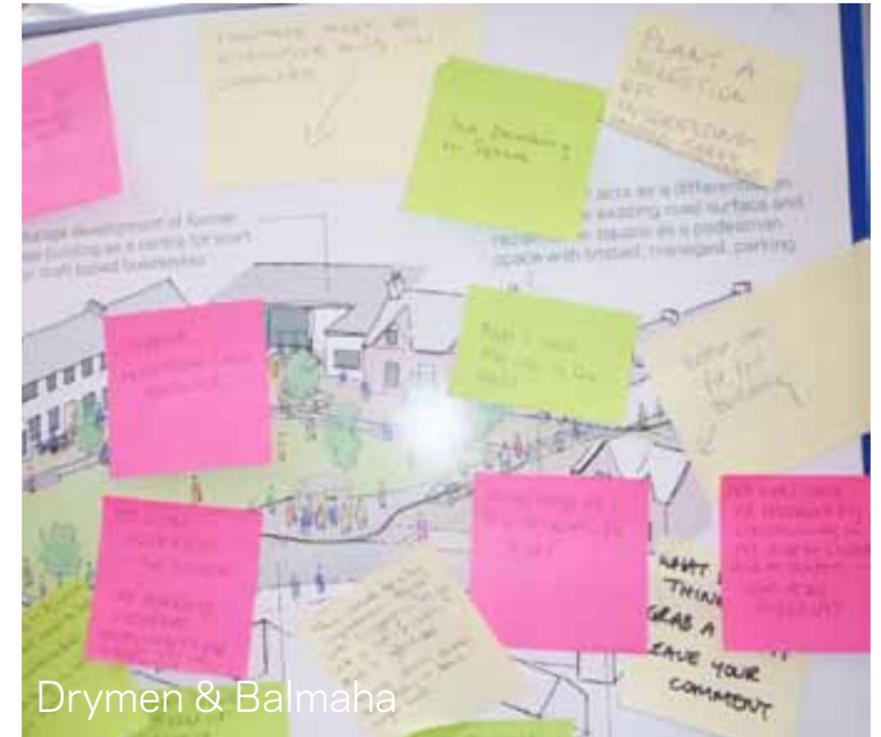


Feedback Workshops

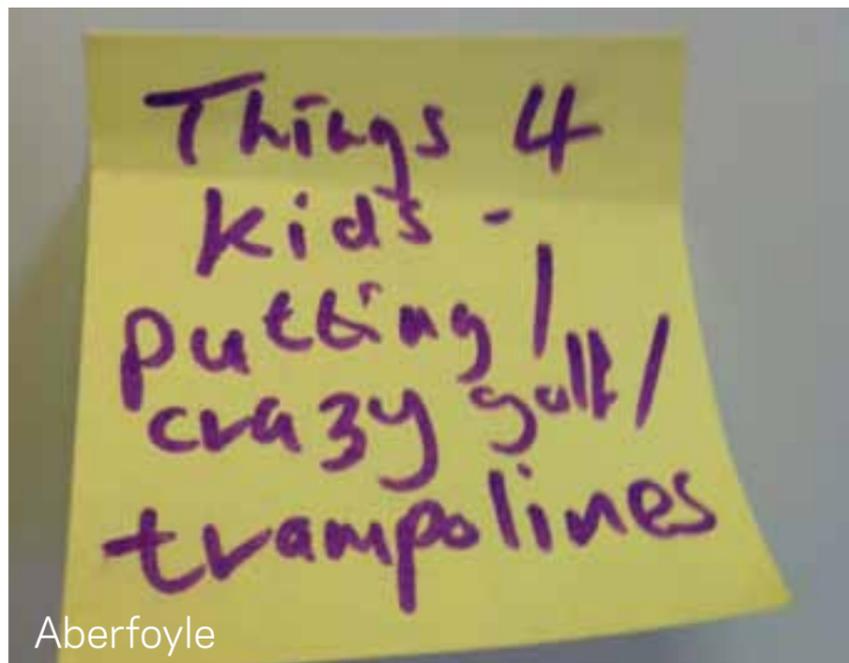
Comments and notes of conversations were evaluated at this stage. Where ideas were endorsed, these were developed for the final exhibition and report, in line with people's suggestions.



Aberfoyle



Drymen & Balmaha



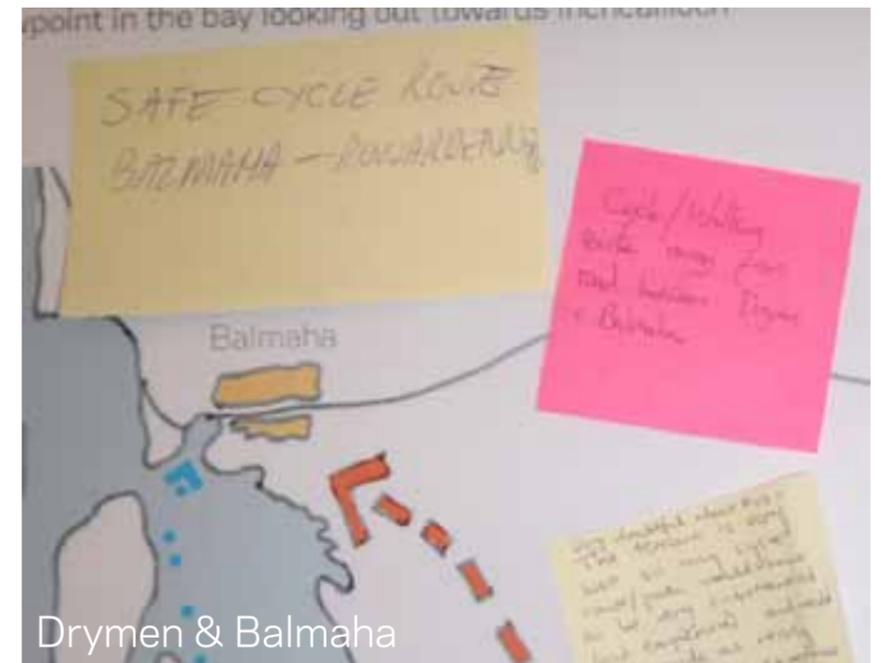
Aberfoyle

'what could be better:- need more shops, road to Inversnaid is very poor and prevents people going again, need more tourist accommodation'

(Aberfoyle visitor perspective)

