

Killin & Ardeonaig Community Place Plan - 2021-2031





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Introduction

The Killin & Ardeonaig community have undertaken several versions of Community Action Plans over the years and as their current Community Action Plan had come to the end of its 5-year timescale the community were keen to review their current priorities and vision for the area. They also wanted to evolve their Community Action Plan to take account of the new opportunities that the Planning Act 2019 introduced with the communities able to now produce Place Plans that will be used to inform and influence the National Park and Stirling Council Local Development Plans.

Our original community consultation for this document started in 2019, however Covid-19 and the resulting lock down significantly disrupted the engagement process and the ongoing work towards publication. Following on from a strange and unsettling period for many it was felt that an additional period of community participation would be useful before publishing the Community Place Plan, and as such a draft plan and survey was produced and circulated in March 2021.

The publication of the draft plan and survey, alongside ongoing work on community ownership and social enterprise, and the re-opening of the economy following Covid restrictions sparked a wide-ranging community discussion which has helped shape this final Community Place Plan. It has undoubtedly assisted in bringing into sharp focus our collective thoughts on community wealth building, jobs & sustainable growth, services for young people, and the need to improve and maintain our outdoor spaces.

This Plan will be used to influence the local statutory planning process and other agency plans and strategies, and will be seen as a Local Place Plan, bringing together residents, local elected representatives, community groups, Stirling Council, The National Park Authority and other relevant stakeholders to deliver and realise a shared place-based vision for the future of Killin and Ardeonaig and the surrounding community council area. The need for local groups and agencies to collaborate and work together has never been clearer and we believe this document provides a solid basis on which to do so.

Our thanks to all those who contributed and assisted in the production of this document.

Amanda Clark
Secretary, Killin Community Council
Chair CPP Drafting Committee

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Chair, Killin & Ardeonaig Community
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Executive Summary

This document outlines the results of a wide-ranging community engagement process which begun in 2019 and despite some disruption due to Covid carried on through 2020 and early 2021. It seeks to present a vision for the sustainable development of the communities of Killin and Ardeonaig recognising the wants and needs from across our diverse community.

It also seeks to understand the challenges and issues facing our community, some of which are new but many of which have not been sufficiently addressed by decision-makers over many years. Namely how our small, rural & isolated community is connected to the wider world, how goods and services are provided, how our community has more inclusive ownership over the land and buildings within it, and how we retain and enhance our beautiful surroundings, while remaining open and welcoming to all.

It outlines these challenges and potential solutions across a number of themes: Community Services; Attractive & Vibrant; Sustainable & Green; Connected; Active; and, Working & Prosperous, whilst seeking to deliver an overarching community vision set out over four key areas for action:

- **Developing our outdoor & recreation offering**
- **Providing for children & young people**
- **Addressing public transport & connectivity**
- **Growing our community enterprises**

It is hoped that these key areas are addressed across the various themes outlined in the document, which is guided by the various community inputs as well as our recognition of the wider Community Wealth Building agenda being pursued by the Scottish Government.

It is recognised that there are a number of short-term, medium-term and long-term projects outlined in this document and it is clear that a Monitoring and Delivery Plan is required to assist in pursuing these projects as we move forward as a community. It is also recognised that a strong partnership approach is required between the various local and national agencies to deliver the various projects, but primarily Killin Community Council and Killin & Ardeonaig Community Development Trust (KAT) and it is therefore incumbent on these local organisations to truly work together in partnership to help deliver this Plan.



Context Setting

Killin and Ardeonaig are stunning Highland villages, surrounded by mountains and glorious scenery, and by our history. It is a community with a strong local identity, but one which is welcoming and open to all. The Falls of Dochart are known the world over, with thousands of visitors flocking to Killin each year. Magnificent Loch Tay stretches before us, while Tarmachan Ridge and Ben Lawers tower above us and providing iconic views and a world-renowned reputation for conservation and ecology.

Our community sits on the very edge of both the National Park Authority and the Stirling Council area. It is a community that has changed significantly over the course of the 20th century, from an agricultural community and local service centre to a booming hydro-town, to a growing tourism destination. Transport options have however declined, and our retail offering has changed dramatically. Public services continue to centralise, seemingly moving further away and feeling more remote from our isolated rural community.

Most significantly for the future, population projections within the National Park Authority show that an already sparse population is reducing significantly, whilst also growing older and with a reduction in children & young people and those of working age. The impact of such a demographic change on public services and the sustainability of communities within the Park is stark and must be addressed.

As of the census 2011 the recorded population for Killin Community Council (CC) is approximately 970. The majority of the population are between the ages of 45 and 59. The records show that population in Killin CC has a higher percentage of people aged 65 years and over - 21% of the population, compared to the Scottish average of 16.8 %. There is a significant lower % than Scottish average of younger people from among the age groups under 16, 16-29 and 30-44. In Killin CC 16 -44-year olds make up 28.6% of the population in 2011 compared to 38.5 % Scotland. It is likely that this is caused by people leaving the community to seek higher education or work.

The total number of households for the area is 440. Generally household composition is quite similar to Scottish average, the majority of household consist of one family with no

dependent children. However, there are more households where all residents are over 65-year-old; 12% compared to 7.8% Scottish average. Also, worth noting is that the proportion of over 65-year-old living alone within the Killin town settlement boundary is quite significantly higher than the Scottish average; 17% compared to 13 %, yet for the wider Killin Community Council area this is levelled off and at 14% is close to Scottish average.

In Killin CC most people aged 16-74 are in full-time employment 34.4 %, ~ 5% lower than Scottish average and a slightly higher average of people in part-time employment compared to Scottish average. A considerable % of the population are self- employed at 20.6% it is significantly higher than the Scottish Average at 7.5%. When looking at weekly hours worked the majority work 38-48 hours with 26.2 % working 49 or more hours a week which is roughly 14% more than the Scottish average.

The biggest employment industry is associated with the tourism industry, with 19.7 % of the population employed in accommodation and food service activities, substantially more than the Scottish average of 6.3 %. Many residents of the Killin CC area are also employed in agriculture & forestry

(7.32%) and the trade sector or manual skills related industry such as; construction, waste management, electricity and motor vehicle repair – approximately 30%.

Most households in Killin have access to a car, only 13% of households do not have access to a car which is 17% lower than Scottish average. Additionally, many households have access to 2 or more cars or vans which potentially highlights the lack of alternative transport options available.

General Health in Killin Community Council is similar to Scottish average, but there is a slightly higher % of the population that listed their health under the category for 'Very bad.' Long term health problems are on par with Scottish average. There is one percent higher average listed for physical disability and 1.5 higher percentage of people with developmental disorders (for example, Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Asperger's Syndrome). Yet there is a 1.5 percent lower occurrence of mental health conditions.

