LOVING NORTH CARRICK

Amateur Photography Competition

1ST PRIZE
choice of digital equipment up to a value of £500

2ND PRIZE
choice of digital equipment up to a value of £350

9 RUNNERS UP
vouchers for iTunes or Amazon worth £30

Winning photograph will appear on the front cover of the Winter newsletter

See page 22 for full details
The ‘Newsletters’ section is where there will be copies of all of the North Carrick Community Newsletters (past and present). This will be useful for people who like to read things on screen or who want to send electronic copies to friends.

www.nccbc.org.uk

Your voice matters...
We would like all communities in North Carrick and individuals to get involved with the production of this publication. This is YOUR newsletter, so please use it to your benefit.

The North Carrick Community Newsletter is produced with funding provided from ScottishPower Renewables

We want to encourage everyone to contribute. We also welcome your comments and thoughts on the newsletter as well as any ideas on what you would like to see more of (or less). This is our tenth issue and we want to ensure the newsletter grows from strength to strength but we cannot achieve this without the participation of our readers and advertisers.

Please email all articles, stories, photos and comments to David Kiltie at: david.kiltie@talktalk.net

Design, layout and advertising: Shona McMahon @ Evolution Designs Ltd. Email: evolutiondesigns@sky.com

Project development and funding: Stuart Lindsay at: stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com Tel: 07977 115974

North Carrick Community Benefit Company
Funding is available for a wide range of projects and to find out more or to apply to this fund please contact Marion Young on 01292 612626 or your community council representatives. You can also contact the company directly on ncarrickcb@gmail.com

Copies of the newsletter are delivered to every house in Maybole and the North Carrick villages. If, for any reason, you don’t receive a copy please let your community councillors know.

Extra copies will be left in various outlets in each community.

Board meetings:
- 11th November 2020
- 10th February 2021

Application for funding must be received three weeks prior to these dates.

Download the Newsletter at: www.maybole.org or www.nccbc.org.uk

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Antiques Roadshow is set to return this summer, presenter Fiona Bruce and our team of experts can’t wait to discover your forgotten family heirlooms and missing masterpieces. For the first time in more than four decades, the series will be filmed on a closed set with a small invited audience only, to ensure the safety of guests, production and the wider public.

Viewers are being asked to contact Antiques Roadshow about their objects as soon as possible so the team can start planning these really special shows. Upcoming locations are listed on the website (www.bbc.co.uk/antiquesroadshow) where viewers can use the ‘Share Your Story’ form to fill out details of their objects.

Presenter Fiona Bruce, who will be filming her 13th series of Antiques Roadshow, said she was delighted to be going back on the road in search of treasures. “Normally we welcome around 5,000 people to each Antiques Roadshow, but of course in these extraordinary times we will have to do things very differently. We’ve come up with a new way to safely film the show yet still bring you amazing items and stories. I can’t wait to see what treasures you have hidden in your homes.”

First broadcast in 1979 the Roadshow remains one of the most popular factual programmes on BBC One with some six million people regularly watching on Sunday evenings.

The award-winning show has visited hundreds of different venues both in the UK and abroad, but this year the entire series will be filmed with an invited audience only.

Robert Murphy, BBC Studios Series Editor, said: “To keep everybody safe and comply with current government and WHO regulations we have planned our filming days very differently this year. We won’t be holding large open events, but we will be inviting people who have written in advance to attend. Our team of experts are looking forward to seeing your heirlooms and finds so do go to our website and let us know about your treasures. We could be inviting you on the show to find out if that mystery object that’s been gathering dust all these years is actually worth a fortune!”

Some of the Roadshow’s most fascinating finds include a Faberge flower ornament worth £1 million, a handwritten document signed by Elizabeth I, a ring containing a lock of author Charlotte Bronte’s hair, a wristwatch owned by Lawrence of Arabia, a 17th Century miniature book reviewing Shakespeare’s plays and a leather jacket worn by John F Kennedy.

Many objects featured on the Roadshow are found in some extraordinary places. Winston Churchill’s hat and letters were discovered in a dump near London, diamond jewellery sewn into a sofa and a vanity set from Donald Trump’s yacht was found in a charity shop.

Find your nearest venue on our website and share your story: www.bbc.co.uk/antiquesroadshow.
Creating a safer
NORTH CARRICK

NCCBC has purchased in bulk close to £15,000 worth of hand sanitiser dispensers and the gel, gloves, wipes and masks and have been distributing this to community groups and businesses across the area. Community groups have received some of everything and all businesses have received the sanitiser stations and the gel. It’s hard enough picking back up after this crisis and this is something to help in the recovery for groups and business alike as these are expenses they have never known before. This will likely make our communities the safest places to visit in South Ayrshire as we will have delivered over 200 units by project end.

If we have missed you please let us know and we will address the situation. At times we have struggled to find shops open or you’ve been busy behind closed doors.

Recipient community groups of this so far have been:
The Carrick Centre, Maybole Parish Church, Crosshill Church, Crosshill Bowling Club, Crosshill Masonic Lodge, Straiton village stores, community toilets (co-operative) and village walks. Straiton Church, Straiton village hall, Kirkmichael stores and village hall, Kirkmichael Bowling Club, Kirkmichael church, Dunure Kennedy Hall, boat shed, harbour, Fisherton church, Maidens Bowling Club, Carrick Coastal Rowing, harbour and church, Kirkoswald church and hall, St Oswald’s church and hall, St Cuthbert’s church and hall, Maybole Bowling Club, Memorial Park Bowling Club, Carrick Rugby Club, the Somerville Pavilion at the Glebe (North Carrick Sports Hub,) Maybole Juniors, Maybole Charity Shop, South Ayrshire Community Transport.

Local businesses so far:

This list is correct as of 31st August and is likely to have changed by time of reading but we hope this gives you some idea of the efforts being made to support and keep safe the community of North Carrick.

Businesses have had to adapt as have customers through the crisis and we have secured funding to assist further. The intention is to work with and support businesses with developing an e-commerce site that will help them get the message out as to what they sell or do. This will assist the local community with shopping locally but also help to promote the area to visitors. We want all businesses to take this opportunity and if there is enough interest we can help shape a business forum which could enable you all to communicate with each other, share resources and open up bulk-buy opportunities with things like this sanitiser. Please get in touch, we want to help.
Now North Carrick Community Benefit and the Maybole Regeneration Project have joined forces to work with you in the NEW NORMAL

FOR BUSINESSES

• A limited supply of hand sanitisers and gel.

• Sell online with a new **E-COMMERCE PLATFORM**, work with our experts to get your goods and services to local and wider markets.