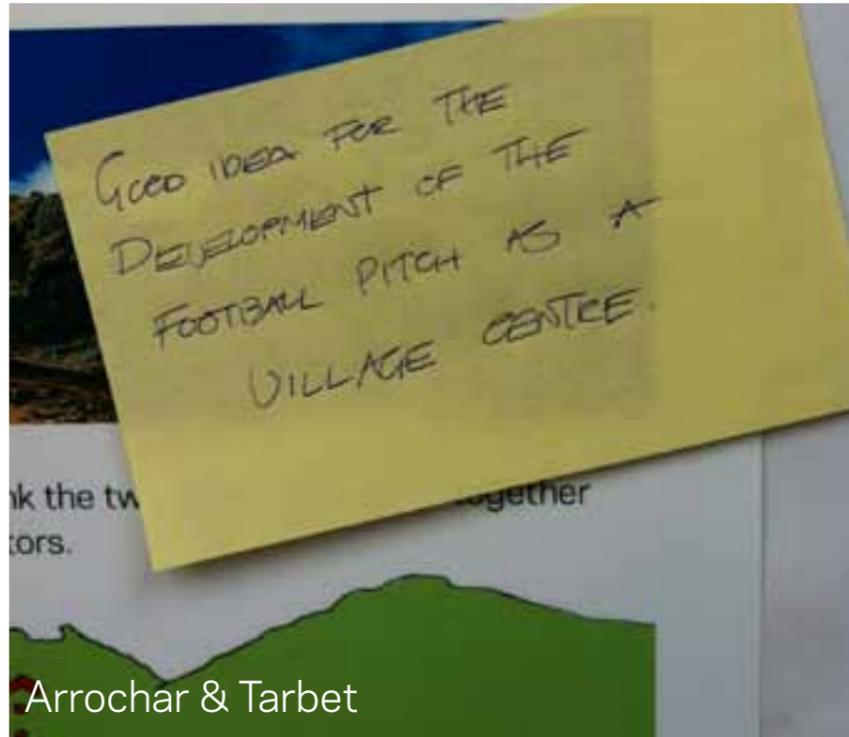
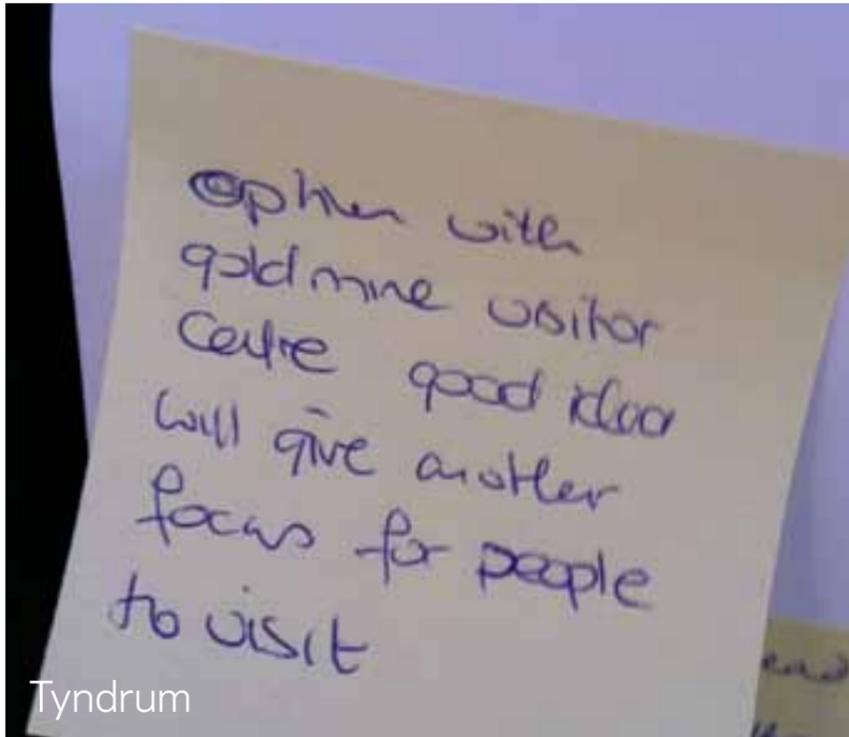
'we need the square to be safer for children crossing roads'

(Parent and Toddler group, Drymen)



Drymen & Balmaha

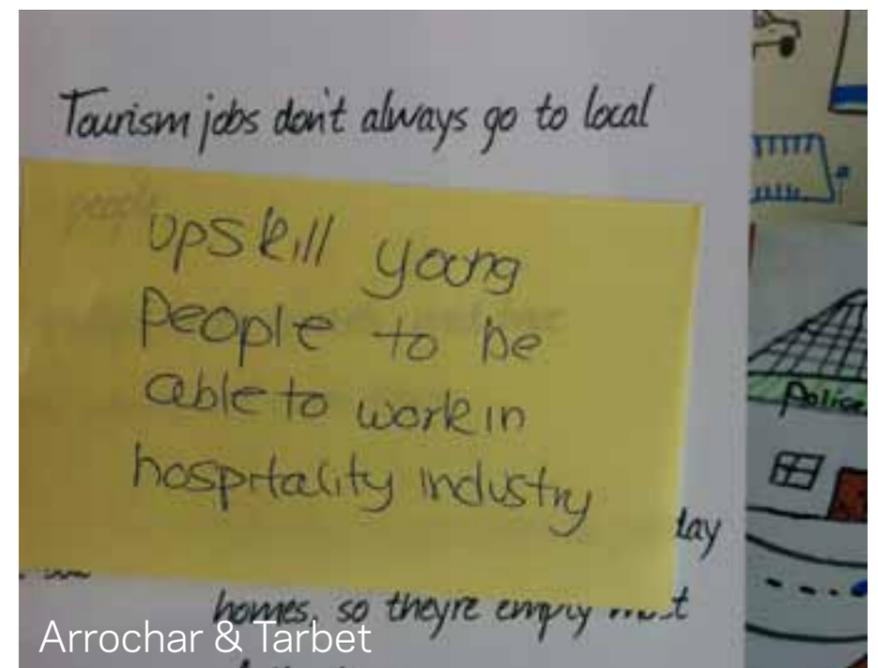
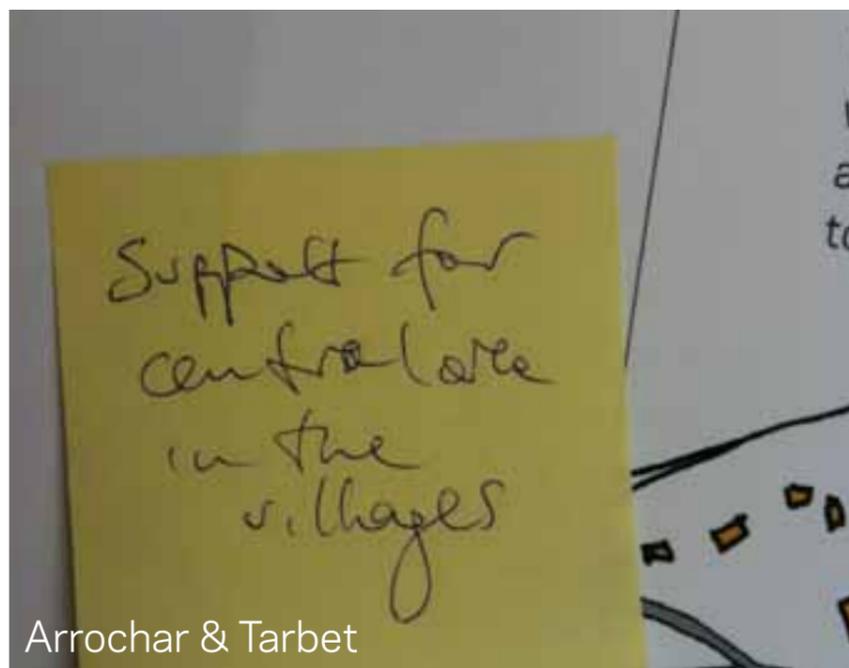
Feedback Workshops