Our challenge therefore, as we move towards the second quarter of the 21st century, must be to ensure that our community remains sustainable, to examine how we develop our key industries of tourism, agriculture and energy, as well as retaining and improving public services and community enterprise, such as how we provide good training and employment opportunities, with a focus on retaining and attracting young people to the village. We must also demand that action is taken to improve accessibility to our community, with much more attention being put on how we are connected to the outside world, both technologically and physically.

Our opportunity as we emerge from a troubling and continuingly uncertain period, with the impact of Covid-19 on our daily lives, restrictions on movement and gatherings, and the effect on our local economy, is to focus on how we as a community can work together to facilitate and engender change.

Since the publication of the last Community Action Plan in 2012 the opportunities for community action have increased significantly given the Community Empowerment Act 2015 and the growing commitment of public agencies to abide by the principles set out in the Christie Commission on the future delivery of public services. The rights of communities, now enshrined in law, with regards to securing land and property for the purpose of community development and playing a meaningful role

in policy development is significant. We hope this Plan will look at how we take advantage of these developments and place Community Wealth Building at the centre of our collective action. The ideas outlined within this Plan have come from within our community, the publication of this Plan is the first steps in making them grow into reality and building a better community for us all.



The **majority** of the population are in **full time employment**



A high proportion of **self-employed** individuals (about 20% compared to the Scottish average of 7%)



Hard working residents: most are clocking around 38-48 hours a week with many even working as long as 49 hours or more



The percentage of the local population employed in the tourism industry is roughly three times that of the Scottish average



There is no shortage of trade skills and expertise in manual labour: approximately a third of the population are occupied in this line of profession



Given the rural setting it is no surprise that a great number of residents found their vocation in Agriculture & Forestry



90% of residents in the area own a car and many households have access to two or more cars

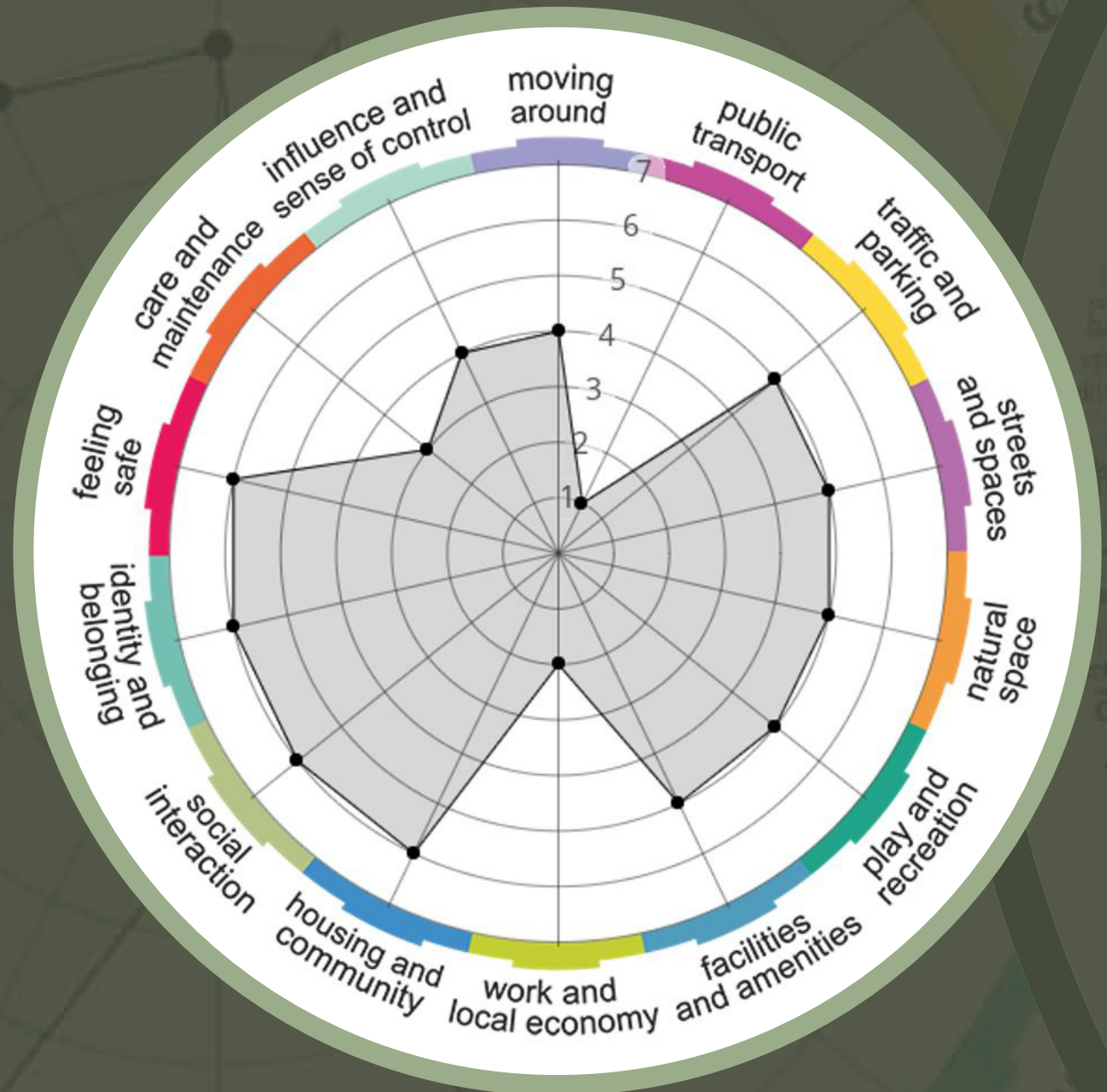


Compared to the rest of Scotland there are more households where all residents are over 65-year-old

Community engagement

This Community Place Plan was prepared following engagement with the communities of Killin and Ardeonaig throughout 2019. This comprised holding an Open Day, where local residents were encouraged to take part in a Place Standard workshop. In addition to this several focus group meetings were held and a specific workshop held with the young people at the primary school and also a workshop help with secondary pupils at McLaren High School where a zine was produced showing their priorities. One-to-one interviews were also conducted, each representing a local organisation, group, business, land interest or agency. There was also an online version of the Place Standard undertaken which reported on the findings on the workshop and also provided the community with a further opportunity for further comments and ideas. From the online questionnaire, stakeholder workshops as well as individual and small focus groups and the school engagement this Community Place Plan has been developed and is to represent the priorities of the community for action.

During the discussion the Place Standard tool was used to facilitate conversations and draw out some of the key priority themes. From all the consultation we have pulled together a diagram showing the areas where there is most in need of action and the topics which are less of an issue. The diagram is shown opposite. There is a scale from 1 to 7 where 1 means there is a lot of room for improvement and 7 means there is very little room for improvement.



