



2019  
ONWARDS



# West Calder & Harburn Community Action Plan

"A lively, thriving, family-friendly, supportive and enterprising community, with its own unique rural identity"

The Priorities and Actions below have been identified from the results of the engagement with residents and the community organisations who have put their names to this plan.

The Themes have been defined to best group the Priorities in a way that both makes sense and, where possible, fits with local and national outcomes and strategies.

## Theme A - Our place : homes & livelihoods

PRIORITY	ACTIONS
1. Main street revival	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving the appearance: more planting, more art projects and more Christmas decorations</li> <li>• Create a plan for derelict and empty buildings</li> <li>• Encourage a greater variety of shops and services</li> </ul>
2. A wider range of community facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create more sports facilities and better access to new High-School facilities</li> <li>• Improve &amp; develop Harburn Village Hall</li> <li>• Continue to develop and improve Community Centre offering</li> <li>• Develop, improve and increase use of the Community Garden</li> </ul>
3. Broadband	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor current roll-out, investigate alternatives and lobby for improvements</li> </ul>
4. A greener, more colourful environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More planting: an expanded In-Bloom project</li> <li>• Develop a tree planting initiative</li> </ul>
5. Parking issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue lobbying for improvements to station parking and village congestion</li> </ul>
6. Dog mess and litter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue the Primary School Poo-Bag project</li> <li>• Start an anti-litter initiative</li> </ul>
7. Economic regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Progress Coop Bakery project to create jobs and promote West Calder as a "Destination"</li> </ul>
8. Climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand current local food-growing project</li> <li>• Promote renewable energy use</li> </ul>
9. Sustainability of community organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and encourage income generation</li> </ul>

### KEY PARTNERS FOR ACTION

Polbeth & West Calder Community Garden, Parkhead Primary School, Parkhead Parent Council, St Mary's R C Primary School, West Calder & Harburn Community Development Trust, West Calder Community Education Association, West Calder & Harburn Community Council, Five Sisters Partnership, West Kirk of Calder, and Parkhead Parent Council



## Theme B - Our lives : health, well-being and opportunity

PRIORITY	ACTIONS
1. Sports facilities and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better public access to the High School facilities</li> <li>• Build the skate park</li> <li>• Develop more activities for younger people</li> <li>• Improved football club facilities</li> </ul>
2. Road and pedestrian safety, traffic levels & pollution from fumes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a joint forum and action group to explore options and lobby for improvements</li> </ul>
3. Walking and cycling - paths and trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Push to complete West Calder to Harburn Right of Way</li> <li>• Continue to develop more walking and cycling routes around the village including access to the Community Garden</li> <li>• Continue to explore funding for multi-use West Calder to Harburn route and route into South Lanarkshire</li> <li>• Help deliver the West Lothian Shale Trail project with West Calder as Southern Hub</li> </ul>
4. Recreation and social activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More activities around Brunch Club Community Cafe and at Community Centre</li> <li>• Support growth of groups that already provide activities and develop more youth options</li> <li>• Expand activity sessions at Community Garden</li> </ul>
5. Health and wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop "Good Connections" health and wellbeing activity and referral programme using local resources (e.g Community Garden) and encourage outside agencies to work in our area</li> <li>• Promote active, healthy lives and "lifestyle medicine"</li> </ul>
6. Anti-poverty and austerity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to provide affordable and free offerings e.g. Christmas Gift &amp; Book initiative, Dignity Box, Brunch Club discounted rates and free events</li> <li>• Work with Polbeth Community Hub to offer services across wider area</li> </ul>
7. Local support services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop service provision at Community Centre and Brunch Club. e.g. Advice Shop</li> <li>• More services for those with Additional Support Needs</li> <li>• Encourage other providers to offer services locally</li> </ul>
8. Training and work experience for young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and promote placements with businesses and community groups locally</li> <li>• Develop more working partnerships with colleges and schools</li> <li>• Offer volunteer, skills development and out-door learning opportunities</li> </ul>

### KEY PARTNERS FOR ACTION

West Calder & Harburn Community Council, West Calder & Harburn Community Development Trust, Five Sisters Partnership, West Calder Community Education Association, Parkhead Parent Council, St. Mary's RC Primary School, Woolfords, Auchengray & Tarbrax Improvement Foundation, Bield, Polbeth Community Hub, Polbeth & West Calder Community Garden, Harburn Golf Club, Parkhead Children's Gala Day, and West Calder United Football Club.