• Put your ideas into a theme and **BRAND FOR MAYBOLE**.
  - West Kilbride...Craft Town
  - Wigtown ..........Book Town
  - Maybole ..........?? ?? Town.

• Get involved in a **NEW MARKETING CAMPAIGN** to attract new visitors and encourage new spend in your business.

• If enough businesses want to get involved we’ll help to set up a **BUSINESS FORUM** for you to discuss ideas and tell people

**HOW TO GET INVOLVED?**
contact: claire.northcarrick@outlook.com or phone: 07730 748896
The Strangest Times!

Obviously, lockdown has impacted us all and planned activities have had to be rescheduled.

As things begin to open up again, I’m keen to pick up on the work that was happening in local communities. That will happen over the coming months. Some highlights for me during lockdown were:

- Helping NCCBC and other organisations to secure over £30,000 in Covid-19 related funding.

- Completing the guidance for the new NCCBC Community-led Projects Fund. NCCBC has allocated £50,000 for this. Most if not all communities now have groups working on how to use the £10,000 allocated to Maybole and the £5,000 allocated to each of the villages.

- Facilitating a “special written resolution” that was passed by members of NCCBC to make it easier for any resident in North Carrick to become a member of the company and have a say in how it distributes wind farm community benefit funds. That change was then approved by the Office of the Scottish Charity Registrar (OSCR). As reported elsewhere in the newsletter, the first 100 new members of the company will be entered into a prize draw.

- Working on funding applications for NCCBC to buy the Charity Shop in Maybole and renovate it as part of the Maybole Regeneration Project. More on this in the next issue.

- Finalising proposals for the joint South Ayrshire Council and NCCBC programme for Play Parks and Environmental Improvements. Crosshill, Straiton, Kirkmichael, Dunure, Kirkoswald, Maidens, and Minishant will share £100,000 for improvements to their play parks. (Turnberry has no play park and Maybole will see a major play park project implemented as part of another SAC funding scheme.) All nine communities in North Carrick will have some improvements to their local environment. This will include, for example, new notice boards, a shorefront path in Maidens, improvements to the Crossroads Walk in Maybole, improvements at the viewing point in Kennedy Park in Dunure, improvements to the Straiton Trails.

- Facilitating the appointment of Community Enterprise to engage with young people and produce a Strategy for Youth in North Carrick. NCCBC is funding this work and will use the Strategy to guide how it supports youth-related projects in future.

- Supporting the development of the new North Carrick Recovery Project to build on the work that was done during lockdown. This takes account of the findings of a survey of the people who benefited from the Isolation Support Project, the volunteers who were vital to its success and the local businesses that provided much needed help to people across North Carrick. Several organisations gave NCCBC details of the support that they need as lockdown eases. These organisations are encouraged to apply for funding from the next round of NCCBC funding. (The deadline for applications is the third week of October and applications will go through Marion Young as usual. Marion.young@southayrshire.gov.uk)

- Helping NCCBC to appoint consultants to develop new initiatives to support local businesses. Launch IT have been appointed to work with local businesses and community representatives on a project to decide on a Theme for Maybole (along the lines of Wigton – Book Town or West Kilbride – Craft Town), create a brand for the area, and establish an e-commerce site to increase sales for businesses across North Carrick. This work goes under the banner of “Love Maybole, Love North Carrick” and it will tie into the national “Scotland Loves” campaign. Maybole Community Council is leading the work and it is jointly funded by the Maybole Regeneration Project and NCCBC.

Contact stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com, telephone 07977 115974, for more information.
STARTING OR GROWING A BUSINESS?
IT’S EASIER WITH AMBITION

Did you use lockdown to think about a new business idea? Or maybe you took the opportunity to re-focus an existing business and create a plan for recovery and growth? Either way, South Ayrshire Council’s business support programme, AMBITION, can help.

AMBITION provides support to local people to start or grow a business – including those right here in North Carrick. AMBITION can help you whatever stage you’re at on your business journey and supports every type of business.

The programme includes:

- **Ambition to Achieve** which offers you access to a range of business experts who can give you all the support and advice you need to get going, including sales and marketing, finance, digital, procurement and management development.
- **Ambition to Start** which aims to get your business up and running, with grants up to a maximum of £1,000 to cover start up costs
- **Ambition to Grow** discretionary grant funding of up to £5,000 to help businesses deliver projects that create employment opportunities.

Although we can’t meet you face-to-face at the moment due to COVID-19 restrictions, our Business Advisors are still on the other end of the phone to help. Business Gateway also have a programme of useful webinars and online tutorials on a whole range of topics.

See what’s available here: [https://www.bgateway.com/events](https://www.bgateway.com/events)

For more details on how the AMBITION programme can help your business, visit our website at ambitionprogramme.co.uk or call one of our advisors today on 01292 616 349

ACHIEVEMENT STARTS WITH AMBITION

We can help your business get off the ground

Support and funding for new and growing businesses 01292 616 349 ambitionprogramme.co.uk

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North Carrick Community News...
North Carrick Community Resilience - Isolation Support

Project Summary from Claire Bryan, Project Coordinator

During the month of March, it became clear that Coronavirus was going to be something that affected all of us, and that the restrictions were going to tighten further. NCCBC acted fast to support vulnerable people in the community and recruited myself as a Project Coordinator.

As coordinator, I set to work in my new role establishing the project, which would go on to support people throughout the lockdown and beyond. By Saturday 21st March, we had collated tens of volunteers and liaised with all local shops and businesses to create a network of suppliers and volunteers to help deliver prescriptions and supplies to those who needed them.

The project quickly grew and strengthened as word spread and requests for help, and to volunteer, flooded in. Before we knew it, we had over 130 amazing volunteers across the district, ready for action. When full lockdown set in on the 23rd March, we had a system in place ready to support those that needed us. One of our main priorities when setting up the project was to be in sync with and communicate well with all the other local agencies and organisations to ensure we were all working to a common goal. We immediately contacted the Covid-19 Response Team at South Ayrshire Council, VASA and the team at South Ayrshire Lifeline, the Police, and our local NHS services and community pharmacies.

Throughout lockdown we were able to support hundreds of households with prescription and grocery deliveries, advice/signposting, hearing aid batteries, dog walking, telephone befriending, activities to keep folks occupied, support for local businesses, and so much more.

As circumstances began to change, and we approached Phase 2 of lockdown restrictions easing, we recognised the importance of surveying our service users to see how the project has affected them, and how they feel about the future. I designed a survey which was reviewed by NCCBC and volunteers from the project, who know the service users best. The questions were designed to help us gauge what support people were likely to need going forward, and how we can best prepare and future-proof our communities in the event of a second wave of Covid-19.