'a lot here - but not joined together. Hard to find out about it as (an) outsider'

'really like Tyndrum - good facilities for walkers, shops etc. Come for the mountains'

(visitors to Tyndrum)



Your Community Your Say Blog

The Charrette team maintained a blog for the duration of the Charrette events, in order to reach as many people as possible with the material and discussions from each of the workshops. Here is a review:

24 posts

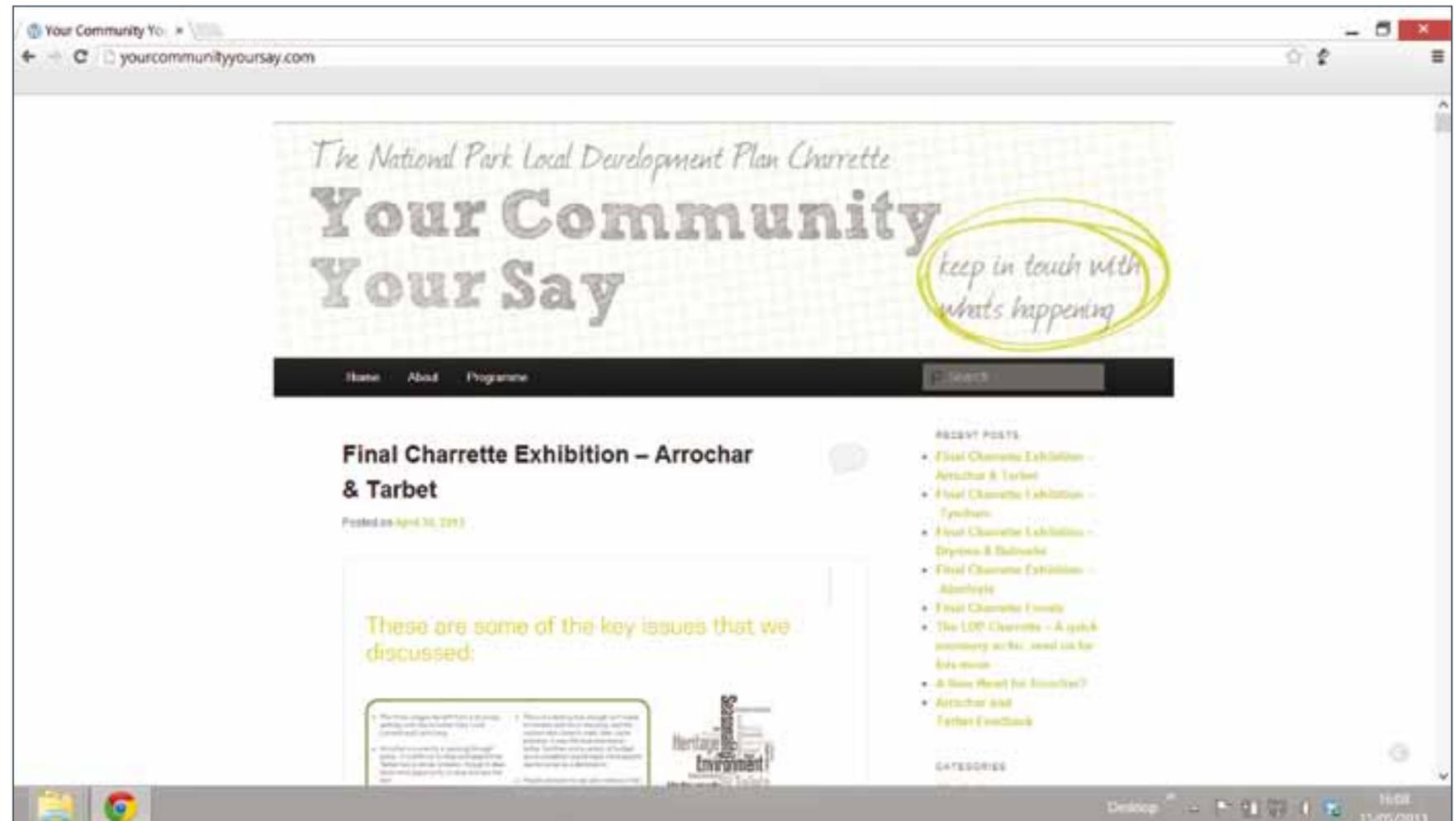
12 followers

8 comments

514 visits

2670 views

Settlement attracting most views and comments:
Aberfoyle



Agency and Partner Stakeholder Day

The partners and agencies represented, in a round the table discussion with the Charrette team and relevant representatives from the National Park about developing Charrette ideas and outputs, following the Fact-Finding events:

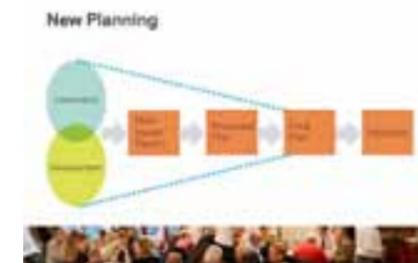
Scottish Government

Argyll & Bute Council
-Economic development

Stirling Council
-Economic Development
-Communities
-Housing
-Land conservation
-Transport

Rural Stirling Housing Association
Dunbritton Housing Association

Scottish Water
Transport Scotland
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
SEPA
Historic Scotland
Scottish Enterprise
Forestry Commission Scotland
Scottish National Heritage
Architecture + Design Scotland
West of Scotland Archaeology Service



Some slides from a presentation given by Ewan Anderson and Paul Jardine of the Charrette team

High School Engagement

McLaren High School

POSITIVE ASPECTS OF LIVING IN THE NATIONAL PARK

Sense of community (Some villages have active youth groups)

Get to voice opinions

Freedom - lower crime, can go outside, you know everyone (and know who to watch out for!)

Landscape

Not too far away from cities, can get to Stirling/Glasgow if needed

NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF LIVING IN THE NATIONAL PARK

Transport - buses aren't regular or reliable and DRT (demand responsive transport) is expensive

If you're not into outdoor activity, there isn't a lot to do

It's frustrating when things don't get done "The community council is like the Vicar of Dibley"

Parks tend to focus on stuff for very young kids "Our improvised goal posts get taken down"

Primary Schools

Many of the primary schools got involved also, with drawings received from Arrochar Primary and Drymen Primary. The Charrette team went to visit the older classes in Crianlarich Primary to talk to them about their views on the future of their villages.