Covid-19 and the resulting lock downs during 2020 significantly disrupted the engagement process and the ongoing work towards publication. However, in September 2020 a draft of the Plan was circulated to Killin Community Council and Killin & Ardeonaig Community Development Trust (KAT) with feedback integrated into the document. Following this, in April 2021 a further draft was published online outlining the main themes and key issues and including a community survey seeking final feedback and views, especially in light of the experience of Covid and its effect (both positive and negative) on our community.



“ Community Feedback & Quotes ”

“ The nature in the area is fantastic! ”

“ Covid has made home working commonplace. This could be a huge help to rural communities like Killin ”

“ Old Mill and around the Falls could be made nicer ”

“ Why do our rural children all miss out? When you see what other areas in Stirling offer... it's very unfair ”

“ Love the village ”

“ Not enough for children to do! ”

“ Concerned that young people cannot afford housing ”

“ We are currently not delivering enough for young people ”

We live in a

“ There are a lot of talented people in the village, making art, crafts and other goods. A retail outlet where they could sell their goods would be helpful ”

“ There needs to be a look into youth work to make the area attractive to families ”

“ The car park on Station Road is not an inviting place for visitors to park. It is untidy and unkempt ”

“ Our cultural events programme deserves support to get going again ”

“ Hopefully the most recent ideas for the mill will come to fruition and it can be developed into something more than a tat shop ”

“ Bridge is very busy at times ”

“ The Old Mill is the perfect place to celebrate Killin's fantastic heritage ”

“ McLaren Hall is a wonderful asset the village has but it is underused. So bringing more events would be great for the village ”

“ It makes me extremely angry at the lack of a play park we have for our kids! ”

“ In the past we have had visits from Scottish Opera and it would be fantastic if that could come back on stream ”

“ Allotments or a community garden would be very nice ”

“ Community transport has been an issue for decades ”

“ Develop accessibility to forest tracks for walking and mountain biking ”

“ RecyKillin sounds like a great project ”

“ Wheelchair safe public spaces are a must ”

“ The post office has been a great success story ”

beautiful place”

“ The pavements on Main Street are too narrow for pedestrians to walk safely ”

“ Stirling Council should be assisting with community composting scheme ”

“ A path linking the village to Ben Lawers would be good ”

“ There is not enough affordable housing for younger people and families ”

“ Every adult is dependant on having a car. Tourists have to arrive by cars as there is not even a regular bus connecting the next train station ”

“ The sport facilities and Pavilion can potentially benefit everyone ”

“ We need to enforce the speed limit ”



Our Community Vision

To deliver the key issues the following vision for the future has been developed. It is grounded in the Scottish Government's principles of Community Wealth Building, encompassing ideas from within the community on inclusive ownership and land & property, directing finance & spending, and workforce. It recognises the position of our isolated rural community, our fabulous environmental and natural assets, the need for local sustainable economic development, and our community wellbeing. As such it outlines the following vision:

Developing our outdoor & recreation offering

The importance of good quality outdoor recreation facilities is now more important than ever. They are central to promoting our own health and wellbeing and to the development of our tourism offering. Our area has an abundance of natural resources: our hills, mountains, rivers, and lochs. We want to

enhance and protect these assets developing of our walking routes and cycleways in an environmentally sustainable way. There is potential for developing mountain bike routes and investigating the opportunities around ebikes, supporting and developing our tourism economy. Our local sports facilities and playpark are also key community resources which must be prioritised.

Providing for children & young people

The voice of children and young people was clear throughout our consultation, and there is a significant demand to ensure that appropriate services and facilities are provided for children & young people locally. We need to ensure that accessible youth services are provided, with appropriate facilities for young people, which meets their needs. Employment and facilitating accessible training opportunities for young adults is also a key issue.

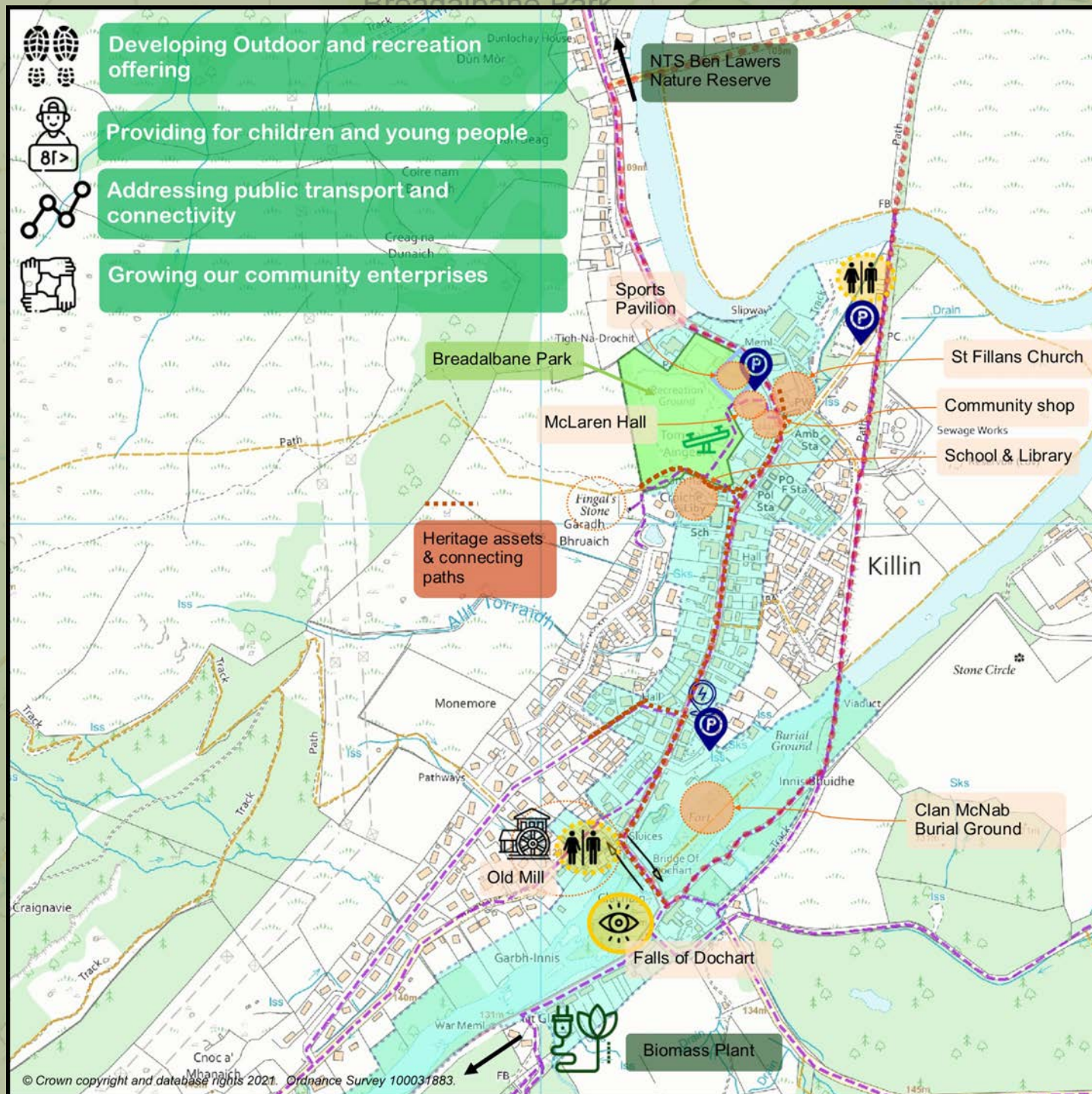
Addressing public transport & connectivity

We want everyone in our community to be able to access services and employment & training opportunities. We need to ensure that concerns over public transport are addressed and that digital connectivity is prioritised, opening up new opportunities for home working, learning and business development.