From the service users that we surveyed, we are able to see clearly how essential the volunteer support was to them. The feedback was incredible and very humbling, hearing just how grateful they were, often for very basic support.

Over 46% of Service Users indicated that they found out about the support available through the Community Newsletter, which highlights how important the newsletter has been in relaying information to those who are not online. 67% of those surveyed said that they would have been forced to leave the house themselves if we had not been able to deliver to them, as they had no one else to ask.

70% of those surveyed said they would be interested in continued support with food and prescription deliveries, and 60% said they would like the helpline to remain open longer, particularly in the event of a second wave of the virus.

As we moved into Phase 3 and restrictions began to ease, we helped our service users to rebuild their confidence. Volunteers helped to make sure that they had everything they needed to get back out and about safely, or to be independent at home.

As well as considering the importance of the project for the service users, we felt it was equally important to assess the feelings of the volunteers involved and how it has affected them. We created and sent out a Volunteer Feedback Survey which helped us to understand what volunteers have taken away from the experience, and what we can learn from it. We had a broad demographic of volunteers who came forward from across North Carrick, with an even spread of ages and genders.

70% of the volunteers surveyed said that they came forward because they wanted to help vulnerable people in their community, and 45% stated that they wanted to do something to feel useful during the crisis.
When asked about how they found their volunteering experience, the majority of volunteers selected the checkboxes indicating that they found the experience rewarding, enjoyable, and that it made them feel useful. Many volunteers agreed that it has helped them through the crisis.

As the project finished up, we had over 140 households registered with us who have been supported in some way throughout lockdown. Some receiving daily or weekly support, with others only needing deliveries on occasion. We estimate that over 220 households, and 300 people have been supported through our volunteer activity and through the activity of the local shops that we have been supporting.

On a personal note, I am so grateful to have had this focus over the last few months, and to support local people during this time has been a real privilege. The volunteers were all outstanding and it was a pleasure facilitating them to support people in their area. I am now looking forward to working more with local businesses in my new role as Recovery Coordinator for NCCBC. This new role will build on the amazing relationships we have built up with local businesses during lockdown and move forward to support their recovery and growth. This project will begin with three parts: a business forum, a theme town project for Maybole as the heart of North Carrick, and an extensive e-commerce platform available to business of all kinds across the district. Please see the poster for more exciting details!

The Isolation Support helpline is now closed, and the number will be live with an answering machine message explaining things for a few weeks in case anyone tries to reach us. Although this project has finished, I’m still here to help with anything that arises from our activity during lockdown, so please do get in touch if anything comes up. The email address (northcarrickresilience@outlook.com) will remain live and I also have a new email address which I will be using for the new Recovery project.

**Voucher Scheme Summary**

Community Newsletters and the Voucher Scheme

In March, NCCBC launched a voucher scheme, set up to support both residents and local businesses throughout the lockdown. £20 worth of vouchers were included in each of the April copies of the North Carrick Community Newsletter, for use in all the local shops who joined the scheme. The newsletters were distributed by volunteer deliveries, which included rural properties to ensure as many people as possible were reached. The scheme was very well received and NCCBC received incredibly good feedback from residents and local shop owners. Those who felt they did not need their vouchers were encouraged to donate them to our local foodbank, or to a community group or church of their choice who could utilise the vouchers during the period.

**Voucher Scheme Feedback**

The SPAR and Post Office in Maybole reported to us that they collected £3,860 worth of vouchers spent towards gas and electricity payments, which we think highlights the lifeline the scheme was to many locals in the town. They also collected £3,260 worth of vouchers to be passed on to the foodbank. Some of these vouchers were then spent on meat packs from the local butcher which enabled the Foodbank to provide fresh meat and meals to their customers. The owners of Crosshill Shop and Post Office said, “We would like to convey how much we appreciate all the business that has been generated throughout this incentive albeit not in the circumstances we would have wished for. Thank you to everyone involved in the organising of this.”

Peter Childe of Little K Kitchen in Maidens, one of the local shops supporting this initiative, said, “The voucher scheme has been fantastic for the shop and the local residents really appreciate it.”

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**NEXT STEPS – NORTH CARRICK RECOVERY PROJECT**

I am now looking forward to working more with local businesses in my new role as Recovery Coordinator for NCCBC. This new role will build on the amazing relationships we’ve built up with local businesses during lockdown and move forward to support their recovery and growth. This project will begin with three parts: a business forum, a theme town project for

Maybole as the heart of North Carrick, and an extensive e-commerce platform available to business of all kinds across the district. Please see the advert, on page 5, for more exciting details!

New number: 07730 748896
Email: claire.northcarrick@outlook.com OR stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com

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South Ayrshire Lifeline details on page 23

North Carrick Community News... 9
The building currently known as the Speakers

During the height of the pandemic the works on this building stopped like so many other sites across Scotland. When work stopped the building was at a turning point from demolition and stripping the building to starting to reinstate, alas 14 weeks were lost.

When works resumed there were a whole new set of site rules and regulations to adhere to because of the C19 crisis with social distancing requirements, one way routes around the building and effectively a quarantine site to work on. This meant that initially the work force had to be reduced to 60% to allow for social distancing which inevitably has a slowing effect on progress. Lochlie construction rose to the new challenges and are actually progressing at a steady pace although like all sites supply of goods have been an issue particularly when design of goods has been required as some companies still have furloughed staff, again this all impacts on time as goods that would have been four weeks prior to the crisis can stretch out as far as nine weeks.

A lot of the issues with this building were being caused and made worse by lack of ventilation, lack of heating in some areas and general wind and water tightness. As in previous articles the rot was extreme with whole sections of roof and flooring joists crumbling. All that is now addressed, ventilation and heating going in with what seems miles of pipe work and wiring, so the new building will be warm and dry.

Images attached show sections of roof with new stone repair and dressed lead concealed gutters which were virtually none existent. Sections of the mechanical and electrical installations that will never be seen again once everything is all closed in and its likely this will be the last magazine before the building re opens to the public.

When the building re-opens it will take on a new identity (chosen by the public in a survey carried out in December 2019) and whilst we to many it will always be the club it will actually be anything but. The facility as it has been since 2016 is now operated by a charity Carrick community leisure group) with no connections to the former members club which dispanded in 2015 so there are no membership requirements it really is open to all. The cafe / restaurant and bars were and will be open to all and will be family friendly focussed and we have some exciting prospects that we are working on in relation to this, more to be revealed soon. The function areas have been carefully designed for all types of celebrations and particularly around weddings. We will showcase the building and it’s potential when we open.