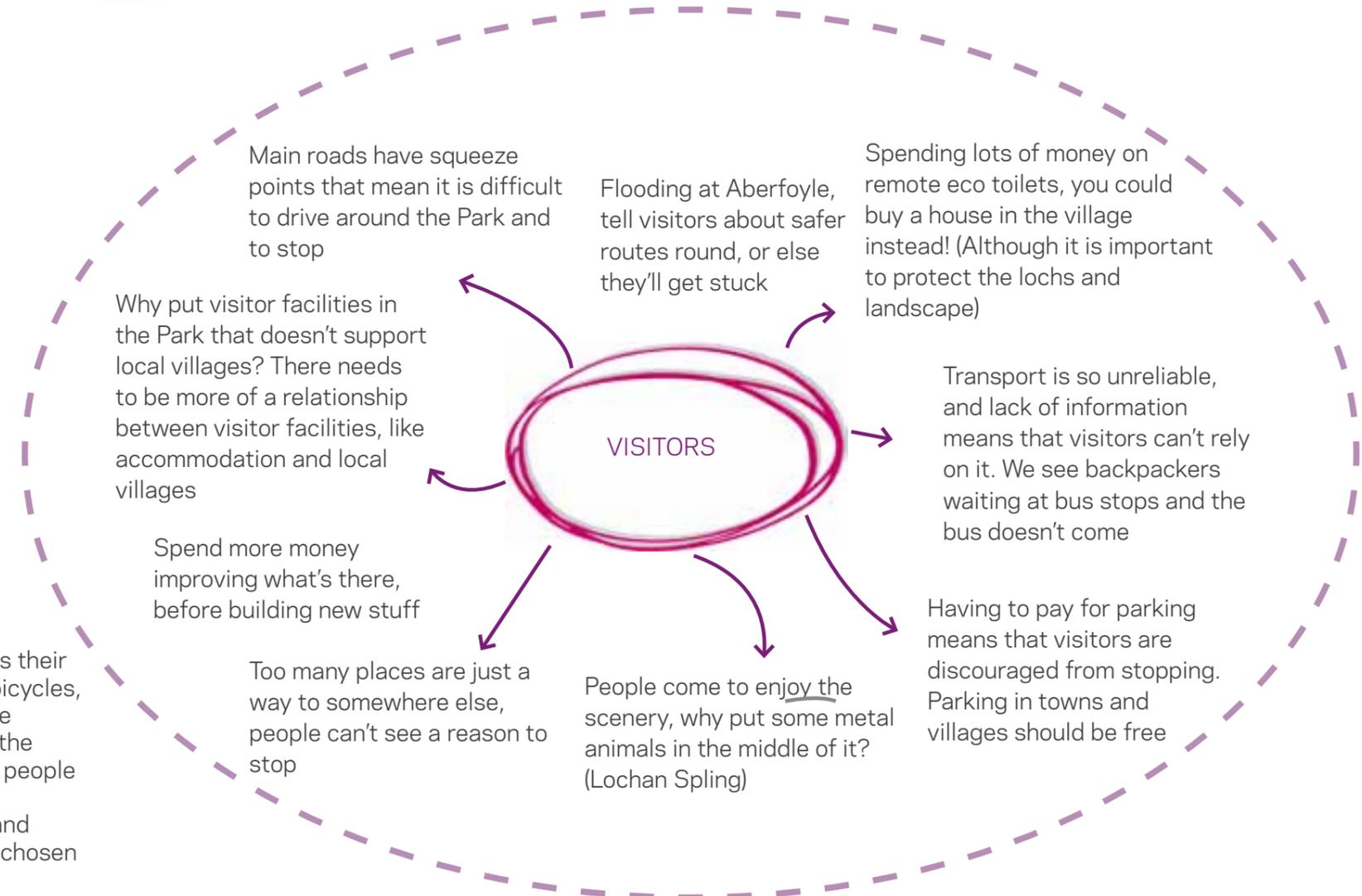
In summary, very young people in the Park share the same concerns as their counterparts everywhere, they like safe places to play and ride their bicycles, they like to see their friends, they like their school and they like to have hobbies and an opportunity to pursue these hobbies nearby. Living in the National Park in small villages affords them more freedom than young people experience in more built up areas and there was an awareness of this advantage. Many have aspirations for what they will do after school, and contrary to the high school students, felt that they could pursue their chosen careers where they currently live.



1. TRANSPORT SHOULD BE RELIABLE, SUSTAINABLE AND LINKED UP

2. Good quality outdoor space for locals as well as visitors

3. Decent broadband



High School Engagement

Hermitage Academy

ON LIFE IN ARROCHAR AND TARBET ...

It's a nice place to live

We need a small convenience store to buy normal daily groceries

It's good to be able to get to Helensburgh and Glasgow, but not enough buses "if you miss the bus, you're snookered"

Decent cycling would make me stay

I want to be a bike mechanic and open a bike shop in Arrochar

I want to try living in the city, but might come back to raise a family

More affordable homes for families

Nice that people know each other and look out for each other

Primary school bus, you have to pay, but it is not safe to walk!

The new skate ramp is too dangerous. we're too scared to go on it

We need ice-cream at the pier

Primary school at Arrochar, best school ever with great head teacher who really does her best to get things that kids want

The village hall is not welcoming for young people, we're not troublemakers

We need a coffee shop that sells good hot chocolate and where we're allowed to spend time

Balfron High School

The students in Balfron High echoed their peers in the other high schools, the major issue facing them as they grow up is transport.

They also agreed with the students at McLaren High, who would like to see use of social media to include them in issues affecting their villages and would like to be involved in developing and testing new methods of engagement between the Park and young people.

Other issues discussed included:

- o The Park is for older people and younger people, they don't see how being in a National Park is beneficial for teenagers
- o The ability to be outside is not enough, young people need other indoor things to do together
- o There was the feeling that Aberfoyle is 'dead' and the shops on the Main Street need improvement

ON VISITORS ...

Coach hotels - people just stay in the hotel and don't spend money in the village (but we make our pocket money playing music and dancing in the hotels)

Tourism jobs don't always go to local people

If we had more tourists, we'd have more money and more shops

Walks should be advertised, there are really nice walks but people don't know about them

Visitor attractions need to be more family friendly

There's tourist information at Tarbet but it's always shut

Arrochar needs a pier!

It's good when there's lots of people at Tarbet on a sunny day

Too many houses used as holiday homes, so they're empty most of the time

We need more and varied walking and cycle routes

ON WHAT WE WOULD CHANGE (NOW) ...

Better shops

Easier access and public transport

Fix the skate ramps

Be friendlier to teenagers in the Village Hall

Football pitch and tennis courts

More affordable family housing

A functioning housing midgy machine

ON WHAT WE WOULD CHANGE (IN 20 YEARS) ...

Leisure centre with swimming pool and climbing wall

Have a museum about Arrochar

Don't put so much in that we ruin the place

Shows and entertainment (invite Danny MacAskill)

Somewhere to buy stuff that we want, Xbox, outdoor gear, sports equipment

A small cinema (showing films actually in the cinema)

Have a paintball arena up the hill

Final Exhibitions

The final exhibitions were held in each of the Charrette settlements, and designed as informal drop-in sessions, so that people would have an opportunity to see the final Charrette outputs and discuss these with the design team.

