



AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2024

Should we have a Local Place Plan?

Responding to the consultation on the draft Third Local Development Plan (LDP3), Milton of Campsie Community Council discussed whether to apply to create a "Local Place Plan". To keep our options open, we notified EDC that we have an interest in creating such a plan.

Local Place Plans are community-led plans setting out proposals for the development and use of land. Introduced by the 2019 Act, these plans will set out a community's aspirations for its future development. Once completed and then registered by the planning authority, they are to be taken into account in the preparation of the relevant local development plan. (Source: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/circular-1-2022-local-place-plans/>)

Creating a Local Place Plan would take a great deal of time and effort, and it is not clear that the outcome would be worth the amount of work involved. What do you think?

East Dunbartonshire Council is working on LDP3, in accordance with new guidelines set out for local authorities in the Scottish National Planning Framework 4. It is currently in the Evidence Report Preparation stage, which has an anticipated completion date of March 2025, and the overall adoption of the completed plan is scheduled for February 2028.

A Milton of Campsie Community Councillor attended the introductory event last autumn in the Village Hall, and subsequently took part in a day long workshop which was arranged for members of the public in January this year, as well as three of the five follow-up discussions held on several mornings at EDC's Southbank House offices, during August and September.

Topics covered were:

- Economy,

- Infrastructure and Utilities,
- Housing,
- Protection and Heritage, and
- Neighbourhoods and Wellbeing.

Residents who would like to be involved in further consultations could contact Development.Plan@Eastdunbarton.gov.uk to request updates.

Euan Kemp (Saxophone)

Scottish Young Musicians Solo Performer of the Year 2024



Milton of Campsie young musician Euan Kemp was awarded the prestigious title of Scottish Young Musicians Solo Performer of the Year 2024 earlier this summer, having competed for the prize against musicians from 31 different local authorities covering 99% of Scotland's population, with each area selecting their best local soloist for the National Final at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland on Sunday 26 May 2024.

The son of a family of musicians living in Milton of Campsie, Euan began playing the saxophone in the village at Craighead Primary School, before auditioning for the Music School of Douglas Academy, which offers any young musician a completely free, intensive music education with transport

provided to and from home by East Dunbartonshire Council.

Euan said: *"I feel amazing having won this competition and honoured to have represented East Dunbartonshire. I've been making music here for the whole of my musical career, starting with the children's chorus in P2 and then growing through playing in the orchestras and ensembles at school and locally. It's such a nurturing, supportive and enjoyable environment to be a part of and I'm proud to bring this trophy home to them."*

Euan receives £1,000 to spend on furthering his musical career and the Maid of Morven trophy made by the King's Sculptor in Ordinary in Scotland, Alexander Stoddart FRSE plus a coaching session, participation in a masterclass and a studio recording session at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Euan has always been a part of the local musical scene and has played several times in the village hall and for CampsieFest. He was a member of the East Dunbartonshire Children's Chorus and ensembles, the National Youth Orchestras of Scotland, National Youth Choir of Scotland and Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Junior Conservatoire. Euan has also performed wider afield, on the stage with Scottish Opera and in the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain.

As well as playing the saxophone (he achieved DipABRSM in 2022), Euan plays orchestral percussion and timpani, sings and conducts, and is planning a career as a solo saxophonist and conductor. He is very excited to be leaving home this October to study music at Oxford University, but he will be back in the village very soon to play concerts with his pianist, Milngavie-based Claire Haslin. Watch this space for more details of where to find MoC's award-winning young musician in concert.



Garden Waste

EDC has introduced charges for collecting garden waste. There will be a single annual charge of £50 per green bin, which will entitle you to 19 fortnightly collections from March to November. To use the service you will need to purchase and display a garden waste permit on your green bin. If you do not have a garden waste permit displayed, your bin will not be emptied.

The Community Council was not given an opportunity to comment before the decision was announced, and is disappointed with the decision. Residents who do not have space to compost material themselves will now face the choice of paying to have it removed or to add it to landfill waste. Garden waste in landfill contributes to production and emission of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, so composting is preferable.

Recruitment to Community Council

Sixteen places are allocated to Milton of Campsie Community Council under East Dunbartonshire's local democracy rules. Up to ten members are elected from people whose names appear in the Register of Electors and who reside in the area; three places are nominated by local organisations operating in the area and representative of local interests including young persons (not less than 16 years of age); and three members may be co-opted by the Community Council.