All of the above is what will enable the charity to continue to be able to offer the spaces for wider community aspects and we look forward to welcoming back all of the previous groups and clubs that utilised the spaces previously and subject to c19 conditions we will be offering a range of activity also and with the addition of the lift, ramps and fully accessible toilets, there really are no limitations.
JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS MEAL

Serving food daily from 12 noon

At The Kirkton Inn we pride ourselves on serving high quality, locally sourced food. We always have exciting dishes to tempt the tastebuds, boasting a wide range of traditionally Scottish dishes with a modern twist. Our team of talented chefs are always exploring new ideas to keep our menu exciting and of course delicious!

“★★★★★
Food was amazing, thoroughly enjoyed it! The staff are great too, very relaxed, friendly and really helpful. First time going there, but it definitely won’t be the last, loved it. Thank you so much.

Review from one of our recent customers

1-3 Main St, Dalrymple, Ayrshire, KA6 6DF | 01292 502123
info@thekirktoninn.co.uk | thekirktoninn.co.uk
North Carrick Community Newsletter needs....

We want all our residents to contribute to these newsletters, without your input we cannot produce a quality publication. We know the newsletters are well-read but we seem to lack articles and photos from our locals. Please take some time to write up a small story, could be on your work experience, charity event, your recent dog walk, first day at school, your own poem, updates on your club/organisation etc. We are basically looking for any stories, large or small to include within future publications as **North Carrick needs YOU**.

Please send all your stories and photographs to: **david.kiltie@talktalk.net**
Nav and Faz invite you to let Priya transport your tastebuds on a journey of discovery

Having worked in local Indian restaurants for over twenty years, Nav and Faz have heard diners lament that they could not get an authentic Indian dining experience in Ayrshire.

Faz had previously worked at Ayr’s Rupee Room for over 18 years and set up the Doonfoot based Priya Indian kitchen over a year ago with his business partner Nav, they are ready to welcome their customers with a celebration of Indian flavour and hospitality.

They named the restaurant after Nav’s wife who first spotted the building as the ideal location for the pair to share their love of traditional Indian food so they opened Priya Authentic Indian Kitchen.

They invite you to immerse yourself in a mouth-watering experience and awaken your tastebuds with their authentic menu which showcases the very best of India’s exotic cuisine.

Set over two floors, the restaurant has space to cater for many customers and has various menus to choose from including Vegan, A la Carte, Takeaway, Kids and a Half Price main course menu so there is something for everyone.

You can view the menus, book a table or place your order online at: www.priyakitchen.com

With a traditional approach to Indian cooking, Priya’s dishes are authentic, not forced Western fusions.

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North Carrick Community News... 13
Jim and Celia Davidson, of Crosshill, are both retired and have an interest in living history mainly of the 1940s - 1950s and are members of the “Scottish Home Front Living History Society”.

Celia told us, “This year we would have been attending several events which would have celebrated the 75th anniversary of VE Day but because of ‘lockdown’ all of them were postponed! We decided to put on a wee display using what artistic ‘talent’ and limited materials we had at home. This went down well with neighbours and the increased number of walkers and cyclists passing by. On taking that display down, we thought we could manage to create what we are calling “Davidsons Pop-Up Mini Museum” in our front window which is directly seen from the pavement and it proved popular.”
Calling all Young Men 18-45

Why not join the round table?

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Amazing Activities • Community Work

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Fun & Fellowship • Personal development

INCREASED PURPOSE

The odd beer and curry

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Being part of a club that raised over £5 million pounds last year

Doing lots of cool stuff • BEING A TABLER

Undertaking random acts of kindness

To get a feel good factor

Newly moved to the area. Self satisfaction

To get involved drop us a message on Facebook

email: carrick@roundtable.org.uk or call 07786 735 355

We look forward to welcoming you!

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• Fresh and smoked Fish from Fencebay at Fairlie
• Meats and pies from Dalduff Farm in Maybole
• Ayrshire artisan cheeses from Dunlop dairies
• We also have a garden section for plants, herbs and bedding all locally grown.

www.ayrshiremarketfresh.co.uk

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or email for more info
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Email: stevenheaney4@gmail.com

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North Carrick Community News... 15
Young people are the future for North Carrick!
So, it is important that young people express their views and ideas. Working alongside North Carrick Community Benefit Company, young people will be able to develop activities and projects which are both wanted and needed as part of the North Carrick Strategy for Youth.

Mark Fletcher, Chair of North Carrick Community Benefit Company, which is paying for the work to develop the Youth Strategy, commented, “Covid-19 has affected us all but young people have suffered more than most – with disruption to education, difficulties with exams and qualifications, missing out on social contacts, and real fears about job prospects. We want to do whatever we can to help, now and in the coming years.

“There have been several attempts over the years to find out what young people in North Carrick want. Our commitment is to make sure that young people get as many chances as possible to tell us what needs to change. We need you to give us your ideas on how things can be improved. Then we’ll publish a Strategy and we’ll work with you and public bodies and local organisations to make change happen.”

Young people shared their views and thoughts recently when the local Community Action Plans were being written but there is a need to develop ideas further. If you are a young person or you provide a youth work service in the communities of Dunure; Kirkoswald, Maidens and Turnberry; Crosshill, Straiton and Kirkmichael; Maybole or Minishant don’t miss your chance to have your say.

You can get involved in lots of ways:

Young People:
• If you are part of a youth group or meet local youth leaders, tell them what is important to you. What is missing in your village or town, what would make it a better community for you and what initiatives should be developed for young people
• Complete an online survey and win £50 of Amazon vouchers. Follow this link: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NorthCarrickYouthStrategy you may want to ask a parent or adult to help you.
• Take part in informal discussion groups. If this interests you, please provide your contact details by emailing Lynda at Community Enterprise.
• Everyone has a favourite brand. The North Carrick Youth Strategy will have a brand of its own, decided by young people themselves. If you would like to take part in this activity, let us know by emailing Lynda at Community Enterprise.
• Contact North Carrick Community Benefit Company or Community Enterprise and share your thoughts.

Youth Workers and Leaders:
• Complete an online survey www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NCYouthStrategyStakeholders

Hannah Westwater, a young person who has been involved in the project so far says, “This is your chance to shape your future. It’s a fantastic opportunity to ensure your health, education, community spirit, employment and leisure opportunities are not ignored. Some of these may not be important to you now, but your needs will change. Get involved in whatever way you can!”