In general, there was a positive response to the final exhibition material and some positivity that the illustrations and ideas demonstrated some fresh thinking about the future of the Charrette villages.

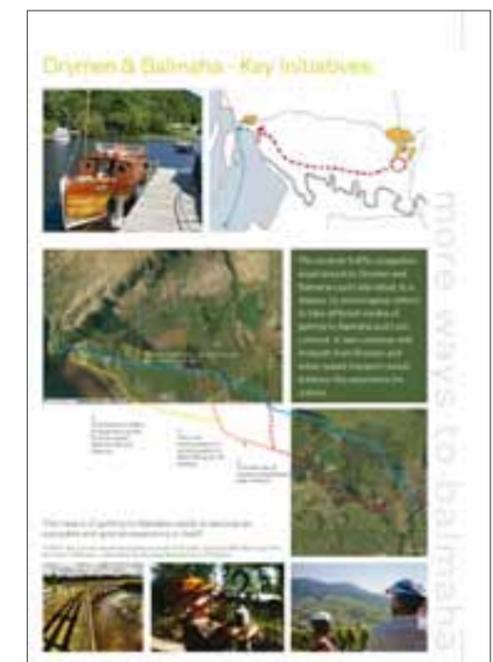
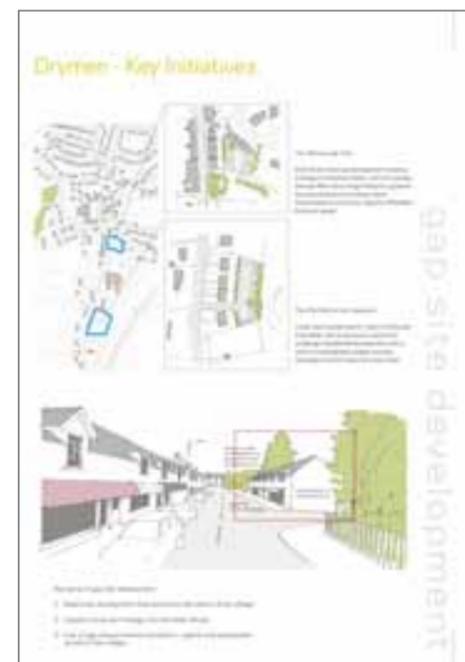
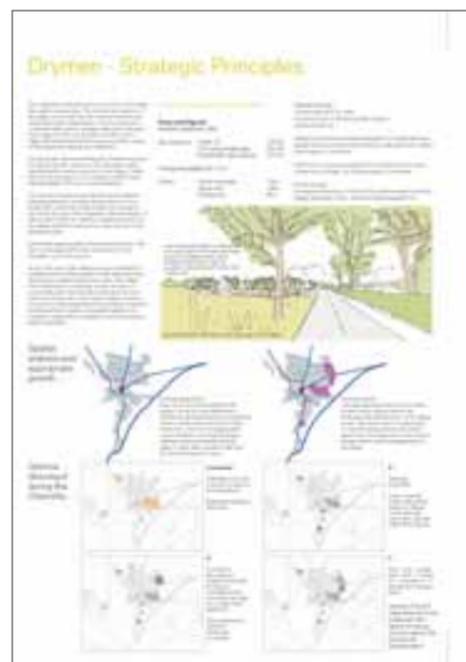
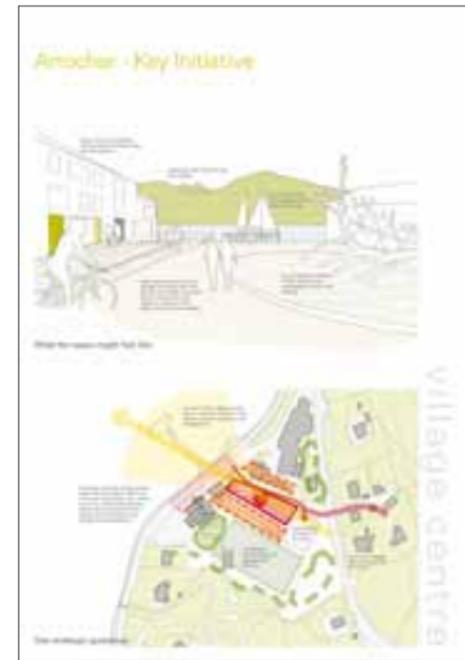
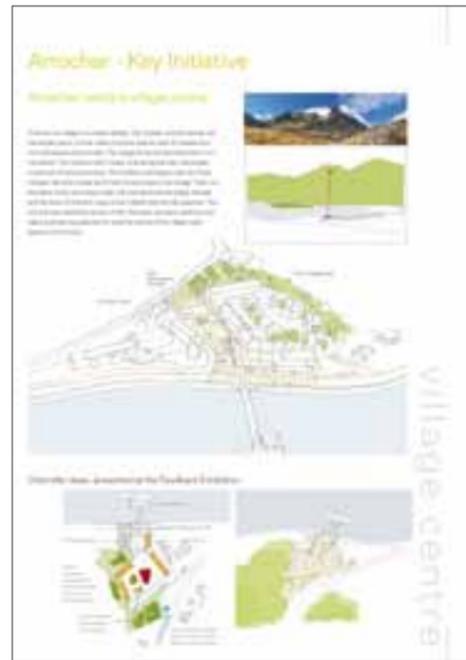
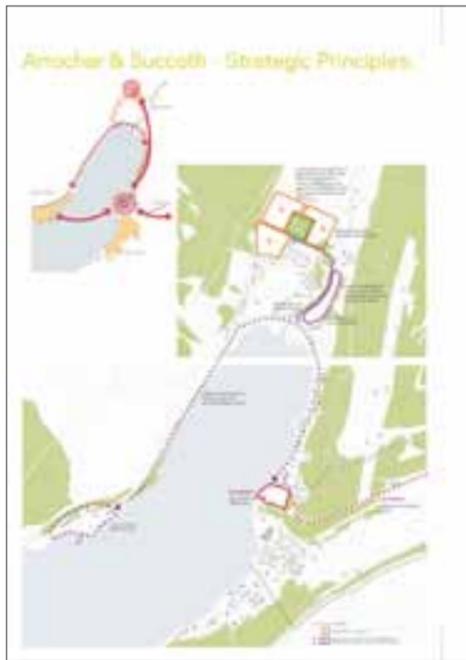
It is hoped that by providing a mix of outputs that encompass long term strategic development and shorter term key initiatives, that in time, something real and tangible will come out of this process for each of the settlements, in answer to concerns that 'this will never happen'.

The next steps will be in charting how this material is taken forward, through development planning, community initiative, agency co-ordination and private enterprise.



Final Exhibitions

Drymen, Balmaha ...



Final Exhibitions

Tyndrum ...