Elections to Community Councils were last held in 2022. In Milton of Campsie only six people stood as candidates. They were therefore appointed to the posts without a poll; and two more members were co-opted shortly afterwards. Other places have remained vacant since then, with three more years to run until the next scheduled election in 2027.

Residents who might be interested in joining the CC are warmly invited to contact the Secretary or Chair to discuss the possibility of becoming nominated or co-opted members, or of standing at a by-election. Within the Community Council, three members can be appointed as Office Holders. At present, the post of Treasurer is vacant.

We are aware that, because of the increasing use of social media for many communications over the last few years, more than one Facebook, WhatsApp and on line neighbourhood group exists in the village, giving a range of opportunities for residents to share news and information. It would be splendid if links could be built and strengthened between these on line communications and the more traditional channels for discussion such as the Community Council. The newsletter in which this invitation is being published is one useful method for bringing these streams together.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to know more about what the Community Council does, and also to let us know your own areas of interest and activity that could make you an asset to the team, and help build a thriving local democracy. We would be delighted to invite you along to talk to us, without obligation or commitment at this stage.

Climate Emergency Training (Carbon Literacy)

Training opportunities for members of Community Councils (and for businesses) were provided by Keep Scotland Beautiful (funded by UK Government through EDC).



Three members of MoC Community Council took part. To achieve certification for Carbon Literacy, attendees were asked to complete an assessment that included a proposal for a local project to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to prepare for Net Zero emissions by 2045. One of the proposals, to establish a “Warm Homes Club”, was presented to the Community Council and is copied below. This could be taken forward if people show an interest.

Warm Homes Club – a proposal

This will aim to reduce the amount of gas and oil used in Milton of Campsie for domestic hot water and heating. The main ways to achieve this will be to maintain house temperatures with less energy input by eliminating drafts and encouraging installation of roof and wall insulation.

The key elements to the club will be:

- Provide access to information about appropriate technology (insulation, draft excluders);
- Provide access and support to use information about grants and other ways to reduce cost of improvements;
- Provide access to a list of approved traders with expertise to install and maintain equipment;

- Provide access to measuring equipment such as thermal camera, thermograph, anemometer etc.;
- Provide access to information about zero-carbon options for heating, cooking and hot water (heat pumps, induction hobs, solar thermal arrays etc.);
- Network with other villages (via the web site);
- Invite speakers, share ideas, and promote developments such as a car club and heat network;
- Develop a building code for new or refurbished buildings in the village to incorporate high energy efficiency.

The intended outcomes are:

- Comfortable healthy homes at low cost for club members;
- Confidence about cost-effectiveness of options for members;
- Confidence about trustworthiness of installers;
- Confidence that maintenance and repairs will be completed satisfactorily;
- Attitude change leading to behaviour change through community participation;
- Education for young people about how to have comfortable zero-carbon homes.

Examples of methods to achieve these are:

- Materials could be bought in bulk to reduce transport costs and emissions associated with transport, and perhaps to obtain materials at discounted prices
- Local traders (insulation installers, plumbers and roofers) could be offered subsidised training & encouraged to work as teams
- The local school will be encouraged to monitor and study the project
- Fund raising events could be held at the village hall to fund subsidies (e.g. training plumbers & roofers)
- An annual prize could be awarded for the best performance

The project report will provide estimates of current energy usage and emissions, and will estimate the savings from each element of the project, to show how a target of 10% reduction could be met. The costs and environmental impact of each element of the project will be estimated, and suggestions made about the effect the project may have on the attitudes of villagers to sustainable energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

The Nursery (Craighead Childcare Centre)

We understand that the nursery has been sold to a new operator, and we hope to give an update in the next newsletter. Source: <https://redwoodsdk.com/craighead-childcare-centre-sold-to-family-operator/>

Glazert Water Restoration Project

East Dunbartonshire Council proposes to make alterations to the Glazert Water upstream of Milton of Campsie, and has completed two rounds of consultation. Members of the Community Council attended consultation events.

The effect of the proposal is expected to have little effect on the flow of the river through Milton of Campsie.



The EDC website <https://www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk/glazert-water-restoration-project> says "The project is the result of a study commissioned by Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and the Scottish Government to restore rivers damaged due to the legacy of historical industrial activity. The Council has worked in collaboration with SEPA, using the Water Environment Fund SEPA administers, on this project which aims to physically restore the Glazert Water, provide climate change adaptation opportunities, and revitalise the wildlife corridor serving the communities of north Kirkintilloch, Milton of Campsie, Lennoxton, Clachan of Campsie and Haughhead."