Contact: Community Enterprise
Lynda Johnstone. Phone: 07898 983 931
Email: lynda@communityenterprise.co.uk

North Carrick Community Benefit Company
Stuart Lindsay. Phone: 07977 115974
Email: stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com

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A new approach to funding is being piloted by North Carrick Community Benefit Company with £50,000 being shared between Maybole and the eight villages. Small projects will be funded in each place and there is no need for applicants to match the money being put up by NCCBC. The most important thing is that it will be people in the villages who decide what projects should be funded.

The North Carrick Development Officer, Stuart Lindsay, commented, “The ‘normal’ NCCBC process is that community organisations decide on a project that they want to implement and then make an application to the NCCBC Board. Each applicant must cover some of the costs of their project from sources other than NCCBC. For grants of less than a £1,000 from NCCBC, the applicant has to put in 10% of the project costs from their own funds or from another funder. For NCCBC grants between £1,000 and £5,000, groups need to be able to cover 25% of the project costs, and for grants above £5,000, groups must cover 50% of the costs from other sources.

“This ‘match-funding’ is important since, without it, we wouldn’t be able to support as many projects across all of North Carrick each year. So, the normal process will continue for most of the projects that NCCBC funds. However, several groups and communities have pointed out that the need for match-funding makes it difficult for small groups to get their projects done. Hence, the new Community-led Projects Fund.”

Local panels have already started work on allocating funding for this year. For more information about what is happening in your village or town contact your local NCCBC Director or Stuart at stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com.

The process for the new fund is:

- NCCBC announces the amount of money available
- A panel made up of people from the community - including at least one NCCBC Director - publicises the funding and either proposes projects to be funded or asks the community to suggest projects
- Local people tell the panel what projects they want funded – either by voting or through some other form of consultation. (The community might decide to fund just one project or decide to split the money across several smaller projects)
- The panel sends a report to the NCCBC and the Directors approve the process and the project(s) to be funded
- Groups complete their projects
- The panel gathers information on how project(s) in their village have been implemented and reports to the NCCBC Board
- If successful, the CPF cycle is repeated in future years.
Community Group Pushing for “The Culzean Way”

A local community group has a great aspiration - the development of a safe, attractive and traffic-free, all-abilities walking and cycling path linking Ayr to Girvan with Culzean Castle and Country Park as its centrepiece. For further details of The Culzean Way visit: www.theculzeanway.org.uk

So we are really hoping for a strong commitment from our parish community. The aim is to help those most in need, building on connections we already have with food bank users in the Carrick Centre.”

Work started to clear the veggie garden site towards the end of August and Simon told us, “Exciting times as things are starting to happen!”

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36 Quick bread
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Answers on page 26
THE FIRST 100 NEW MEMBERS OF NORTH CARRICK COMMUNITY BENEFIT COMPANY WILL BE ENTERED INTO A PRIZE DRAW

Chair of NCCBC, Mark Fletcher, explained the changes, “Because North Carrick is split into five Community Council areas the company was set up to ensure that these five community councils – elected by the residents – have equal power in decision making. This has worked well with all five areas having had a fair share of the cake regardless of the size of the individual Community Council area. But we found that our requirement for members of the company to be nominated by their Community Council was creating an unnecessary barrier to membership.

We have changed our constitution so that all residents over 16 years of age can apply directly to become members and, to promote inclusivity, we have created a ‘junior member’ category for residents aged between 12 and 15 years. Arrangements are still in place to make sure that no one Community Council area can override the others and decision making will continue to reflect the needs and aspirations of the whole area.”

Please fill in the form below and email to: stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com or call: 07977 115974

**North Carrick Community Benefit – Membership Application Form**

Applicant’s Name: ............................................................................................................................................

Applicant’s Address: ........................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................................................

........................................................................................................................................................................

.................................................................................. Postcode: ..........................................................

E-mail Address: ..............................................................................................................................................

I am applying as a Full Member (16 Years and above) 
I am applying as a Junior Member (12 to 15 Years) 
I am applying as an Associate Member (Non-Resident or Organisation)

Junior Member’s Date of Birth: (……/……/………….)

Name of Organisation: .................................................................................................... Date: ......................

I confirm that I have received a copy of the Articles of Association of North Carrick Community Benefit, that I want to be a Member of NCCB, and that the information I have given is correct

Signed: .................................................................................................... Date: ..............................

I, _______________________, as parent/guardian of this junior applicant give consent for this application to be processed

Signed: .................................................................................................... Date: ..............................

We need to know all members’ contact details so that we can contact you about meetings and other company business. We need to know Junior Members’ Date of Birth so that we can ask you if you want to transfer to Full Membership when you reach 16 years of age. When we ask you for personal information, we ensure that: 1. You know why we need it and what we are going to do with it, 2. We only ask for what we need and don’t collect too much, or irrelevant information, 3. We protect it and make sure nobody has access to it who shouldn’t, 4. We only share it with other organisations when there is an identified need and it is lawful to do so, 5. We don’t keep it longer than necessary, 6. You know how to tell us that you object to us processing your information and how to tell us if the information we hold about you is not correct or you want us to erase it, 7. It’s not made available for commercial use, 8. You know how to contact us and our data protection officer.
NCCBC are building a bank of copyright-free images to showcase the area.

For full details or to submit entries email: Stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com

Closing date for entries: 12 noon on Friday 12th October

LOVING NORTH CARRICK
Amateur Photography Competition

Turn your photos into prizes

1ST PRIZE
choice of digital equipment up to a value of £500

2ND PRIZE
choice of digital equipment up to a value of £350

9 RUNNERS UP
vouchers for iTunes or Amazon worth £30

For full details or to submit entries email: Stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com
Closing date for entries: 12 noon on Friday 12th October
South Ayrshire Lifeline
we’re still here for you

A special helpline which provided vital support to thousands of elderly and vulnerable people during the lockdown is still here to offer a helping hand.

South Ayrshire Lifeline, which is run by Voluntary Action South Ayrshire (VASA), can deliver a range of services – and they are all just a free phone call away.

Call South Ayrshire Lifeline on 0800 432 0510 for:

• Hearing aid batteries - Our team will quickly post out your replacement batteries.
• Sensory Help Packs - The pack made up by the S.I.S.G charity is full of handy equipment including a magnifier and a 3-in-1 hearing aid cleaning tool plus tips and information, and we can send one out to you.
• Telephone befriending - sometimes a friendly voice on the other end of the line can make all the difference. If you would like to make a new phone friend, please give us a ring to find out more.
• Signposting – Looking for information on local services? A call to South Ayrshire Lifeline can help point you in the right direction.
• PPE – we can provide face masks, aprons, gloves etc to unpaid carers with Covid symptoms.
• Face shields – We also have a limited supply of lightweight face shields designed by Strathclyde University’s research centre in partnership with Tsukure in Ayr. Call us to request your face shield, while stocks last.
• Out and About – not sure about venturing out now lockdown is over? Need some support to get back to shopping, the bank, and post office? If do then please contact us for information about our new short term support service.