Balnaha - Strategic Options

1. Create an environment in which it is possible to get the most out of the site and its location.
2. Make the most of the site and its location.
3. Create a village with a mix of uses that is sustainable and resilient to the challenges of the future.
4. Create a village with a mix of uses that is sustainable and resilient to the challenges of the future.

Balnaha - Key Initiatives

enjoying the water's edge

These are some of the key issues that we discussed

This is what the visitor economy looks like here:

Tyndrum - Strategic Principles

Tyndrum - Strategic Principles

Option A

Option B

Option C

Tyndrum - Key Initiatives

Village Centre - Option C

Tyndrum - Key Initiatives

Village Centre

Tyndrum - Key Initiatives

Gold Mine

Appendix B - Key Non Development Planning Recommendations

Observations common to all settlements

Issue one: Integrated planning and service delivery

The link between the CAP process and the Local Plan is very valuable, with both having essential contributions to make to a shared vision and goal. However there is a missing third strand – that of service delivery and infrastructure, which is outwith the remit of the LLTNPA and the responsibility of local partners (Stirling Council, and Argyll and Bute Council) or national agencies (primarily the Forestry Commission Scotland). In each of the Charrettes, community frustration was voiced that infrastructure and service delivery did not form part of discussions, particularly where these issues are key to the delivery of future aspirations such as the development of the visitor economy. Although mundane, toilet provision and the quality of road surfaces are important considerations for visitors.

In times of resource constraints it will not be possible for local authorities to meet the wish list of all communities. However a shared exploration of the issues pertinent to each community and a clear steer on what can, and equally importantly what cannot, be provided in specific areas over the timescale of the plan would help communities to plan proactively for their future. It would also help in expectation management.

We believe that the example of the Callander Partnership provides a good model for weaving in this third strand and helping to sustain communities in line with the aspirations of the Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative. We recommend that in larger settlements such as those being covered by the SSCI sponsored Charrettes, the NPA, Community Councils and relevant local authority, plus appropriate agencies delivering local services such as the Transport Scotland and the Forestry Commission, should have at least an annual joint “Village Forum” open meeting to discuss both shorter term service delivery issues and longer term development for the settlements. This forum can also be used to join up consultations so reducing the risk of consultation fatigue.

We also suggest that this will raise knowledge and capacity in the community, so that when agencies wish to engage the community in discussions around strategic issues (such as the next iteration of the Local Plan), the community is familiar with issues and background to the topics being discussed and the engagement has a “warm” rather than cold start.

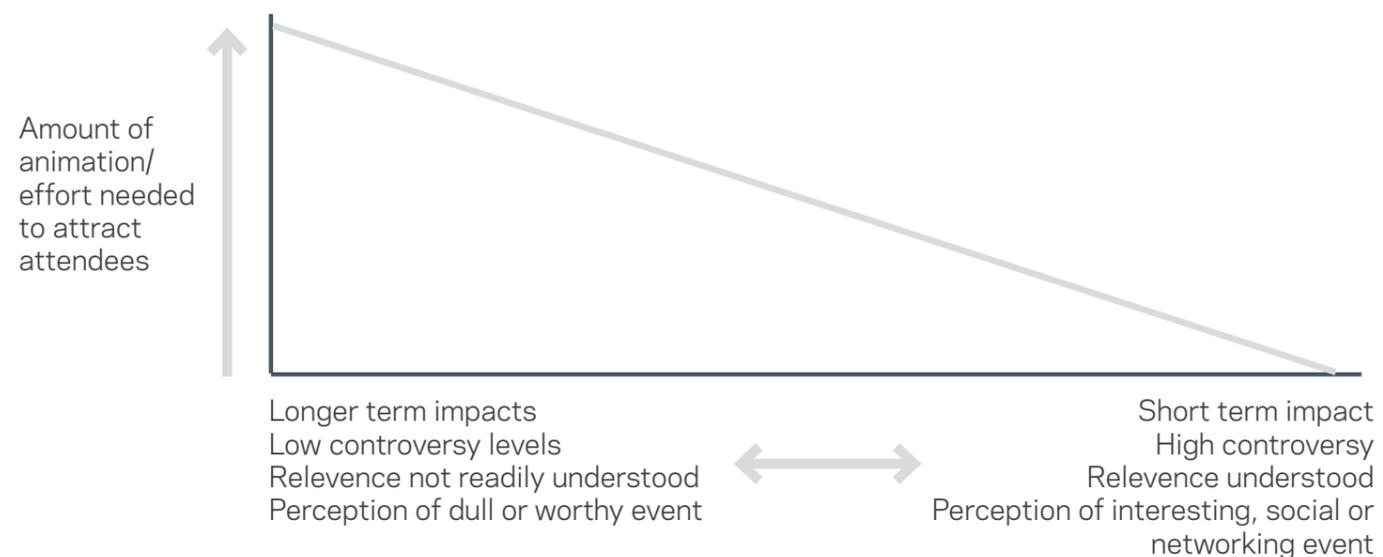
Issue two: Community Councils as routes to the local community

Experience from this project suggests that not all Community Councils are necessarily a conduit to the views of the wider local community, and that the membership of the Councils does not necessarily reflect the demography of the local community. This is not the fault of the Community Council; the membership of these depends on those willing to stand and give up their time, and they are in the difficult position themselves of trying to attract community members to their own meetings and fulfilling their statutory purposes.

We suggest that a shared route to attracting the wider community to events may be a better way forward. This requires animation and the establishment of relevance of the discussion topics to the everyday lives of busy people. There is no easy fix; but we suggest that the recommendation made above for the combined discussion of immediate service delivery issues with more strategic issues would provide the “relevance” link that could assist. We also suggest that controversial issues which are sometimes the “elephant in the room” do benefit from open discussion and are those to which community members will respond.

Our experience shows the relationship illustrated below, between effort needed to attract community members and the issues under discussion.

Our final comment on this issue is that piggy-backing community or social events with consultation events is likely to provide a greater attractor.



Appendix B - Key Non Development Planning Recommendations

Issue three: Young people

We had conversations with young people at three local high schools; Balfroon High, Hermitage Academy and McLaren High, and at Crianlarich Primary School. Although the groups were small and we cannot extrapolate the responses as general to all young people, we note the presentation given by young people in Arrochar Succoth and Tarbet at the Charrette / Community Action Plan event explaining the research they had done into the perceptions of young people in their community showed very similar results.

Almost all the young people intended to move away from the National Park, and many did not see themselves coming back, although several said their villages were a good place to bring up younger children. High travel costs, poor timetabling and reliability of public transport are a particular barrier to them fulfilling their perceived needs, especially socialising, and they are very reliant on parents for lifts. All commented on the lack of evening activities outside of those organised at their school. Those who understood what a Community Council does saw them as being for older people and with little interest in their age group. The young people do not identify with the National Park and were not sure who spoke for them.