Growing our community enterprises

Developing and strengthening our community enterprise is central to delivering many of the aims outlined within this Plan and making the community more resilient: from rejuvenating the Old Mill to providing youth services, increasing learning opportunities, improving our wellbeing or helping protect the environment through reuse/recycling or providing community allotments. Your action, and our collective endeavours, will be vital to delivering our plan and shaping a better community.

Overall, our community has expressed a clear desire to collectively engage in the Community Wealth Building approach and help build a cleaner, greener, more connected community, with a strong and diverse economy, and a focus on future generations.





Theme 1: Community Services and facilities

There are a range of activities and resources open to the community, and a number of fantastic locally run events scheduled throughout the year, although these are mostly centred on adults. The Killin News was specifically highlighted as a fantastic local resource, which helped keep people up to date and in touch with what is happening within the local community but there was also comment on the need for better communication and coordination of events, and the possibility of creating a local events schedule, and maximizing the use of facilities such as the McLaren Hall. The lack of dedicated services for young people was also highlighted. The potential to improve and develop the sports pavilion is clear, and the need for modern, accessible sports facilities being made available locally. Given the rurality of the community there are significant barriers to learning and employment, with a lack of local services dedicated to tackling these issues. A number of new community initiatives are underway including the RecyKillin Tool Library & Remakery and the Killin Allotments Group and some consideration is needed to finding suitable community space and premises for these initiatives to grow and develop.

Issues

- Killin has a range of facilities that are in need of investment and are not utilized to their full potential, including the Sports Pavilion & McLaren Hall.
- Ardeonaig specifically lacks a central community facility or accessible meeting and event space.
- There are a lack of services for young people in the village, with poor standard of facilities centred on young people's needs.
- Shared space for business and learning is not available locally
- New projects need community space to grow and develop
- Our community web-sites are in need of updating

Solutions

Youth Work: A dedicated youth work service should be provided locally. Given the work that has already been taken forward in conjunction with Active Stirling it is suggested that funding options should be investigated which will facilitate a youth work and sports programme to be provided within the village.

Play Park: Both the poor ongoing maintenance and the lack of progress made on investment into the play park is a significant concern. There is a need for a renewed community focus on delivery of plans, and ensuring Stirling Council maintain the facility to an appropriate standard.

Community Events: A holistic look at the various community events, with better co-ordination and exploration of an events and cultural programme would benefit the community and maximize use of and investment into community assets, such as McLaren Hall.

Community Space: There are already moves to secure more community space through the Scottish Land Fund and the Community Right to Buy process. While this generated some debate a clear demonstration of initial community support was received and it is considered that further examination of local land and buildings should be considered in order to meet the communities needs.

Business & Learning Hub: Given distance and lack of public transport there are significant barriers to both learning and employment locally. We are aware that other local communities have been supported to develop business hubs to provide improved business facilities in their areas this could also incorporate learning & training facilities.

Communications: We have a fantastic resource in the Killin News, however our wider community organisations should look to modernise their communication channels.

Ardeonaig: There is a specific need to look at the requirements of community space in Ardeonaig, and an investigation into how community ownership could assist the community meet their ambitions.



Theme 1: Community Services

- ① Youth Work
- ② Training and Learning
- ③ Culture and Events
- ④ Playpark

0 100 Metres

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Theme 2: Attractive and Vibrant

Killin and Ardeonaig are stunning villages surrounded by fabulous natural beauty. The Falls of Dochart attract thousands of visitors every year and are known the world over. Local people put much effort into enhancing the beauty of the village, with great effort put in by the Floral Association and recently with community work on the war memorial and the old cemetery. There are however a wide range of suggestions to help further improve the village appearance and a clear desire to see further attractive spaces developed which would benefit the village for both visitor and locals alike. Making it an even more attractive village that people want to spend time in and encourage people who arrive at the Falls of Dochart to also walk into the main village where there are further opportunities for visitors to spend time and money on the services and sites which it offers.

There is a strong sense of heritage and there are many buildings of historical significance. There is already a local heritage trail in Killin, with interpretation signs and an active Heritage Association that works positively in the village. However, there could be further opportunities to promote the heritage of the area to locals and visitors.

Great effort has gone into trying to deliver a sustainable future for the Mill with significant support for developing the Mill into a quality visitor attraction, making benefit of its fabulous position by the Falls of Dochart. The Mill is viewed as one of the go-to attractions in the village and the use of the retail space within it should reflect that. It is considered that more could be done with the area around the Mill that would better enhance the visitor experience to the Falls and the village as a whole.

There was some concern that affordable family accommodation is not readily available locally, and that more could be done to provide larger family homes and a growing number of homes that have been turned over to supply short term holiday lets. Whilst there is considerable dedicated tourist accommodation available in the local area there is a feeling that this trend of increasing short term holiday lets is limiting the supply of residential accommodation locally, making it harder for young people and working age families to stay in the area or move into the area. The potential of encouraging more self-build opportunities was highlighted as an opportunity to address this and/or allocating some development land. A high level of concern over the loss of retail space to tourism accommodation was also raised, with a strong suggestion that the powers of Community Right to Buy should be exercised to both preserve retail space and facilitate the development of community enterprise.

Issues

- A number of paved areas need attention with the current condition of these being highlighted as a barrier to accessibility particularly to those with mobility issues or with young children. Narrow paved areas on Main St are of particular concern.
- There is continued concern over high level of traffic flows and vehicle speed through the village, with the pedestrian safety on the bridge at peak tourist times being a considerable concern.
- Ensuring a sustainable future for the Old Mill has been viewed as a community priority for many years. While there is much agreement the on preserving the building, questions remain on how any future use truly capitalise on the key location it holds next to the Falls, and potentially how the wider space around the Old Mill could be used.
- Further work is required to investigate housing demand.
- Ensuring the vibrant mix of retail and commercial properties within the village is essential and moves to change the use of such premises are changing the nature of Main Street.
- There is continued concern over Stirling Council's maintenance of key public spaces such as Breadalbane Park and Killin Cemetery

Solutions

Improving pavements and accessibility: Further improvements could be brought forward through the Pocket Places scheme or similar type scheme, given the scheme already progressing outside the Post Office.

