Community-led Planning Newsletter Blog

February 2024



The Borders is currently a hive of community-led planning activity! Our <u>peer support network</u> is now in full swing, a dedicated <u>community-led planning webpage</u> has been launched on the Borders Community Action website and we are supporting groups with their community engagements as part of our pilot in Berwickshire and Cheviot. Catch up on the latest and check out our Local Place Plan of the month below.

Peer support network

Our first peer support network session was very well attended on 1st February, with representatives from across Berwickshire, Cheviot and Peebles. The session was jam-packed with presentations on topics such as mapping tools, data collection and analysis and a spotlight on Duns. One learning point for next time is to leave more space for networking! To enable this, we are extending the time to two hours. All sessions will be held online from 6 to 8pm on the following dates:

- Thursday 25 April 2024
- Thursday 6 June 2024
- Thursday 15 August 2024

Registration links will be circulated by email to all our community-led planning contacts and will be available on our website <u>here</u>. If you'd like to receive these email updates, please email <u>beth@borderscommunityaction.org.uk</u> to be added to the list.

At the last session we held a poll on **support needs** for groups leading on Local Place Plans, check out the results below. We are drawing on these to inform the support we offer and resources we seek to draw in.

Number of votes (top 3 support needs)



- Funding for local staff support (e.g. admin and comms or a Development Officer)
- Training in use of mapping tools
- Clear information and guidance
- Training in Meaningful Community Engagement
- In person support at meetings from Borders Community Action
- In person support at meetings from Scottish Borders Council
- Training in use of Place Standard Tool

Community-led planning webpage

We are delighted to announce that our <u>dedicated webpage</u> is now live on the Borders Community Action website!

The webpage clearly presents key information to assist you with your Local Place Plan. Features include a resource hub...



...and links to loads of useful tools 😊

Local Place Plan of the month

<u>Strathfillan Community Place Plan</u> Is a super clear, attractively presented example of a registered Local Place Plan. Check out the use of maps to show the area covered (P.3) and to identify the location of community projects and development proposals (P.21 and 22) - both are a requirement for Local Place Plans.

The responses from the community have been summarised in sections for children, young people, businesses and residents, giving a good cross-section of community aspirations.

The Place Standard Tool results feature strongly. Photos from community engagement sessions with maps and post-its provide and local photos provide an impactful visual presentation.

A delivery plan is separated out from the Local Place Plan, leaving this document simply presented and making it easy to see the vision, mission, priorities and overarching actions.



Lots of great ideas to learn from, thanks Strathfillan Community Development Trust!

Mapping tools workshop

Lastly just to highlight that Scottish Borders Council's mapping tools workshop which was postponed in January is now rescheduled for Thursday 14th March (6:30 - 8:30pm), with a presentation from Parish Online and Borders own Tim Jackson who has used mapping tools extensively in particular for the Borders Greenway project. You can find out more on the <u>Place</u> <u>Programme webpages</u> and <u>register here</u>.