South Ayrshire Lifeline is open 9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday. Our friendly team look forward to hearing from you on 0800 432 0510.

LOVING NORTH CARRICK
Photography Competition

Rules:

• This is a competition for local amateur photographers.
• Open to any resident in North Carrick who wishes to submit photograph.
• Maximum 10 photos per entrant.
• Photos will go into a bank of copyright-free images that showcase North Carrick and can be used by individuals, groups, and businesses to promote the area.
• Assume that photographs will be used in both print and digital media.
• Photographs should be a minimum resolution of 300 dpi for printing purposes.
• Theme for the photographs should be about attracting visitors to the area and helping residents to know more about their local area.
• Closing date for submitting digital photos is: **12 noon on Monday 12th October.**
• Winners will be selected by a panel of local people set up by NCCBC.
• The panel’s decisions will be final.
• Winners will be notified no later than 30th October.
• All photographs - whether winning entries or not - may be made available free of charge for use in promoting the area.
• Anyone using the images will be required to credit NCCBC as the source.

Any enquiries please contact: stuart.northcarrick@gmail.com or text to: 07977 115974

North Carrick Community News... 23
Gordon Cuthbertson from Carrick Round Table, a Theatre Nurse with over twenty years experience, has just returned from a trip to Ethiopia where along with six surgeons and four nurses from across Scotland, was part of a team that restored vision to 270 people! “I flew out of Glasgow at 4pm Saturday 29th February arriving in Dilla, South Ethiopia Sunday 4pm.

The nurse team set up the operating theatre on the Monday morning while the surgeons assessed the patient suitability for surgery. The theatre was essentially a scout hall style building with five operating tables in the main room. We operated Monday afternoon through to Friday.

The patients had mature white cataracts in both eyes rendering them blind, in the UK when you develop cataracts you get a little haze and glare whilst driving. These patients had cataracts that were like looking from hard ice on your windscreen...completely blind. Their vision was ‘perception of light’ they couldn’t even count fingers in front of their face.

Our youngest cataract patient was only eight years old. When we were packing up on the Saturday morning a mother arrived in the camp with her 18 month old son who had a splinter embedded in their cornea (clear part at front of eye), we quickly anaesthetized the child’s eye and got the mother to hold her baby tight as we removed the splinter using fine forceps and restoring vision in the eye.

We also provided training to the local nurses and ophthalmic surgeon in this “Old School” technique of cataract surgery hopefully allowing them to continue this good work. I had to use up a week’s annual leave for the trip but I can’t think of a better way to spend a week.”
These patients had walked for days to get to the camp and were sleeping on the ground in a military tent, some were just sleeping outside, the camp had provided them with basic food and water such is the level of desperation there to get treatment.

When we arrived back in the UK we received a report from the local optician who was going to follow-up the patients stating that over 200 were seeing 20/20 with the rest being able to read at least the top three lines of an eye chart, he had never seen so many patients going from blind to this quality of outcome.

Cataract surgery is the most commonly performed operation on the NHS here in the UK with nearly 400,000 being performed each year and is the leading cause of blindness in Africa. The trip was organised by two Glasgow based charities “Fighting Blindness In Ethiopia” who make the local arrangements and ground work, and “Fiona’s Eye Fund” who funds the trip. These two charities have been working in partnership for a number of years and have given sight back to thousands of people in Ethiopia.

If you would like more information on this wonderful cause visit Fiona’s eye fund on Facebook or to donate just visit

www.justgiving.com/fionaseyefund

cffects cure the blind!
ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY

Should you wish to advertise within the next edition of the North Carrick Community Newsletter please contact Shona McMahon at Evolution Designs Ltd: evolutiondesigns@sky.com or call 07753 111 038.

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The North Carrick Community Newsletter is for YOU, the community, so PLEASE submit all your articles, events, news updates etc. to:

david.kiltie@talktalk.net

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Kirkmichael Community Project Fund

NCCBC are providing an annual grant of £5,000 to each of the eight villages in North Carrick and £10,000 to Maybole to fund, without the requirement for any match funding, projects to be proposed by their communities. Kirkmichael Community Project Fund is the organisation that will facilitate this in the village of Kirkmichael and surrounding rural community. This NCCBC funding is made possible by community funding from ScottishPower Renewable’s Dersalloch Windfarm.

This is a great opportunity to fund projects in Kirkmichael that matter to its residents, ideas proposed by the village and decided on by the village. Application can be made by constituted bodies, or individuals with the support of a village group, forms are relatively simple to fill in and help and assistance will be gladly provided by Kirkmichael Community Project Fund panel.

The only limitation we have is our imagination, they need individuals and groups to come forward with the ideas, big or small, for equipment or services, ideas for the park, for the environment or walks, ideas for an event or to start up a new village club. This is an opportunity to make life in our great wee village better, particularly important after the challenging year it has been so far. Not everyone has the time to get involved in organising things in the village, but we all have ideas of things we’d like to have or do in the village and this funding can give us the opportunity to make these things happen.

Please contact Kirkmichael Community Project Fund for application forms, or even just your ideas. Our Facebook page is www.facebook.com/KirkmichaelCommunityProjectFund or just search for Kirkmichael Community Project Fund, you will find application forms and an email contact button there. Alternatively, contact one of the Kirkmichael Community Project Fund panel members, or any of the village groups, they will point you in the right direction.

Don’t be shy and get involved, and make the great wee village of Kirkmichael even better!!!
Lunches @ LOCKDOWN
Dinners and Tasty Home-Baking too!

The Carrick Centre was delighted to be able to bring their Carrick Centre@Your Door project to North Carrick residents during Lockdown.

It was funded by the Scottish Government’s Supporting Communities Fund which enabled the Centre to bring a great free cooked meal delivery service to the North Carrick Community during the months of June to September as well as assist other groups, and their own projects and services, with their on-line support for the community.

Peter Lynn, Chairman of the Centre, said “We are delighted to have worked with local partners and amazing volunteers to make life a bit easier for many of our residents who have been affected in a variety of ways by Covid-19 and the restrictions.”

As Covid-19 affected everyone, support was required across the board for individuals and families during this time. Along with our partners and volunteers the Centre strived to reach as many people as possible who were vulnerable, isolated, shielding, restricted or impacted by Covid-19 and at its peak we were delivering 500 cooked meals a week across North Carrick.