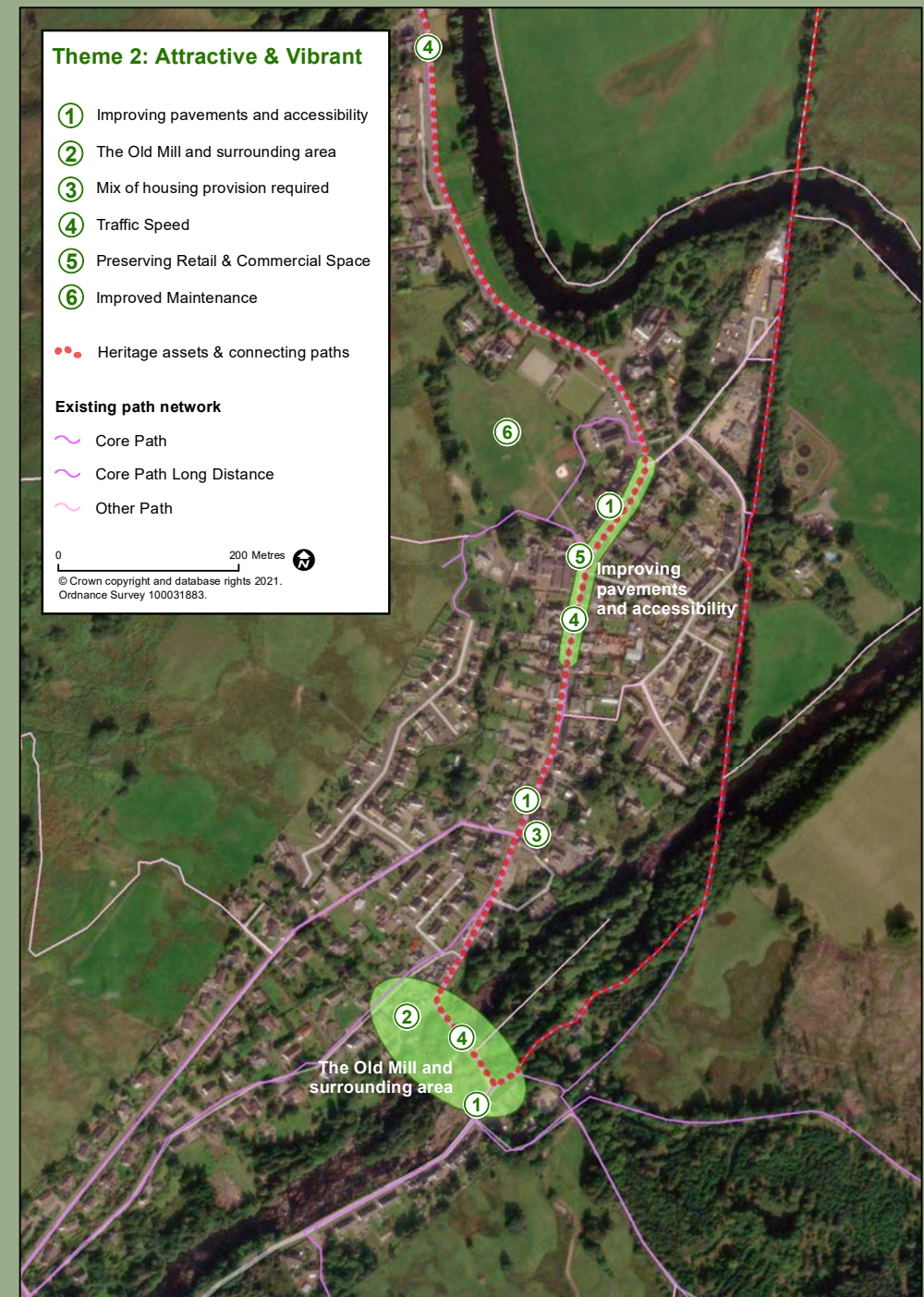
Speed restrictions: A number of villages in the Stirling Council area have moved to 20mph limits at key locations, and further work looking specifically at the pedestrian footfall on and around the bridge and how safety and amenity could be improved is required.

The Old Mill and surrounding area: KAT are in the process of bringing forward a new vision for the Old Mill with a social enterprise approach which will focus on our local heritage, arts & crafts and are seeking third party funding in this regard, however work is required to fully investigate the placemaking potential around the Mill and the Bridge.

Mix of housing provision required: Joint work is required with the National Park planning team on housing demand, the impact of tourist accommodation, the need for specialist housing, and to identify any gap, derelict or other sites as potential development sites.

Preserving Retail and Commercial Premises: It is considered that continued community action is required to ensure that a vibrant mix of retail, commercial and residential properties exist in the village centre.

Improved Maintenance: Stirling Council's responsibility to maintain the Park, the Play Park and the Cemetery to an appropriate minimum standard remains and should be pursued should it fail to do so. However, a number of local community groups including Killin Floral Association, Environmental Action Killin and the newly formed Friends of Killin Cemetery are seeking to provide assistance and secure funding to address community concern over poor maintenance. A formal partnership approach with a clear understanding of the expected Stirling Council and voluntary community input is required.





Theme 3: Sustainable and Green

Our natural environment is considered a real asset to our community, and so many people locally already work to preserve and enhance our environment and biodiversity in a huge range of ways, from farmers working the land to ecologists and conservationists, to the many local volunteers in a growing range of environmental projects. The climate emergency and biodiversity crises offers further opportunities for the community, including young people, to develop their own projects which will help the community become more resilient and also enhance biodiversity and reduce our environmental impact.

On a very practical level the need for improved recycling facilities was repeatedly raised. It is noted that the Callander Recycling Centre is a considerable distance, with limited opening hours, as such it is inaccessible to many within the community, while the Polmaise facility is significantly further away. The range of facilities available within our community was questioned, and it was suggested that given distances involved a full range of services should be provided locally. The issue of fuel poverty was highlighted during our consultation discussions, and the potential for community

renewables and heat networks can be considered as relevant to this concern, especially given the local biomass plant is committed to exploring the use of excess heat, should it become fully operational. Community initiatives to reduce waste were viewed very positively, and emerging projects such as RecyKillin, assisted by KAT, are considered as key opportunities for community-led action to improve our environment.

Issues

- There is a clear demand for a fuller range of accessible recycling facilities to be made available within the community.
- Our community sits outwith the mains gas network, which heightens risk of fuel poverty.
- There are no accessible community allotment or food growing sites within the local area.
- There is a overall lack of public land surrounding the community
- There are areas of public land and church land where opportunities exist to promote both increased biodiversity and improved amenity.