We recommend that the NPA and Local Councils should explore ways to engage with young people and provide them with a voice and some input into shaping services. In particular we suggest that exploration should be made of potential for youth provision "hubs" which allow young people to meet casually supported by affordable access to these from surrounding settlements. We also suggest making use of their skills and knowledge of digital communication to set up a safe communications network for young people resident within the National Park.



Appendix B - Key Non Development Planning Recommendations

Drymen & Balmaha

Issue one: Character - Community and buildings

The community made strong representation at the Fact Finding and Feedback charrette events on the issue of character. In Balmaha this related to the need to protect and enhance the residential community to ensure that it does not get “swamped” by holiday home users. There are links here to the support expressed for affordable homes provision in Balmaha which is discussed in the main body of the report.

In Drymen, particular concern was expressed about the potential for loss of the unique and valued physical character of the village. This related to townscape and public realm (particularly overuse of municipal signage), but also to new buildings. The village square enhancement programme which is being pursued by the CDT will assist in this, providing it continues to pursue a sensitive and appropriate design. This is discussed elsewhere in the main body of this report.

We recommend that the NPA consider design coding or strong guidance and design review for alterations and new buildings within the village envelope in sensitive locations, particularly to assist in the arrival experience. This will enable new development to enhance the character of the village



Aberfoyle

Issue one: Making the most of the visitor economy

Concerns were raised from the business community in Aberfoyle that the economic position in the village is not strong, and that they are worried about fragmentation of the offering to visitors by putting new visitor amenities outwith the village centre, and up the Strath. Both police and residents noted that the road quality is poor, so there is risk in tourist activity trying to attract visitors up this road.

Reference was also made to perceptions that the Forestry Commission could be doing more to develop visitor attractions in collaboration with local businesses, rather than in competition. Coaching operators were seen as bringing some benefit to the area, but the amount of visitor penetration to activities outside of the Wool Centre is limited. We believe that the parties involved in the visitor economy would benefit from collaboration and co-operation in expanding the visitor economy by mutually reinforcing the facilities and activities available.

We recommend that a forum be set up for businesses and organisations involved in visitor provision in Aberfoyle, including the Forestry Commission, local coaching operators and Main Street businesses, to explore opportunities for joint working, formal and informal signposting and filling current gaps in provision.

Issue two: Flooding

It is beyond the remit of this study to comment on major flood alleviation schemes for Aberfoyle, and this is being undertaken by Stirling Council with SEPA and other agencies. Nevertheless it is important to note that existing properties (particularly those on the Main Street, (the centre of the village) need support in shorter term flood mitigation measures to protect their business activities. See Appendix 3 for further on this.

Appendix B - Key Non Development Planning Recommendations

Arrochar & Tarbet

Issue one: New opportunities from the proposed Ben Arthur development

The introduction of a major new business – the Ben Arthur development – offers a range of opportunities for Arrochar and Tarbet in terms of jobs, new businesses and support for existing businesses which could provide services for visitors and workers. The potential benefits of the construction period should not be overlooked by those providing accommodation and food.

We recommend that accommodation and amenity providers should work together to benefit from the construction process. This would enable them to produce an easily accessible offering to construction companies, with an assured level of service provision and pricing, a range of offerings appropriate to the range of workers likely to arrive in the area, and make it easier for the construction company/ies to consider accommodating staff in the village rather than transporting them in from elsewhere.

We further recommend that the NPA should assist the business community in Arrochar and Tarbet in setting up meetings with the resort operators to explore how the different offerings could reinforce and expand the visitor experience.

Issue two: Community retail facilities

The community and the young people we spoke to expressed concern about the lack of everyday retail offerings, sporadic availability, and high prices. There is a danger of a negative spiral, poor sales resulting in lower buying power for the retailer, meaning higher wholesale prices translating to higher retail prices - which results in poorer sales.

A suggestion made to us by a community member was that a “community signup” scheme where people commit to certain levels or types of purchases should be set up. We are also aware of several examples of Community Buying Groups in England and Wales which enable collective purchase (and therefore lower priced) goods which a number of people require, such as domestic fuel oil (<http://www.acre.org.uk/our-work/climate-change/what->

[communities-can-do/Oil+Buying+Groups](http://www.acre.org.uk/our-work/climate-change/what-communities-can-do/Oil+Buying+Groups)) for an example. Guidance is available here: <http://cooperativecounciltoolkit.files.wordpress.com/2011/12/11-1430-guide-for-community-buying-groups.pdf>

We also note the successful community purchase of the petrol station in Aberfoyle. This issue is outside the scope of this report and the Local Plan, but is something we recommend should be explored as part of the CAP process.

Issue three: Youth facilities

Some of the young people we spoke to advised us that the bmx / skateboard ramp which had been installed for them was not designed with them, and is not safe to use for their intended purpose. Having seen a demonstration of the levels of engagement with young people in the youth group and the presentation at the CAP / Charrette event, we recommend that young people are engaged in the design of future facilities planned to meet their needs, whether funded through planning gain or through other funding routes.



Appendix B - Key Non Development Planning Recommendations

Tyndrum

Issue one: Harnessing benefit from the mining heritage and local landscape, in advance of the Goldmine

The Cononish Goldmine is an opportunity for Tyndrum to develop what it offers visitors, so that the numbers of passers through can be translated to a greater number of short stays. It is important for the Community to push forward with thinking about how the village can best benefit to ready for when the mine opens and also to test how the village can make the most of what it has already, which is an interesting mining heritage and numerous local mountains for climbing and walking enthusiasts.

Issue two: A village centre

It was commonly identified that the village needs a centre and the community are in a strong position to start changing perceptions of the village's physical layout, in advance of any infrastructural investment. This could be developed through pop-up events throughout the summer months, which would allow the village centre to be colonised by the local community, as well as the numerous people who pass through the village by bus, car or foot. Pursuing funding opportunities for the covered walkway south of the road will re-inforce these efforts and in a relatively inexpensive way, change how people view the village.



Finally ...

Knowledge sharing

We discovered, throughout all the conversations we had throughout the National Park, that each settlement can learn a lot from another settlement. Arrochar, Succoth and Tarbet have a wonderful facility in the Three Villages Hall and Aberfoyle could learn from this in thinking about the future of their own local provision for community facilities and social events. Equally, Aberfoyle managed to keep a community owned petrol station, which Arrochar could learn from. Tyndrum is quite far along with getting a cycle path between Tyndrum and Crianlarich, an aspiration for Drymen and Balmaha as set out the main body of the Charrette report.

Sharing knowledge and experience could be a very powerful way of empowering local communities and this should be facilitated by a full knowledge of the types of community funding available and the processes required to unlock this for shared benefit throughout the Park.

Appendix C - Supplementary Report on Community Led Flooding Initiatives

COMMUNITY LED INITIATIVES

1 COMMUNITY FLOOD ACTION GROUPS

A community based flood action group can be an effective way for a community to manage and reduce flood risk to people and properties.