It was not just the meals that made a difference, our hardworking Order Hot Desk team contacted residents daily or weekly with a phone call to see how they were doing and what they would like to order. For some this was sometimes the only conversation they had. Equally, the Centre and North Carrick Isolation Group’s brilliant volunteer delivery drivers spent time chatting - from a distance - when they dropped off the meals. All of this provided much-welcomed communication and contact, especially for some of our more isolated customers.

Relief was also provided in a different way to our customers’ wider families who, due to restrictions were unable to reach and support in the way they wanted to and were extremely grateful for the support and peace of mind this gave. It was sometimes them who phoned up to order for a family member that they weren’t able to visit. We had many calls thanking us for the service:

“Wonderful idea”, “Such a great help for people”, “My family are delighted that they can use this service for me”.

And we loved this comment: “No Meatballs - Surprise Me Each Day”

There are many more and it is this feedback that has let us know how important this service has been. Looking forward we all know there is still a long way to go with the Covid-19 situation and impacts and we are continually working with our partners and funders to see where we go from here and whether similar services will still be supported moving forward but we will let you know as soon as we do.

In the meantime we would like to thank our team, volunteers, partners and funders as without their commitment and support during this extremely difficult time we could not have made this happen.

Evan Campbell - It’s the meatballs! from the Free Cooked Meal Delivery Service

Chick maintenance volunteer helping out with the Free Meals Service

Gordon, Juliet & Evan on the Hot Desk taking calls and packing meals for delivery

Newsletter - The Carrick Courier which had jokes, competitions and updates on what was happening in the Centre and was issued with the free meal delivery bags
After five months since shutting our doors to the public, we couldn’t wait to open our Café as the first phase of our re-opening - which we did - on Monday 17th August.

One of our much loved volunteers Sarah Chapman, 85 did the honours of cutting the ribbon. Sarah said, “I am truly delighted to be back. It has been a long while. I love the good coffee and baking and friendly staff and I have been given a hug from a distance by the manager Andrea.”

She added: There is always good company here and it is such a bright, open space. It has been the love of my life since it opened nearly 10 years ago. I used to be here every day as a volunteer but now I come three days a week. “I have missed it so much!”

Chair of the Carrick Centre Peter Lynn said, “We are delighted to be able to open our doors once more, to welcome our regulars back, to be here for the North Carrick Community.”

The Café will open Monday to Friday 10am until 2pm serving, breakfast rolls, filled rolls, main courses like cottage pie, baked potatoes, drinks and delicious home baking, fresh every day. In this phase of re-opening the Centre is unable to open its Soft Play but is keeping an eye on the situation.

When you enter the Centre you will be met with a warm welcome - even though you might not be able to see the smile! - the staff will be wearing masks in the public spaces and they ask you too to wear masks, which can be removed once seated in the Café. The café has table service and a one-way system through the centre. Visitors will be asked to give contact details, maintain social distancing and follow signage. They will also be asked to pay, where possible, using contactless payment. Hand sanitisers are available on each table.

Andrea, Centre Manager added: “The Carrick Centre continues to support the South Ayrshire Foodbank throughout this period, ensuring their team have access to the centre to continue their work. Locals regularly make donations of clothes, toiletries and toys, as well as food.”

Wilma Milligan and her team have done a fantastic job during the lockdown as usual and the Centre is open weekdays 9am-2pm to receive donations.

In this initial phase due to Covid-19 measures the Centre is unable to offer the full range of services and classes. We are currently working with our groups/users to see who, how and when these can be restarted. We have been assisting, as part of our Carrick Centre@Your Door project, some of our user groups to go online with free yoga and pilates.

For more information, and to keep up to date as we continue to review our services, please see our social media and website links below.

The Centre’s Youth Zone and Training Kitchen have also taken some of their services online - crafts, story-telling and a nature blog for youngsters with Hannah Westwater and the Youth Zone Team - as well as Carrick Tots TV on a Monday morning. Meanwhile, our chef tutor Juliet Thomson has provided a valuable service to the Can Connect support group for young adults and to many of our trainees from the training kitchen with on-line cooking videos, chatrooms, competitions and more.

For more information:
Tel: 01655 883222
info@carrickcentre.co.uk
www.carrickcentre.co.uk
Social Media: Facebook/Twitter @carrickcentre
In 2019 we started our Holiday Activity Programme in partnership with South Ayrshire Council Community Learning & Development (CLD) providing a range of fantastic activities and lunches - for free - to young people in North Carrick during the school holidays. As well as South Ayrshire Council it was also supported by West FM Cash for Kids, Big Lottery Community Fund, Foundation Scotland and William Grant Foundation.

The programme was loved by the young people and their families alike and the Centre was a buzz of activity. Cookery classes, Multi-Sports, Crafts and more were available and with a tasty buffet lunch and socialising to top it off - we just loved it too. It was with sadness, then, when we had to take the decision to cancel our Easter and Summer 2020 programmes due to Covid-19.

But, all was not lost - funded by the STV Children's Appeal we decided to come up with an alternative for the Summer and our Youth Zone team made up of staff and volunteers did a fantastic job coming up with the idea of an activity pack, containing lots of art and craft materials, fun items, recipe books, craft instructions and links to our on line videos as well as a comic strip and more.

Over 400 activity bags were put together by an army of volunteers - which was what was needed! - and we had our very own wee production line running out of our Cargill Room. Then it was over to CLD for distribution and bags were delivered across North Carrick - a match for Santa and his elves on the delivery front any day!

We were delighted to have been able to provide this during a time when we are missing so much of our normal day to day social interaction and unable to provide our normal services for our young people and although not the same as face to face we knew the packs were much appreciated and enjoyed.
The Carrick Centre would like to say a MASSIVE THANK YOU! - For all the amazing support, friendly words and help we have received during the lockdown and as we start our recovery, opening our doors and services back to the public.

I am sure there are many organisations across our community who will join us in this as it is in these times of crisis that we see, with even more clarity, the goodness, hard work and commitment that is out there when we come together to support one another. We are extremely thankful to all our staff, volunteers and partner organisations, of which there are too many to mention.

And we could not have done it without the support of our funders: The National Lottery, Foundation Scotland, William Grant Foundation, STV Children’s appeal, The Robertson Trust, Scottish Government and South Ayrshire Council who we would like to thank for their continued support which is and has been essential to enable us to continue to support our community.

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As a result of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, NHS Ayrshire & Arran needed to cancel routine endoscopy appointments to allow clinicians to focus on the immediate response to the pandemic, as well as free up clinical areas.