A Community Council questionnaire

This is the fifth newsletter since the present Community Council was convened in 2022, and we would like feedback. The purpose of a community council is ***“to ascertain, co-ordinate and express to the local authorities for its area, and to public authorities, the views of the community which it represents”***. We wish to hear your views as residents of the area covered by Milton of Campsie Community Council.

On this occasion we are asking for your views on a topic that has appeared in the newsletters – how can Milton of Campsie prepare for a low-carbon future?

You can respond by writing your answers on the questionnaire and returning it to a collection box in the Post Office or one in the Co-op; or you can send replies by email to secretary.moccc@outlook.com.

Replies will be summarised and will be reported to the Community Council. All contributions will be treated anonymously, and we will not use quotations without consent.

If you prefer to mull over your reactions to our questions without sending a reply, you could attend a meeting of the Community Council to raise your concerns.

Q1 Home improvements:	Examples: replacing a gas boiler with a heat pump, installing solar and battery storage, improving or extending home insulation measures.
a) Have you made changes to your home to improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and save money on heating bills?	
b) Do you intend to make changes to your home to improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions, and save money on heating bills in future?	
c) Are you interested in joining a local group (such as the “Warm Homes Club” described in this newsletter)?	
Q2 Suppliers and installers:	Examples: who would you approach for such planning - businesses already known to you, the local council, the community council, independent commercial services such as home Retrofit advisers?

a) Do local businesses have adequate expertise to help you to plan and carry out improvements?	
b) Are you able to make sure that suppliers and installers are capable (for example by seeing examples of their work locally)?	
c) Do you have suggestions on how to improve the availability of capable installers?	
Q3 Costs and grants:	Examples: Home Energy Scotland https://www.homeenergyscotland.org/ , your energy supplier, Warmer Homes Scotland (which is specially set up to help people on lower incomes) https://www.warmworks.co.uk/our-work/warmer-homes-scotland/ .
a) Do you understand the financial costs of adaptations well enough to decide about improving your home?	
b) Do you know how to find financial advice and information about grants, and support available to less wealthy households?	
Q4 Advice:	
Would you use an advisory service (for energy efficiency) centred specifically in the area around Milton of Campsie?	
Q5 Can you help?	This is a major transition that is required to address the needs to cope with continuing climate change. For instance, it is calculated that six times as many people will be needed to work in the renewable energy sector as there are at present.
a) Do you have expertise, relevant experience and knowledge of renewable energy technology that you are willing to share with the community?	
b) Would you take part in a community discussion about this issue if it were organised with support by the Community Council?	
c) If we wish to quote any of your replies anonymously in our report of this questionnaire, do we have your consent to use your own words?	

MayFest 2024

What you may have missed!!! MAYFEST24 in Milton of Campsie Village Hall

The ART Exhibition & Sale of 60 fine paintings covered the whole weekend of the Mayfest. It was opened with a speech by Alastair Brown (Hall Trustee) who praised the Campsie Festivals Association - organisers, helpers and performers, and expressed the Hall's appreciation of the financial help which comes from donations of attendees at the free events. During the afternoon of the Opening, refreshments were served and there was live music from Campsie Scottish Folk Players.

Campsie Scottish Folk Players in full swing!



Four groups performed great Folk/Americana music in a show organised by Stan Quirk



The "Young Folk on Stage" Concert given by children, organised by Michael Boyle, was amazingly good: the Hall was packed! This show gave 'on-stage' experience to young violinists, pianists etc. - building their confidence. This event goes from strength to strength year on year.

"Hidden Gems of Chamber Music" was a great programme organised by Goetz Bucher and played by Milngavie Strings plus two woodwind. This was a magnificent finale to a very successful MayFest, which brought in around £800 in donations for the Village Hall Trust.



Chairman's Update

Traffic Lights: The last piece of information we had was that the Installation of the Lights had been passed and that the work was out to tender. We have had no further updates although I have been making inquiries regarding them.

Traffic-free school: The area outside Craighead Primary School is one of three Trial Areas in the EDC area and will run until December. I am aware that several fines have been issued in relation to drivers flouting the rules.

Allotments: I have no update yet as to how they are proceeding - or not.

Sked's Garden: A discussion still has to take place with the CC to take over the running of the garden. It will be discussed at the next meeting.