## Theme C - Our Community : engaged and engaging

PRIORITY	ACTIONS
1. Events - that bring us together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep up the good work - more events for all!</li> </ul>
2. Culture and heritage: sharing and celebrating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a permanent local heritage space</li> <li>• Continue to hold an annual exhibition/event/project</li> <li>• Progress the Cooperative Museum and Discovery Centre project</li> </ul>
3. Preserving our local identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish events and projects to connect the new housing areas into the village</li> <li>• Promote community "brand". e.g. our new logo, signs, history and distinctiveness from Livingston</li> </ul>
4. Being prepared for village expansion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure effective monitoring and sharing of planning and development issues e.g. pressure on services and facilities</li> <li>• Ensure effective collective community representation</li> </ul>
5. Volunteering opportunities: "Good for you, good for your community"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and celebrate volunteers throughout the community</li> <li>• Support groups which offer volunteer activities</li> </ul>
6. Collective action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support &amp; facilitate the Five Sisters Partnership: promoting working together and developing a collective voice.</li> <li>• Support the capacity building of local organisations</li> </ul>
7. Community communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a better and wider community newsletter</li> <li>• Support community groups in marketing and communication</li> <li>• Continue to develop the community website</li> </ul>
8. Transport links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor and lobby on transport issues - Trains and buses</li> </ul>

### KEY PARTNERS FOR ACTION

West Calder & Harburn Community Council, West Calder & Harburn Community Development Trust, West Calder Community Education Association, Parkhead Parent Council, St. Mary's R C Parent Council, Polbeth & West Calder Community Garden, Harburn Village Hall Association, Harburn Residents Association, West Calder Medical Centre, West Calder Youth Forum, Parkhead Children's Galaday, West Calder Brownies, 18th West Lothian Scout Group, Our Lady & St Bridget's Catholic Church, Limefield United Free Church of Scotland, West Kirk of Calder, and West Calder United Football Club





A STEERING GROUP OF  
**12**  
LOCAL COMMUNITY  
ORGANISATIONS



A REVIEW OF THE **2013-18** CAP

**750** RESPONSES  
FROM **4** SURVEYS OVER **2** YEARS



**2** COMMUNITY  
OPEN DAYS

**6** STAKEHOLDER FOCUS GROUPS



What we found out: much of the previous CAP is still relevant.



POSITIVE CHANGES

FLOWERS & HANGING BASKETS  
NEW VILLAGE SIGNS & LIGHTING  
COMMUNITY EVENTS  
PHONE BOX ART  
COMMUNITY GARDEN  
RE-FACED KIRKGATE FLATS



NEGATIVE CHANGES

LOSS OF SERVICES DUE TO AUSTERITY  
CLOSING SHOPS  
INCREASED TRAFFIC & CONGESTION  
MORE DOG MESS & LITTERING



BIGGER NEW ISSUES

COMMUNITY ACCESS TO THE  
NEW HIGH SCHOOL  
NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS

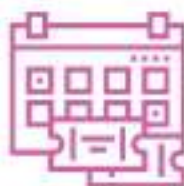


RURAL ENVIRONMENT

LIKES



COMMUNITY SPIRIT  
& ORGANISATIONS



GOOD FACILITIES & EVENTS



CLOSE TO TOWNS & CITIES



OUR HISTORY & HERITAGE



BROADBAND

DISLIKES



TRAFFIC & PARKING



THREAT TO COMMUNITY IDENTITY



NO SAFE OFF-ROAD  
ROUTE TO HARBURN



EMPTY PREMISES



LACK OF SOCIAL  
HOUSING



LACK OF VARIETY ON MAIN STREET



# COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN STEERING GROUP

West Calder & Harburn Community Council, West Calder & Harburn Community Development Trust, West Calder Community Education Association, Parkhead Parent Council, Polbeth & West Calder Community Garden, Harburn Village Hall Association, Harburn Residents Association, Limefield United Free Church of Scotland, West Kirk of Calder, Harburn Scottish Women's Rural Institute, Our Lady & St Bridget's Catholic Church, St Mary's R C Parent Council, Parkhead Children's Galadai and West Calder United Football Club.



## MAKING IT HAPPEN

If you would like to be part of making this Action Plan a reality, then email:  
[getinvolved@westcalder.org](mailto:getinvolved@westcalder.org)

SUPPORTED BY



the coalfields  
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