



# Ballantrae

# Community Action Plan Summary

## Summary

This summary of the Community Action Plan prepared by Community Enterprise sets out the priorities and initiatives that the local people of Ballantrae want to see happening in the area. It is the result of people of all ages and backgrounds in the community coming together to identify their needs, understand their ambition and agree positive action to be taken which will make the area a better place to live, work, play and visit.

This plan covers a 5 year period from 2024-2029

although there are some aspirational ideas that may take longer to establish. Those who took part in the consultations are eager for things to happen quickly but there is also a recognition of a need to be aspirational and ambitious.

The extensive community engagement and research involved speaking to local people where they were to get views from different perspectives. Community Enterprise, an independent social enterprise consultancy, facilitated this to ensure it was entirely independent and objective. Community Enterprise organised the following:

## Preparing this Plan



**83**

survey responses on behalf of 200 people.



**15**

stakeholder interviews



**2**

open consultation events



**42**

children from a primary school participating on an interactive session



**18**

people at the Cosy Space at The Kings Arms Community Pub and Hub



**12**

people engaged at BRICC coffee morning



**32**

people voted online in addition to the prioritisation event

Thanks to everyone who took part.

Out of a population of less than 600 people and 250 households, we were delighted with the response.

## A Big Vision for the Future



**Ballantrae will be a welcoming, thriving and well connected village offering a great quality of life, where people can grow up, work and grow old.**



## What we found out

- The need to enhance learning and create employment
- The importance of protecting our facilities and spaces
- The lack of affordable housing
- Rural isolation and the challenges of getting around
- A priority to look after people as they get older
- The need for things to do, to keep active and to come together as a community

The projects and initiatives set out in six thematic areas overleaf need to be the responsibility of the whole community to implement and no one group should be responsible for implementing all of the ideas. It will be important to empower local groups and individuals to feel a sense of ownership and to move these ideas forward.

Copies of the full report produced by Community Enterprise are available from [www.ballantrae.org.uk](http://www.ballantrae.org.uk)

# Ballantrae's Future Themes and List of Projects

## Theme One: Working and Learning

We will develop a local economy, including developing a visitor economy, underpinned by upskilling the workforce.

Priorities	Actions
Project 1	To work with regional learning and employability providers to develop a local apprenticeship and training scheme to upskill individuals with a focus on heritage, the environment, tourism and the green economy.
Project 2	To create small workshop space to encourage and facilitate local enterprise. To consider the feasibility of creating an artisan craft community with retail outlet and demonstrations.
Project 3	To investigate the opportunities for new environmental and heritage based visitor attractions.

## Theme Two: Good local infrastructure

We will prioritise protecting and enhancing local facilities and spaces.

Priorities	Actions
Project 1	To invest in the Kings Arms Community Pub and Hub to support it to become a key sustainable social enterprise and asset.
Project 2	To secure funding for a shop front improvement scheme.
Project 3	To create an information centre in the village.
Project 4	To level and improve pavements including the one from the school to Main Street.
Project 5	To install lighting on the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) in the recreation ground and enhance the tennis courts and Scout hut.
Project 6	To protect the community hall as a key asset.
Project 7	To invest in the historic sites including Ardstinchar Castle, Ardstinchar Bridge, Church, Kennedy Mausoleum and the Harbour.
Project 8	To install more litter bins through the village.
Project 9	To consider the feasibility of establishing a local heritage centre.

## Theme Three: Affordable housing for all ages

We will ensure that there is accessible and affordable housing for people at all stages in their lives.

Priorities	Actions
Project 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To establish starter housing for young people and young families.</li></ul>
Project 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To create sheltered or supported housing for older people.</li></ul>
Project 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>To consider the viability of a small dementia unit.</li></ul>

## Theme Four: Getting About Easily

Traffic and road safety will be a focus to create a safer place. We will invest in walks and cycle paths and better transport to enhance connectivity within the community and across the region.

Priorities	Actions
Project 1	To lobby strongly for traffic calming measures including speed bumps, average speed cameras and a lower speed limit on the A77.
Project 2	To improve the local paths network and create better walking routes including a good walking route to Ayr and Girvan and a useable path by the edge of the sea. We will invest in the riverside walk.
Project 3	To create a community car, taxi or a shared car owned by the village.
Project 4	To lobby for better public transport and a clear electronic display with bus times.

## Theme Five: Care and Wellbeing

We will work towards being a place that looks after its own and has good health and care for older people.

Priorities	Actions
Project 1	To establish residential care for older people in a local asset.
Project 2	To set up a befriending scheme.
Project 3	To bring in care training for local young people to deliver Self Directed Support funded care to local people.
Project 4	To establish both an indoor and outdoor gym.
Project 5	To find space for allotments to grow local food and the establishment of a regular local market to complement the Festival of Food and Drink.
Project 6	To enhance sport and physical activity in the village hall and elsewhere.
Project 7	Improve access to Childcare Services - especially for children with additional needs.
Project 8	Improve access to all buildings for those with mobility issues.

## Theme Six: Things to do

We will create events and leisure activities to make this a vibrant place to live.

Priorities	Actions
Project 1	To create an improved diary of local events.
Project 2	To source funding for and to recruit a local events and activities co-ordinator.
Project 3	To organise more activity for young people and children.

# Making it Happen

These themes and projects have been distilled from those suggested by members of the community during the engaging consultation process explained on page 1. Decisions about what could and should be included have been guided by the vision and underpinning principles outlined on page 1, by the breadth and depth of support respondents demonstrated to us, and by an assessment of viability and fit with the plan as a whole.

The Community Action Plan will now move into a set up phase. Key to setting out how the community's priorities will be implemented, will be identifying the community groups who will be able to lead on certain ideas, where new groups may need to be formed, and where resources and investment will come from.

To guide delivery of this phase, our aim is that the Ballantrae Planning Group which is well placed will continue to oversee the Community Action Plan with a small Delivery Group charged with Monitoring and Evaluation an essential requirement of any Community Action Plan to ensure it is being implemented and achieving its aims. The aim of monitoring and review will be to check on progress and take stock of where things are on a regular basis, stimulating and resourcing ideas as required. Community ownership of these processes is key for successful delivery.

Responsibility for monitoring and review should sit with a Delivery Group. In addition, we envisage that, there will be a role for an ongoing community action forum, perhaps the Planning Group meeting twice a year to specifically review progress on the plan with those meetings open to other representative bodies and community groups.

The delivery of this action plan is the job of everyone in Ballantrae. Local people need to get involved in leading on projects and making this vision a reality. Keep an eye on the Information Ballantrae Facebook page and let us know if you are interested in being a part of this go to [www.ballantrae.org.uk](http://www.ballantrae.org.uk) .



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