Tennis Court: This is an ongoing project and will continue into next year, as yet we are no further forward as the District Council cannot help us.

Charles Kennedy Cup: The winner hasn't been notified as yet but we now know the identity of the winner. They will be informed in due course and presented with their award.

As you have probably seen in this issue we are hoping to recruit more members to the Community Council. If you feel that you would like to help to promote Milton of Campsie and hopefully improve what we have or even replace some of it and you have time to spare why not join us. We all try to do our best for the Village but we do need more recruits, please think about it and contact me at Chair.moccc@outlook.com or Secretary.moccc@outlook.com if you would like to come on board.

Alex Buist, Chair, MoCCC

Birdston Coup: Update from the Birdston Regeneration Group SCIO

The Board of Trustees of the Birdston Regeneration Group SCIO (BRG) has been working hard in the six months since our AGM, meeting the anticipated hurdles along the way.

We have adopted seven work streams:

1. Take action to ensure re-opening of the core footpath across the site.
2. Obtain data from SEPA regarding the level of contamination on the site.
3. Ensure BRG complies with its governance requirements under charity law.
4. Establish EDC responsibility for breaching historic planning permission on site.
5. Prepare for possible future acquisition of the site and for a remediation strategy.
6. Promote BRG to environmental organisations and to elected representatives.
7. Establish whether BRG has a role in managing the woodland to the north of the site.

Positive achievements from the Board include:

- Full compliance with charity governance (draft AGM Minutes available on request).
- Purchase of equipment to help BRG promote its vision.
- Sourcing expert legal advice (at no cost).
- A presence at external events, including EDC planning and environmental groups.
- Communication with elected representatives.
- The hurdles that we anticipated have occurred in two areas:
- The core footpath through the site remains closed. It is obstructed by mounds of earth and standing water. The Board has established that East Dunbartonshire Council (EDC) issued the owners of the site with a legal instruction to re-open the footpath. The owners appealed that instruction, but their appeal was lost. It is now 18 months since this legal action and the Environmental Rights Centre for Scotland is pressing EDC, on behalf of BRG, to discharge its statutory responsibility to maintain access along the footpath. The Board is also working directly with EDC and elected representatives on this priority issue.
- SEPA continues to withhold all information relating to the site of the former Birdston Coup despite three Freedom of Information requests that were based on legal advice. The grounds that SEPA cite for their position is that release of the information may prejudice the outcome of an ongoing investigation (unspecified). The Board is now working with elected representatives to seek a different route of communication with SEPA.



The owner of Birdston Woods intends to sell the woodland and has approached BRG to see if it has interest in facilitating the purchase for the community. Birdston Woods lies just to the north of the site of the former coup. It is a mature and attractive woodland that links the former coup to Juniper Drive and contributes to the integrity of the network of community footpaths.

The BRG Board believes that this woodland should be preserved for the community, rather than sold for development. BRG has identified a possible route to purchase the woodland at low cost to the community. However, this is not a mainstream BRG activity and so the wider community must be involved. If purchase is to proceed a community group will be needed to maintain the woodland.

The BRG Board is keen to hear the views of the community on this matter. If there is sufficient interest, we can convene a meeting to discuss the project in more detail. Please send your thoughts to birdstonregenerationgroup@gmail.com.

Contact the Community Council

The community council is contactable via the email address secretary.moccc@outlook.com or via Facebook messenger on the Facebook page @miltonofcampsiecc. Our meetings are the third Monday of each month at 7:30pm. We are in the Milton of Campsie Village Hall, in the large hall. This is located on Craighead Road. All residents of Milton of Campsie and Birdston are welcome to attend. It would be excellent to see as many members of the public with us each month as it gives us better insight into what the village thinks about issues that arise and what the villagers think we should be concentrating on getting sorted. The agenda and minutes of meetings are posted on the notice board at the cross and are available on the website at <https://miltonofcampsiecc.co.uk/>.



www.miltonofcampsiecc.co.uk

Instagram: [miltonofcampsiecc](#)

Facebook: [miltonofcampsiecc](#)

Rona Mackay, MSP for Strathkelvin and Bearsden



First of all, I would like to congratulate Milton of Campsie Community Council for leading the way in helping to improve road safety for local residents.

I'm delighted that progress is being made regarding the installation of traffic lights at the Cross by East Dunbartonshire Council after a poll of residents by the community council resulted in the majority backing this proposal.

