

south ayrshire
health & social care
partnership

MAYBOLE & NORTH CARRICK DECISION DAY EVALUATION REPORT

2018/19

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North Carrick Decides: Saturday 23rd March 2019

Maybole and North Carrick Locality held a decision day on Saturday 23rd March 2019 in Maybole Town Hall. The event was a local market place with groups having a stall to promote their activities and allow people to find out what they were asking money for. Members of the local community were encouraged to attend and vote for local groups as well as those who worked and volunteered in the area.

The Locality Planning Group (LPG) work around an agreed set of local Health and Social Care priorities which have been identified as important to the community of North Carrick. These four key priorities are as follows:

- Tackling Social Isolation and Loneliness
- Promoting Positive Mental Health
- Tackling Drug and Alcohol Issues
- Access to Service and Information about local Health & Social Care Provision

Application criteria were set out to enable direct correlation with successful projects and the LPG's key priorities. To be eligible to apply the group/project had to demonstrate that they met at least one of the following criteria:

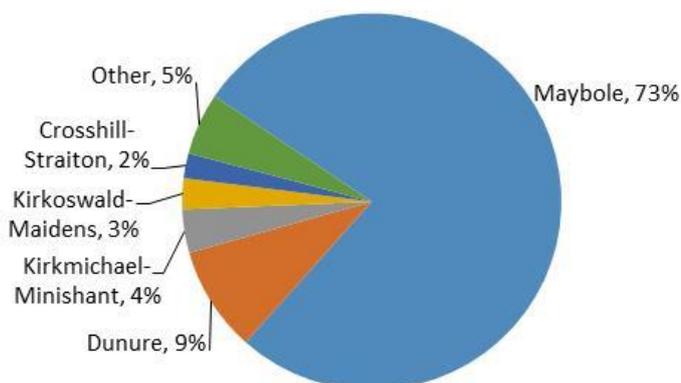
- Promoting Positive Mental Health and Wellbeing including dementia
- Alcohol and/or drug prevention, harm reduction or diversionary work

A total of 16 groups bid for a pot of £12,000. This was made up of £9,000 from South Ayrshire Council; £1,000 from Alcohol & Drug Partnership; and £2,000 from Health & Social Care Partnership. A total of 202 voting forms were received on the day and 161 completed evaluation forms returned.

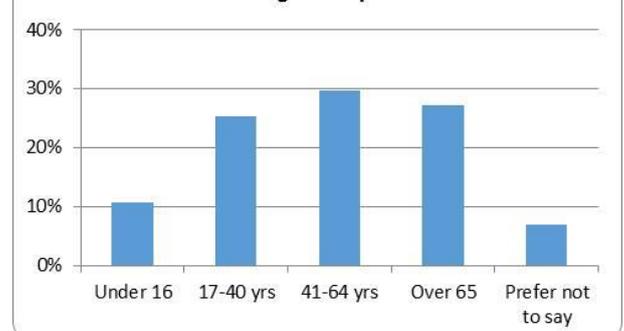
Summary of Event

- Almost three quarters of all participants (73%) lived in Maybole.
- The next most popular place was Dunure (9%). Others lived in outlying villages near Maybole including Crosshill, Kirkoswald, Kirkmichael, Maidens and Minishant.
- 1 in 4 people were aged 41-64 years of age. A high percentage was also aged over 65.
- Most of the groups were applying for funding for running costs. Other applications were for training, resources/equipment and transport.
- 16 groups applied for funding – 12 were successful ; 1 partially funded ; 3 not funded
- Carrick Rugby Club: mini kickers received the most votes overall and a table showing the most popular group by age category is shown below.

Where do you live / work / volunteer ?



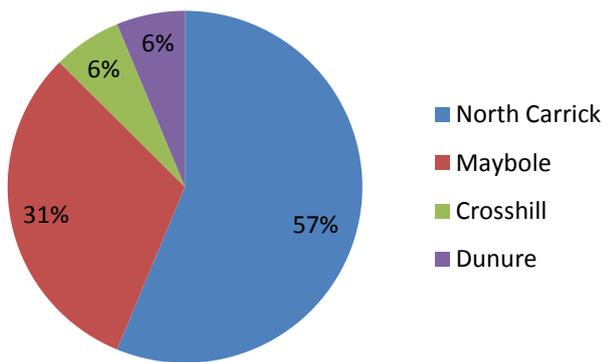
Age Group



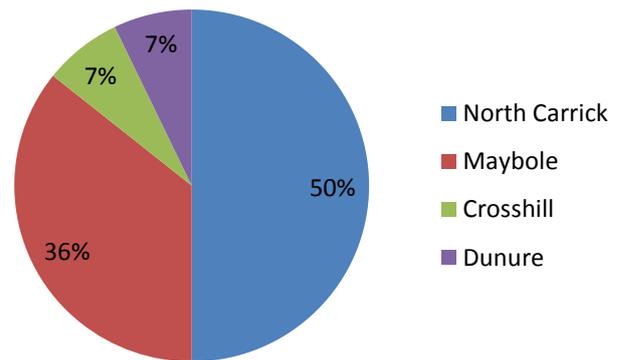
Age Group	Highest scored group (vote of 5)
Under 16 years	Carrick Rugby Club: mini kickers
17-40 years	Carrick Rugby Club: mini kickers
41-64 years	Carrick Rugby Club: mini kickers
65+ years	Maybole Senior Citizens Indoor Bowling Club
Overall	Carrick Rugby Club: mini kickers

An analysis of the event has shown that the majority of successful applications were submitted by and awarded to groups with projects that covered the locality as a whole. In terms of the surrounding villages who participated, there was an even spread of successful groups however due to the lack of applications from outlying communities such as Fisherton, Straiton, Kirkmichael, Kirkoswald, Turnberry, Maidens and Minishant these communities were not represented at the event.