We are now in the position where we have restarted some endoscopy services, including colonoscopy. We have put new processes in place to ensure the safety of our patients and staff.

The attached poster and leaflet provide information and guidance on what to expect when attending hospital for an Endoscopy appointment. There are also 2 short videos, which can be viewed using the links below, one is an appointment walkthrough and the other with Lead Consultant Kevin Robertson: https://youtu.be/9_EuLbhlJ7E and https://youtu.be/AckYoTlnJg

Information can also be accessed and shared via the Caring for Ayrshire Facebook, Twitter and web page - https://www.nhsaaa.net/caring-for-ayrshire/endoscopy/

We are keen to ensure we provide the most appropriate information and formats to help keep you informed. So please get in touch if you would like to discuss this or require information in different formats.

Please pass this information on to any individuals, groups, networks or services you feel would find it useful.
Restoring Services

Endoscopy

Information for you

• We have restarted some endoscopy services, including colonoscopy.

• Some endoscopy areas in our hospitals are being used for Covid purposes – this means we have reduced space to run the service.

• We are focusing on urgent cases first. If you were referred urgently you can expect to be contacted within 3 months. Patients referred routinely will have a longer wait. Thank you for your patience.

• It is important that you attend your appointment. If you are unable to attend, please contact the telephone number on your appointment letter.

• Some patients will be sent a home stool kit. If you receive a kit, please follow the instructions to complete and return it as soon as possible.

Your appointment

• Before your appointment, we’ll arrange for you to have a Covid test. You may also be asked to self-isolate for a period of time.

• Attend as close to your appointment time as possible – don’t be late, but please also don’t arrive early.

• If you have a relative or friend accompanying you, they will not be able to wait in the hospital, but when you are ready to go home we will take you to the exit to meet them.

• Infection control measures will be in place. Please wear a face covering or mask to your appointment.

• If you have been referred by the bowel cancer screening programme, you will have your colonoscopy at the Golden Jubilee National Hospital in Glasgow.

For more information visit: www.nhsaaa.net/caring-for-ayrshire

@CaringForAyrshire

@Caring4Ayrshire

North Carrick Community News... 33
A word from Maybole Community Council

Things are looking great for Maybole just now with millions of much needed investment coming our way and, after a year I’m sure most will want to forget, we thought it would be good to share the brighter future ahead.

As we are all aware the long fought for bypass (value £30million) is well under way now and most recently one of the bridges made huge advances with the introduction of three of the concrete girders for spanning Gardenrose Path being installed. If you haven’t seen the video of them being delivered have a look on Maybole Ayrshire page as it was shared on there and also on Youtube. Inevitably we should expect a delay due to the closure of works for Covid-19 but great progress is being made. Wills Brothers couldn’t give a statement at this time as to how they had been affected.

The school campus at the Academy site will be going ahead and just before the crisis it was going to final design and we look forward to seeing that when it’s available and this school will be built in the near future at a further investment of £40 million.

The Maybole town centre regeneration project is making good progress and whilst it doesn’t look like it just now, as with all these types of projects the planning and organising and setting up of the grant funding does take time and the newly appointed officer only joined in late January and within two months we all went into lockdown.

That said, there has been engagement with property owners and a good number of properties in the High Street have expressed an interest in the two strands of funding for new shopfronts and property improvements. This programme runs through to 2023/24 and the major improvements will begin when the bypass opens and the de-trunked High Street can be made accessible for the works on properties and the public realm (hard landscaping) to begin. This project is now being combined with active-travel funding which will create better walking and cycling opportunities and combined has a value of around £8million with an investment from SAC of £1million included in this. This investment will make the High Street a nicer place to be and much more useable and if we can get the shops back into use and the visual impression improved. With everything else happening around the town, it’s a win-win for all.

The town has a lot of interest in new developments with houses already being built at Ladyland Road and a large estate scheduled beside the Glebe and further social housing prospects in other areas. All these extra families will offer the High Street and other businesses much needed income and job creation potential.

Maybole Community Council, along with the other four community councils in North Carrick, are partnering with NCCBC to develop an e-commerce site and to assist businesses in the town and surrounding area highlighted in another article.
In early September, South Ayrshire Council looked at active play and recreation and this was based on the £2 million VAT relief that SAC had been granted. This money came from HMRC as best we know with little guidance for its uses and was possible because VAT had been charged in error for certain leisure activities.

SAC had decided that a good use for this funding would be to invest in play parks and other leisure activities and we are pleased to say that Maybole was considered for funding at £200,000. The council took note of the many requests that had been made to them over the past few years and also of the information in our Action Plan for a better play park for the children of the town that was more in line with the ones at Ayr and Girvan sea front and the emphasis will be on creating this in Miller Park which was once the pride of the town. With a much more family-friendly space, it is hoped that the park will once again take its place as the pride of the town. As the images show it is a much-needed investment and with families taking ownership we can turn about the sorry condition our park is in. We would thank our local elected members for putting our case for investment across to the panel.

The plans are not available in time for this publication and hopefully we will see the finished result before the next magazine but if the winter or Covid-19 cause delays we will publish the plans when we receive them. The split of funds is for £170,000 to Miller park and £30,000 in Dailly Road.

It is understood that there are other play areas in the town and the logic for not splitting the fund wider is as explained, if the town wants a super park every penny will be required to achieve this and splitting the pot won’t have the impact that this will and it is in line with the information from surveys, action planning and other sources of information.

Further to all, this Maybole was given funding of £10,000 as part of the NCCBC community-led funding and three projects, in line with funding requirements and again local action plans, were put forward for a vote. These included Improvements to the Crossroads, creating a closed-in area for dogs to take exercise with their owners and the third option was for a shelter of some sort at the Greenside for people to take refuge if caught out by the weather.

There was also the option to suggest future projects as we hope that this funding will be annual. Unfortunately at this time, because of the Covid-19 situation, the only avenue open to us in the timescale was an on-line survey. We appreciate not everyone is on-line so whilst we can’t change the vote for this year we will give everyone the opportunity again to help draw out priorities for next time and this will be in the next edition of this magazine. Unfortunately, we can’t address every issue and we can’t use public funding to sort issues that are the responsibility of others like the council or roads departments where they have statutory obligations to supply but we can work in partnership to ensure priorities are looked at first and addressed when funding is available.

The result of the survey isn’t available at the time of writing this as it closes on the 13/09/20 and the deadline for the magazine is 4/09/20 but we will announce the results soon after.

We would encourage you, if possible, to like and follow Maybole Community Council’s page on Facebook as it is a good avenue for contact and information.
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