Solutions

Recycling: Given the range of recycling facilities and collections are considered inadequate to meet the communities needs more should be done to encourage Stirling Council to invest in community-led schemes for waste reduction, recycling and reuse.

Remakery/Tool Library/Upcycling project: A new social enterprise project is now in development. RecyKillin hope to offer a tool library, up-cycling, upholstery, recycling – with workshops and training opportunities. There is a need to find suitable premises for this project to grow and develop.

Allotments: The strong desire for allotments locally has been highlighted to Stirling Council, who are pursuing land availability through the Community Empowerment legislation

Biodiversity: Investigate increasing biodiversity on public land and other community owned sites across the community, while protecting and enhancing amenity.

Fuel Poverty: Stirling Council have identified reducing Fuel Poverty as a key area of work within their Local Child Poverty Action Report, and work should be taken forward to identify and address issues within the community, including the potential of exploring opportunities for developing heat networks from the Biomass Plant and/or community-led renewable energy schemes.

Food growing initiatives and community land: A local project, the Killin Allotment Group, is now in development and request for allotments has been highlighted to Stirling Council. The potential for more food growing opportunities through allotments and/or community gardens, as well as a community woodland and the potential for recreational activities and development of social enterprise should be considered.



Theme 3: Sustainable & Green

- ① Biomass Plant at Acharn
- ② Recycling
- ③ RecyKillin
- ④ Food Growing & Community Land

0 500 Metres

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Theme 4: Connected

Killin and the surrounding area suffers from poor provision of public transport with the existing service provision highlighted by the community as inadequate and inaccessible. It does not meet the needs of local people, it acts as a barrier to accessing employment, training and public services, and does little to help public agencies meet their ambitions to tackle the climate emergency. Even short journeys to neighbouring villages are not deemed viable by public transport, and as such many households have two or more cars, while those without access to a car are severely disadvantaged.

The majority of negative issues highlighted throughout the consultation process centred on the lack of service provision locally together with the lack of connectivity, and its continued reduction over several decades, with train, coach and local bus services all being eroded over that time is a source of some anger. It is noted that throughout the wider Forth Valley region there have been notable successes in improving public transport, such as the reopening of rail services to Alloa, while the region also benefits from Scotland's largest e-bike scheme. There is however little evidence of any notable progress locally, and a growing frustration that public agencies and transport operators are unable or unwilling to address this matter.

There are however fabulous local examples of community action, for example the Killin Community Bus and the Killin & District Volunteer Car Scheme which has done so much in assisting local people access medical services. Yet both are reliant on both volunteers and funding and cannot provide the connectivity in and out of the village, that a reliable public transport system could and should provide our community. There was also huge support for the development of improved walking and cycling routes locally, with the benefit to health, wellbeing and the tourist economy clearly seen. The expansion of mountain bike trails and the potential of ebikes being viewed with some excitement.

Issues

- The current DRT scheme is not delivering a suitable service, with limited connectivity to neighbouring communities.
- Bus services are insufficient and expensive, with transport to hospitals in Larbert and Falkirk highlighted as a specific concern.
- Access to ScotRail services by public transport is very difficult.
- The rail service from Crainlarich station to Glasgow is minimal, and costs high. Travel by car to Glasgow is less costly and significantly faster than the rail link provided, working against measures to tackle the climate emergency.
- The slow progress of public agencies to progress the strategic path route to Crainlarich, given its ability to link into the wider public transport network and reducing car journeys.
- School pupils inability to access afterschool activities at McLaren High School

- Many walking and cycling routes are in need of upgrading and repair.
- There is no comprehensive mapping of walking and cycling routes locally.
- There are some safety concerns on the on-road portion of National Cycle Route 7 between Killin & Ardeonaig.

Solutions

Public Transport: The issue should be raised with Stirling Council and LLTNP as a matter of urgency. There is a very clear need to improve the provision of public transport and investigate possibilities around car-sharing/car-clubs, electric vehicles and ebikes to help reduce car dependence and car ownership. There are now numerous examples of local authorities piloting Sustainable Transport Hubs and successful car club and car sharing schemes which could help reduce car ownership, and through the provision of environmentally friendly vehicles, the release of pollutants.

Connectivity commission: Stirling Council and the National Park Authority should be encouraged to take forward a 'Connectivity Commission' to examine how public transport, active travel and more sustainable transport options can be developed and sustained throughout the National Park area, as well as looking at how connectivity to major population centres could be improved.

Active Travel: Filling strategic gaps in active travel provision should be taken forward with some urgency by LLTNP, with the cycle path route to Crainlarich being made a priority.

National Cycleway 7: The opportunity to off-road the Killin to Ardeonaig route should be examined with Sustrans, including discussions over the delivery of recreational mountain-bike tracks linking into the route.

Bus service: An integrated bus travel to surrounding villages could significantly benefit the local tourist economy, encourage more visitors to the area, and provide greater opportunities for accessing employment, education and training.