Road safety in the village is certainly an issue I have raised concerns about after meeting with and hearing from local constituents, and I hope the improvements will be implemented in the near future to help make life safer for pedestrians at this busy junction.

I know that improved leisure facilities in the village is also an issue at the forefront of people's minds. I am keen to work with the local community in this regard as I know the benefits for people's physical and mental well-being are substantial.

I'm also delighted that Sked's Garden is going from strength to strength. Local people should be very proud of this wonderful community space.

Last but not least, with winter fast approaching, I would strongly encourage residents to check whether they are eligible for pension credit to ensure access to the Pension Age Winter Fuel Payment.

Contacts for Local Groups

Girl Guiding: <https://www.facebook.com/GirlGuidingKirkintillochdiv/> For all sections of Guiding contact Margaret Boyle, Campsie District Commissioner: Mboyle88@aol.com 01360 310996

Scouts: 16th Glasgow Milton of Campsie Scout Groups
For Beaver Scouts contact Jen Gilchrist: Jen.gilchrist@btinternet.com
For Cub Scouts and Scouts contact Iona Gilchrist: ionagilchrist@btinternet.com

Boys Brigade: <https://www.mocpc.org.uk/2nd-campsie-boys-brigade/>
Contact Jackie Scott, Officer in Charge: 2campsie@boys-brigade.org.uk

Calling Nature-mad Teenagers

I'm thinking of starting a nature club for teenagers in the area probably 14+ but up to University age if there are enough takers. I used to run a Phoenix group (the RSPB youth group) in Milngavie between when I was in my 20s and now have time to think about doing it again.

Are there any nature-mad teenagers out there? I am particularly interested in birds (ended up doing a PhD in lesser black backed gulls) but I know experts in almost every taxa having worked my whole career, thus far, in conservation.

What I'm thinking about is a group that does a bit of everything: bird ringing, long term monitoring, perhaps put up and monitor our own nest box population, bat and badger monitoring, get into fungi and moss ID, and do some practical conservation work.



I was a nerdy birdy teenager and benefited from an incredible nature group where I lived, and I'm wondering whether there's anyone out there who thinks a group like this might suit them.

Kat Jones - kat@aprs.scot

Forthcoming events

- Remembrance Day Parade 10th November 1:30pm at St Paul's Church. March leaving at 1:45pm, arriving at cenotaph for 2pm.
- Christmas card competition: submissions to be in for 2nd December.
- Christmas lights switch on is possibly 6th December, waiting to get official date through from the council.
- Christmas lunch: provisionally 13th December.
- Santas grotto 14th December 2pm-5pm

Consultation: East Dunbartonshire Council's Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES)

The consultation has just closed on East Dunbartonshire Council's Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) which is an opportunity for residents, businesses and organisations living or operating locally to have their say on decarbonising heat and improving energy efficiency in buildings throughout the area. Updates will be posted via our social media.

St.ANDREW'sFEST 23-24 Nov. 2024
MILTON OF CAMPSIE VILLAGE HALL G66 8DD

FREE FOR ALL!

Sat. 23rd & Sun. 24 th : ART Exhibition & Sale

Saturday and Sunday ... Doors open from noon.

Sat from 2.00 pm live Baroque music during viewing.

Sat 2.30 **GRAND OPENING**, & Refreshments

Sat 7.30pm The HAVER QUARTET : a professional string quartet with original tunes and fresh takes on folk music from around the world....*incl. Scotland!* Unique engaging performances, innovative arrangements, and exciting down-to-earth style. Their youthful enthusiasm is infectious!

Sunday 24th at 2.30pm FOLK MUSICIANS ON STAGE

Open-Stage Concert by SOLOISTS & GROUPS : Show includes Folk Songs and instrumentals incl. Stan & Rona (vocalists with guitar) and Celtic Music by the Campsie Scottish Folk Players etc....

Organiser: Stan Quirk

Sun 24th 7.00pm to 9.15pmgrand finale

THE WHISTLEBINKIES with Eddie McGuire. ...The 'Reel' McCoy!
with this internationally famous traditional Scottish Folk Band.

8.00 pm ART PRIZE Presentation for voted favourite painting.

REFRESHMENTS: Fair Trade drink and food throughout the festival.

DONATIONS: The Village Hall Trust **GIVES** the Hall for this community festival!
Donation of £5 for the Hall at events is suggested ...Concert programmes provided.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Tel: 01360 311944 or see www.campsiefest.org.uk for details