



Community Plan for Arnprior

About the Plan

The Community Plan for Arnprior has been prepared by Arnprior Community Council (ACC) following local consultation in 2006. It will be used to inform what ACC does on your behalf and can be updated at any time. The draft will be finalised by the end of 2007 and progress against the Plan will be checked at regular ACC meetings. An annual review will be presented at each December meeting.

How did we consult with you?

We sent a community questionnaire (with 17 questions) and covering letter to 83 addresses within the Arnprior Community Council area in September 2006 and followed up with reminders in Earrann and on the website. 33% of households and businesses responded anonymously. A full summary of the responses can be viewed and downloaded from www.arnprior.org.uk.

What about the people who live here?

There are two significant age groups — under 12s and 12 to 16 make up 22% and the 41 to 60 age groups make up 48% of the population. There is an interesting mix of long stayers and newcomers. More facts about the population including employment etc can be found on the Stirling Council website.

What do you like about living in the Arnprior area?

The most popular comments included the scenery, views, countryside and the farming environment. People figured highly and residents like the community spirit, the village atmosphere and friendly neighbours. Peace and quiet was clearly appreciated and there were many other comments reflecting the rural location.

What don't you like about living in the Arnprior area?

The biggest problem is the speed, volume and noise of traffic on the A811. Other concerns were the lack of a shop, poor road maintenance and no community meeting place. There were many 'one-off' comments across a range of topics and some of these related to the issues in the second part of the questionnaire.



What were the important issues?

This is how they ranked (most important at no.1) when we added the 'very important' and 'fairly important' responses together.

1. Speeding traffic
2. Condition of roads and bridges
3. Access to health services
4. Access to paths
5. Availability of regular affordable public transport
6. Access to leisure activities for our youth
7. Access to leisure facilities in our area
8. Availability of employment
9. Availability of suitable housing
10. Access to community facilities

To prepare the draft plan we have separated out the top eight issues from this list (but grouped the two 'access to leisure' items together) and devised actions we can take to help tackle the problem or make a difference.

What about the comments we have left out?

Some of these comments will fit under the issues covered in the action plan. We will not ignore the others but have to focus on the main priorities. Where necessary we will find out more about the issues you have raised and try and incorporate solutions into a future revision of the plan or when an opportunity arises. These other issues cover a variety of topics and include, for example, the need for more community facilities such as a meeting place or shop and the quality (and necessity) of lighting on roads and buildings.

What about the people who didn't reply?

We will keep you informed about the choices and decisions through Earrann and www.arnprior.org.uk. If you see something that concerns or interests you then contact any member of the community council.

What role does the Area Forum have?

The Area Forum deals with issues common to all communities (12 community councils) in the rural south west area and looks for solutions. The Area Forum has already developed action plans for dealing with priorities common to many of the villages in the area. Many of the actions or next steps will involve working with Stirling Council and other partners to achieve a change. Working with others is often the best way to tackle strategic issues and this can be done through the Forum. ACC will make sure the interests of Arnprior are expressed at all relevant Forum meetings.

Practical things we could do

Ideas for projects have emerged over recent months/years that ACC could undertake or raise funds for. But these should either fit with community priorities or have a good degree of community support. We will consult further about things we could build, improve, publish or arrange that have a potential community benefit. A few of these ideas are included on the back page. If there is no support for change we will leave things as they are.



Actions and ideas

Issues in order of priority	What we will do and when	Others who will be involved in finding solutions
1. Reduce the level of speeding	When seen, report to the police the registration numbers of vehicles going too fast or being driven without due care and attention.	Police
	Comment on any draft road safety proposals before they are implemented.	Stirling Council
	Monitor the effects of any speed management measures and ask Stirling Council for traffic data twice a year to see if the measures are reducing average speeds.	Stirling Council
	Keep a watching brief on planning proposals that are likely to increase traffic on the A811 and comment on these where appropriate.	Area Forum Stirling Council
2. Condition of roads and bridges	Report damage to bridges, poor road surfaces and inadequate drainage as they appear.	Stirling Council
	Support more funding for road maintenance by attending Area Forum meetings and the roads sub-group in particular. Encourage Stirling Council to improve the way the roads programme can be monitored by Autumn 2007.	Area Forum Stirling Council
	Seek to improve the condition and continuity of the north footway through the village from the Newburn track to field path west of the Nursery school. Get scheme prioritised in the improvement programme by Autumn 2007. See also issue 6.	Stirling Council
3. Access to Health Services	Find out how transport services tie-in with opening times for local health centres, hospitals and dentists. Suggest improvements where necessary.	Area Forum First Group Stirling Council
	Make contact with the travel plan co-ordinator for Forth Valley NHS and comment on the travel plan for the new hospital in Larbert.	Area Forum Forth Valley NHS
	Consult with practice managers and NHS Forth Valley about the latest feedback on access to health services.	Area Forum Local Health Centres Forth Valley NHS
4. Access to public paths	Speak to Stirling Council and land managers about ideas for paths that have emerged from the core paths consultations.	Stirling Council Landowners Tenants
	Apply for funding to build new paths if the land managers and Stirling Council agree in principle.	Landowners Stirling Council

Issues in order of priority	What we will do and when	Others who will be involved in finding solutions
Access to public paths (contd.)	Comment on the next draft of the Core Path Plan during autumn 2007.	Stirling Council
5. Access to leisure activities	Establish what leisure facilities there are for all age groups in the area e.g. contact Balfron HS youth worker	Area Forum
	Explore ways of improving transport connections to nearby villages with leisure facilities.	Area Forum
	Consult with people in Arnprior on their ideas for ways to access new and existing facilities of all types.	Area Forum
6. Availability of regular, affordable public transport	Make a response to the consultation on the Smaller Towns and Villages Transport Strategy (STVTS) during 2007.	Area Forum Stirling Council
	Agree a list of projects for inclusion in the STVTS.	Area Forum Stirling Council
7. Employment	Explore ways of developing small business opportunities and where to get support. Contribute to the development of the Area Business Action Plan.	Area Forum
8. Other issues raised in the responses to the 2006 community questionnaire or at meetings.	Prepare a list of other issues and consult further during 2008. Rank these issues and develop actions as appropriate.	Area Forum
	Hold a drop-in session in April 2008 to show, gather and discuss ideas for community projects (see below).	All

A few ideas for community projects

As well as projects that develop from the issues above there may be other things we can do to improve our limited facilities, such as...

- refurbish the interior of the old village post office to create a new village shop or community facility;
- develop an off-road cycle path between Arnprior and Buchlyvie using existing tracks where possible;
- plant trees and/or create a local nature reserve;
- investigate a renewable energy project using water or wind energy.

Contact any community councillor or come along to a meeting if you have any comments