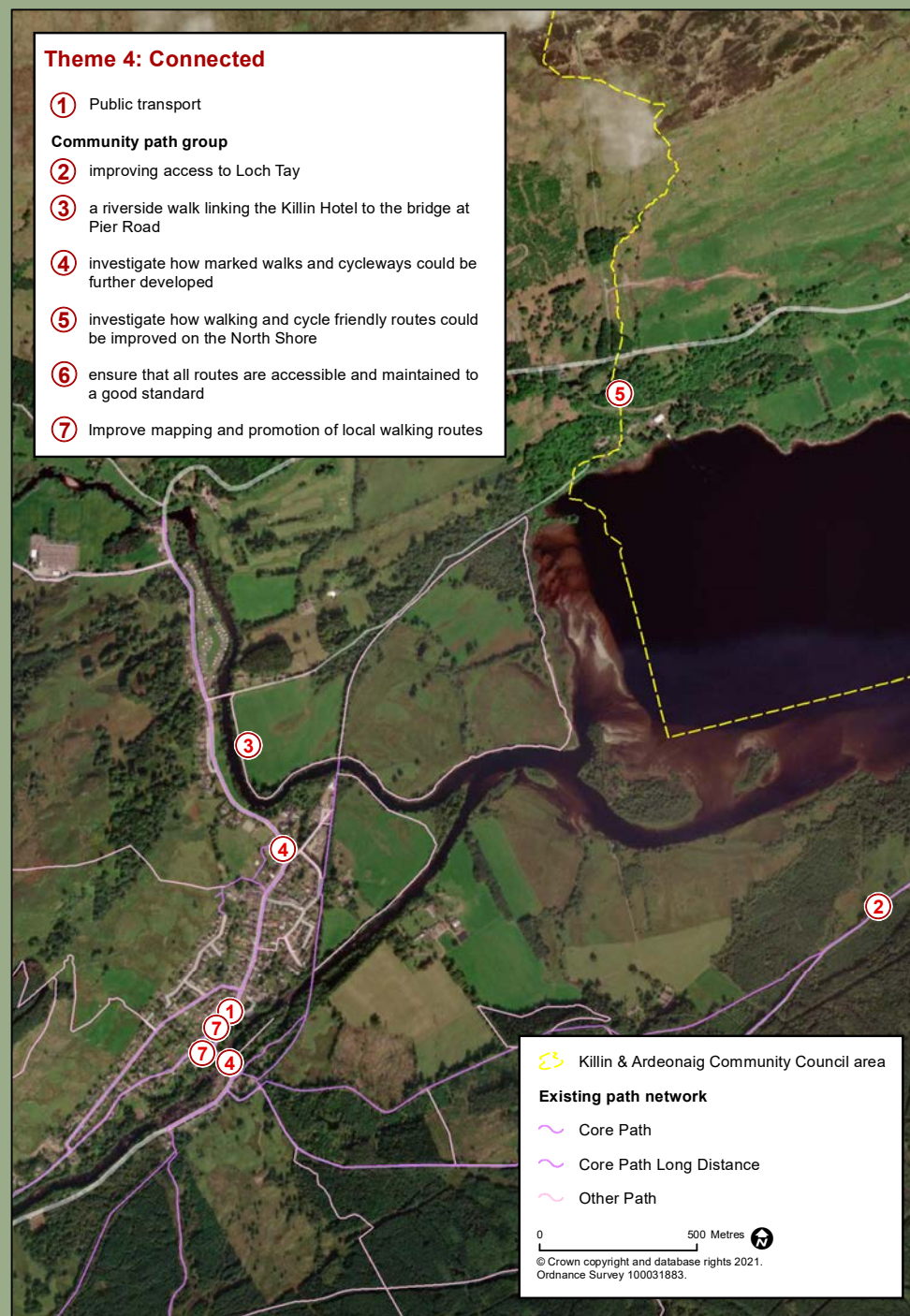
Rail services: The community should seek to work with neighbouring communities to engage with Scotrail and the Scottish Government on the overall inaccessibility, service frequency and high cost of local rail services, noting that there is minimal other public transport available to major population centres, and that at present car travel is both significantly less expensive and cheaper than the public transport offering, therefore working against government action on climate change.

Walking & Cycling routes: Work is already progressing through the Sports Hub, KAT and Killin Community Council with both SportScotland and SSE with regards to upgrading and mapping the existing cycle network and seeking to develop further mountain bike trails. This would enable more people the opportunity to access the outdoors to improve their health and well-being as well as offering greater opportunities for the area to promote these as part of greener tourism opportunities.

Community Path Group: A community path group should be established to progress future development of the outdoor recreation offering and establish the priorities for each of the identified projects and develop these with Stirling Council, the National Park and Sustrans.

Walk and Cycle route mapping: The local walks leaflet, previously produced by the National Park was highlighted as a good resource, and it was felt that this should be reprinted and displayed more prominently and promoted more widely to encourage more active and recreational travel. While further work should be considered mapping mountain bike routes locally

Lobbying: Community should seek to lobby government, at all levels, to invest in public transport locally, and align with organisations like RailFuture Scotland, the Campaign for Better Transport and other local community organisations in this regard.





Theme 5: Active

Much work has gone into the development of a local Killin Community Sports Hub based round the Killin & District Sports Club and involving local sports clubs and the local school, KAT and the Community Council. New clubs have been established during this period, like the local bike club, and outdoor bowling has also restarted at the Pavilion. The Sports Hub, through Active Stirling, also recently delivered a successful multi-sport programme for primary school children, teenagers and adults (until this was interrupted by the Covid-19 lockdown). There is a clear demand for organised sports provision in the village, potentially linked into a wider youth work programme.

People of all ages are currently denied access to local authority supported sports provision and agencies are not currently delivering an accessible service across the Stirling area, with targeted Active Stirling schemes such as the Exercise Referral Scheme or their All In Communities activities cannot realistically be accessed by many local people given distance and lack of public transport options, this also prevents many high school aged children from accessing the afterschool opportunities provided in Callander. While there are a number of Health & Wellbeing activities take

place within the community these are uncoordinated and inaccessible to some due to cost.

It is clear that the Sports Pavilion and the sports facilities attached are not up to modern standards and unable to meet the needs of the community. The facility is unable to cater for popular activities such as yoga, its outdoor pitch/tennis court is beyond its natural life, and the current facility is unsuitable for much needed activity such as youth work. However, the community also view the Sports Pavilion as a vital community asset, which should be accessible and available to the whole community. The need for a new, modern, multi-purpose and accessible facility is clear.

Much work has also gone into improving Breadalbane Park, with the Park awarded a Green Flag in recognition of the steps that have been taken. However, there is still much more to do, especially with regards to funding the ambitious plans for the playpark which is a key priority. The desire of young people for a skatepark and/or a bike track is also a consistent and justified demand.

It is also suggested that much more could be done to build on our existing natural community assets and developing the area as an outdoor hub with improved facilities, more marked trails and better information for biking, climbing and Nordic walking for example improved marketing of major walking routes, such as the Rob Roy way, should be undertaken.

Issues

- The nearest significant sports facilities (gym/pool/pitches) are in Callander, over 20 miles away, and inaccessible to many due to poor public transport links.
- There is very limited access to Local Authority/Active Stirling sports provision, which are largely based in Stirling nearly 40 miles away.
- The geographic isolation of the community and inability to access sports facilities is exacerbating health inequalities.
- Cost is also a barrier to some accessing sports and wellbeing activities delivered locally.
- The Playpark suffers from poor maintenance and lack of investment.
- Children & young people have consistently requested the development of a skatepark/pump track.
- Better linkages between the University of Edinburgh centre at Firbush and the village could be developed.
- More could be done to proactively market our area as a walking, cycling and outdoors pursuits centre and upgrade and develop facilities for both visitors and locals around this.
- A wider community initiative around Health & Wellbeing would be widely welcomed.

Solutions

Sporting facilities/Sports Pavilion: Ensure that the sporting facilities available within the community are attractive, modern and accessible to all. Ensure that any development accommodates both existing users and meets the needs of children and young people and the need to provide youth work locally.