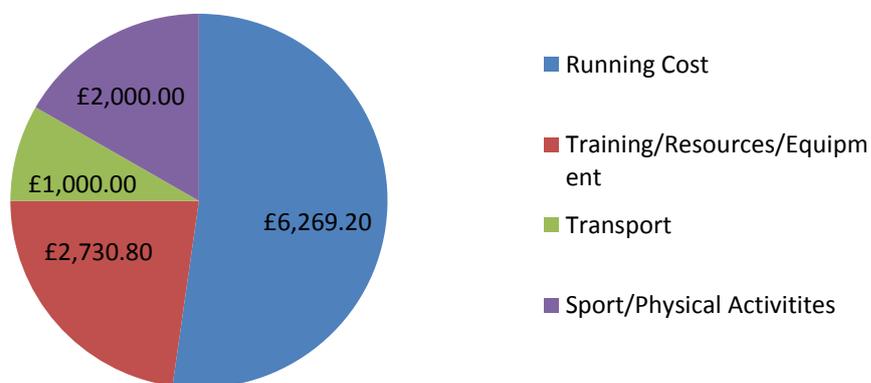
Applications per participating neighbourhood



Funded applications per neighbourhood



Detailed below is an overview of the breakdown of money distributed and the types of activities that received funding on the day.



Overview

160 completed evaluation forms were received on the day.

- The majority of participants (94%) said they were happy to vote, and almost a fifth thought that this was a fair way of voting. No-one said they were not happy about the voting.
- The highest percentage of participants (93%) thought that the day was well organised, and 1 in 5 felt that the stalls were easy to navigate and that they were given enough information about each of the groups applying for funding.
- Almost two thirds of those who took part said that all of the project would be good for the area. 1 in 4 said some of the projects would be good for the area.
- 14% of participants said they felt inspired by what they had seen and heard on the day, and found out about projects which took place in their area.
- The majority of respondents (92%) said they would do this again. 17% said they felt they had a real say in what happens to the money and would tell others about this type of event.
- Most of those who attended the event said they had heard about it by word of mouth (75%). 1 in 5 said it was through social media, and 1 in 10 said through local press or poster.
- Additional comments included:-
 - All groups deserve the funding. It is a pity it is based on a voting system and everyone cannot get a part of it
 - Better to announce successful bids on the day if possible - thank you
 - Do presentations instead of stalls
 - Ensure the event is as well publicised as possible
 - Great for the town
 - Great to see so many people here today having a say about their community
 - It's hard to choose - all are good in their own way.
 - Keep up the good work
 - Really good event. Shame not more from the villages this time.
 - Really good for local community especially for younger generations
 - Some groups require more support than others
 - Thank you to all organisers
 - Unsure if this is a fair way of voting
 - Very good work
 - Very informative. I thought the event wasn't well advertised. Only found out by notice on Town Hall window
 - Well run and laid out

Reflections

There seemed to be a sense of community engagement and participation during the event with the high attendance rate from the local community although it could be difficult at times to gauge how much interest there was on the day from the general public to participate in the decision day and be involved in the general sense of making decisions on what matters most to their community as opposed to people aligned to groups/projects turning up to vote to assist their group/project secure funding. Further exploration around this should be carried out. One possible

quantative approach to help establish this could possibly be by tailoring evaluation questionnaire to capture this type of information.

The participating groups all utilised the opportunity to speak to the other marketplace stalls and network.

The venue works well for a marketplace event.

The majority of projects received funding however some negative comments around why every group cannot receive a share of the funding were recorded, however, due to the ethos of Participatory Budgeting there does have to be that element of decision making/competition.

Considerations should be given to the sheer demand in time required of the Community Engagement officer to support the delivery of such an event given the extensive time required for planning, organising, delivering the event and subsequent follow up work required for evaluations and report writing.

Working in partnership with Community Learning and Development and Community Development as well as the support received from the Chair/Vice-Chair and members of the LPG with the planning, preparation and promotion of the event was crucial to the successful delivery and running of the decision day.

Lack of application and representation from some of the rural communities in North Carrick was disappointing and should be an area to consider in the future. As should, the hard to reach communities who may not have fully bought in to the PB process as yet.

The knock on effect from the last round of PB events in 2017 – 2018 should be considered also as there were exceptionally high amounts of funding available over three events carried out within this financial year with the final event only taking place in March 2018. Feedback around this suggests that some groups were still using this funding pot and did not require any further financial assistance at that time. This may help to explain the lack of applications from some of the rural communities.

Promotion of the event was carried out via various routes which included: emails sent to groups/projects previously applied, posters displayed in prominent locations within each neighbourhood throughout North Carrick, social media posts, local newspaper and community newsletter article as well as emails to each education establishment. This will be reviewed to establish if there were any gaps in the promotion of this event for future development.

The Table of Awards for North Carrick Decides 23rd March 2019 can be found here <https://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/locality-planning/participatory-budgeting.aspx>