Flood action groups provide a representative voice for their community and can:

- Provide a single, clear voice on the views of the community to local government, SEPA and other responsible bodies;
- Provide a link for dissemination of information on flooding to and from stakeholders and the community;
- Build awareness of flood risk within the wider community;
- Facilitate the preparation of maintenance and emergency plans to reduce the risk and impact of flooding;
- Coordinate community action in the event of a flood.

To date over 60 community flood action groups have been set up in Scotland. The Scottish Flood Forum (www.scottishfloodforum.org) is the primary source of information and support for setting up a community flood action group in Scotland.

On this and the following pages is a copy of a supplementary report written by hydrologists at Parsons Brinckerhoff, for the specific attention of the community in Aberfoyle and Strathard. It looks at what the community can do about acute flooding issues while Stirling Council and SEPA progress an ongoing study into long term preventative measures, based on what has been done elsewhere in the UK.

Closer to home, Callander Community Flood Action Group is dealing with many of the same issues as Aberfoyle, and there is potentially the opportunity to combine resource and knowledge.

Appendix C - Supplementary Report on Community Led Flooding Initiatives

2

EXAMPLE OF SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY FLOOD MANAGEMENT, PITCOMBE, SOMERSET

The village of Pitcombe in Somerset is prone to fluvial flooding from the River Pitt which runs through the centre of the village.

In 2009 the community set up the 'Pitt Valley Community Flood Action Group (www.cafg.org.uk) to form an effective voice for the community and to coordinate community efforts to reduce flood risk in the village.

The flood group has coordinated a number of activities:

- flood forums in the community to discuss causes of flooding and potential improvements;
- meetings with representatives from the Environment Agency, District Council and County Council to discuss flood reduction options in the village
- community maintenance work groups to clear debris from the watercourse, reducing blockage, improving conveyance and reducing flood risk.

As a result of the work of the community flood action group, Somerset County Council secured funding from Defra and the EA to implement household level flood protection in the village. Parsons Brinckerhoff were appointed by Somerset County Council to survey properties in the village at risk of flooding and to identify measures to minimise the impact of future flooding.

Further details on this scheme are provided below, in an extract from the 'Flood Aware' project newsletter.

Appendix C - Supplementary Report on Community Led Flooding Initiatives

3 EXTRACT FROM 'FLOOD AWARE' NEWSLETTER #4

PROPERTY PROTECTION SCHEME PITCOMBE

The Environment Agency (EA) offered Local Authorities in England the opportunity to apply for funding to identify and subsidise appropriate measures for individual properties in areas where there is frequent flooding and where community-level flood risk mitigation measures, such as defence schemes, are unlikely.

Funded from Flood Defence Grant in Aid, the scheme aimed to;

- create examples of the collective application of property-level flood mitigation measures to demonstrate the strengths of this approach to managing flood risk;
- encourage the supply of expert, independent flood risk mitigation surveys;
- stimulate the market for flood protection and resilience products, and;
- act as a means to engage locally with at-risk communities, helping them to understand their risk and the ways to mitigate it.

Somerset County Council was awarded £38,250 to better protect a number of homes in Pitcombe. The scheme in Pitcombe was one of only six schemes in the southwest of the country successfully awarded funding. Pitcombe has experienced a number of flood events, most notably in December 2008 when a number of properties in Pitcombe and Cole were flooded.

To raise local awareness of the flood risk in Pitcombe residents have established a very proactive Community Flood Action Group (CFAG). Through the CFAG residents have undertaken a number of projects including; the development of a website (<http://www.cafg.org.uk/>);

Appendix C - Supplementary Report on Community Led Flooding Initiatives

- local river clearance days, and
- the funding of a consultant to produce a hydraulic model and report on the river from Pitcombe Bridge to Cole Bridge.

Property protection scheme details

The scheme involved:

- With the property owners' agreement, conducting a specialist survey to identify the best solutions for improving each property's resilience to flooding. This was undertaken by Parsons Brinckerhoff under the existing Highways service provider contract.
- Once agreed, works were then carried out including, for example, the installation of specially designed air bricks, flood protection for doors & windows, fitting non return valves on drains and pipes, and other improvements to reduce the impact of flooding.
- Following a competitive tendering process the construction works were undertaken by UK Flood Barriers.
- Community engagement is one of the fundamental principles behind the scheme. Residents were involved throughout the project both individually (one-to-one meetings, e-mails, telephone calls) and collectively (product demonstrations, public meetings)

Appendix C - Supplementary Report on Community Led Flooding Initiatives



Community Flood Management

Project statistics

Total number of properties approached to take part in the scheme.	10
Number of properties that declined to be involved	0
Number of properties surveyed.	10
Number of properties where measures were installed.	10

Product Number Provided

Door Flood barriers	24
Window Flood barriers	6
Water Wall	1
NRVs	13
Self closing airbricks	3
Lockable Manhole covers	5

Appendix C - Supplementary Report on Community Led Flooding Initiatives

Local activities supported by local authorities

To achieve best value from the funding available the opportunity was taken to secure additional contributions and contributions in kind to compliment the property protection scheme and work of the Community Flood Action Group. Each of these either contributed directly to the property protection scheme or provided complimentary flood risk management benefits as detailed below.

- In order to make best use of the Defra grant the County Council contributed staff time and resources from various departments to the scheme. The Flood Risk Management team provided a team member to manage the overall scheme and engagement with residents and other stakeholders.
- The topographical surveys of Pitcombe and Cole were funded at no cost to the Defra project by the County Council's Highways Structures Team.
- The EA gave support and guidance on the community's Flood Action Plan – even though the River Pitt is an ordinary watercourse – to update and make the document more robust.
- The District Council has provided advice and funding to carryout improvement works to the watercourse to improve the flow of water based on the findings of the Community Flood Action Group's hydraulic model and study.
- Meetings with the residents highlighted previously unknown concerns that surface water as well as fluvial flood risk was a problem in the community. The opportunity was taken to combine the property protection scheme with a highway drainage scheme funded by the Highway Authority. These works comprised carriageway reprofiling (to better direct surface water to the drainage systems), new, pipes gullies and outfalls.

The above led to a more complete package of measures which not only gave a greater level of protection to residents but also demonstrated the benefits of inter-organisational working for the benefit of communities.

The feedback from residents on the completed scheme has been overwhelmingly positive.

Appendix C - Supplementary Report on Community Led Flooding Initiatives

4 LARGER SCALE SCHEME IN COCKERMOUTH, CUMBRIA

On a much larger scale, in Cockermouth in Cumbria the EA partnered with the local community to help fund strategic level flood defences. Of the total cost of £4.4 million:

- The EA / Defra paid £3.3 million through the Flood Defence Grant in Aid funding mechanism;
- Local residents contributed £120,000 through an extra levy on council tax;
- The community contributed an additional £100,000 through donations from the Rotary, the Round Table, Church Groups and other donations;
- Local business have been asked to donate the equivalent of 1% of their business rates for the next three years.

Further details on this scheme are available on the Cockermouth Flood Action Group site - <http://www.cockermouthfloodactiongroup.org.uk> – and on the EA website - <http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/131663.aspx> .



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