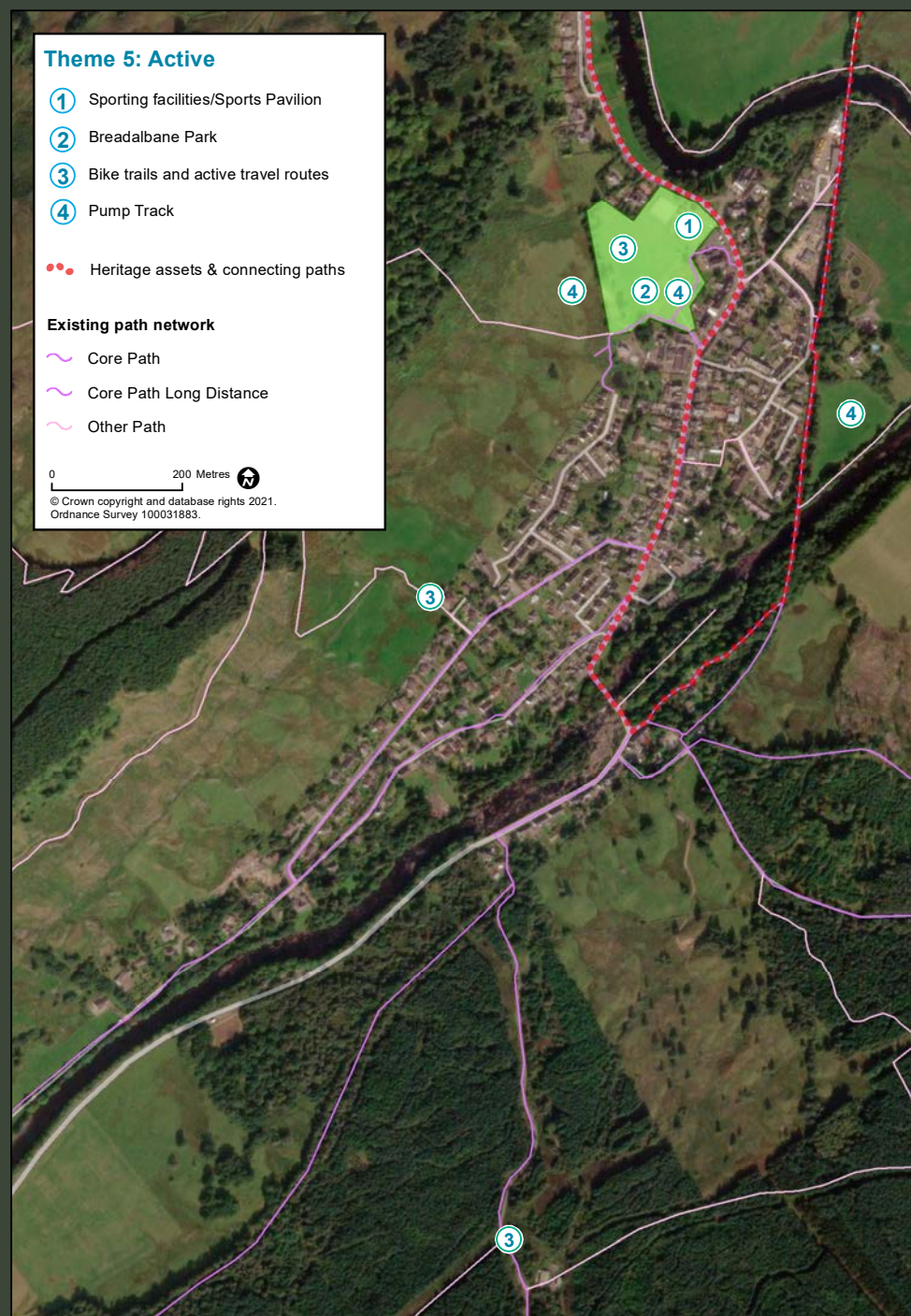
Breadalbane Park: Ensure that the ambitions plans for the Park are progressed, that new volunteers are recruited to take the project forward and explore the delivery of a skate/bike facility within the village

Bike trails and active travel routes: A project is underway looking at further opportunities to enhance the provision and quality of bike trails and associated infrastructure in the area. The possibility of looking at further developing, mapping and grading mountain bike trails locally as well as providing a pump track should be considered a priority, with significant economic & health benefits achievable through delivery.

Outdoor Hub: Seek to work with National Park Authority to market and develop the multitude of opportunities across our mountains, glens, rivers and lochs for active outdoor pursuits, recognising the delivery of tourism infrastructure will benefit to the local economy.

Health & Wellbeing: Discussions are underway between various health & wellbeing practitioners with regards to a potential social enterprise approach and seeking solutions to the lack of dedicated space for health & wellbeing activity.

Maps and counters are illustrative and are not determining a fixed location for projects and/or future action.





Theme 6: Working and Prosperous

While there are a growing number of home workers in a variety of industries the majority of employment is in traditional agricultural industries or the tourism and hospitality sectors, and also with a significant utilities and energy presence given SSE's local footprint and the biomass. There is however significant community concern over the seasonal and low-wage nature of many employment opportunities locally. There is also very real concern over access to training and apprenticeships for young people, and a very strong feeling that more has to be done to ensure that there is sufficient quality employment and training to retain young people in the local area, and the appropriate business premises made available within our community.

Covid-19 will do much to change the nature of work, with increased home working, but also its effect on significant aspects of the local economy, such as tourism may be profound. With changes in working patterns potentially likely in a post-Covid economy opportunities could be available to see more people work from home and having suitable facilities where people can access good broadband could be an



increasingly important need for existing residents or potential new residents seeking to capitalise on a change in their work-life balance and lifestyle.

As in towns and villages across the UK the nature of the traditional High Street is changing dramatically and there is a clear need for community action to ensure that our own Main Street remains vibrant, attractive and able to provide a range of services and experiences for both visitors and locals. Concern has been raised with regards to the possibility of retail units being converted to residential units and the long-term effect on the nature of the retail offering in the village. There has been strong support shown for further developing community enterprises, with projects such as RecyKillin in development and the concept of seeking community ownership of land and buildings to house such community-led projects, while not universal, is very well supported.

Tourist spend and investment into tourism facilities is a vital part of the local economy. The Covid 19 pandemic has somewhat changed the offerings to tourists in the area, however notwithstanding that the reasons that people visited before still very much exist. This is a particularly beautiful part of the Highlands, offering lochs, mountains, history and culture in abundance and the opportunity to capitalise on these natural and cultural assets will be very important as part of a post Covid 19 response.



Issues

- Work can be seasonal and low paid across many local sectors
- Lack of access to training and further & higher education
- Lack of business facilities/shared space for home workers
- Lack of space/lock-up units for local tradesmen.
- Need to retain the mix of retail and commercial space on Main Street.
- Need for continued local partnerships to promote tourism and drive innovation.

Solutions

Business accommodation and facilities: Given distance and lack of public transport there are significant barriers to both learning and employment. The possibilities around business hubs should be investigated, alongside discussions on distance learning pursued with Forth Valley College and other further & higher institutions.

Vacant retail premises & Community Enterprise: There is significant concern over the potential reduction of retail space in the village, with the need to investigate how community use of vacant premises can be promoted and achieved

Small Business Units: Need for small business units should be investigated to understand if further provision of small industrial units are required and find a suitable site.





*“We live in a
beautiful place,”*