

Local Development Plan Newsletter 23

Summer 2016



EAST RENFREWSHIRE Local Development Plan 2

Work is continuing on the review of the current Adopted Local Development Plan (June 2015) and preparation of a new Plan (LDP2). The Monitoring Statement is currently being prepared which includes the analysis of data across a variety of key topics and will help inform the future plan.

The 'Key Issues' and 'Call for Sites' consultation exercises which ended on 25th May 2016 will also play a vital part in the formation of the Main Issues Report (MIR) for LDP2.

The MIR is due to be published for consultation alongside the Monitoring Statement in November 2016.

Full details on the timetable and stages for preparing LDP2 are set out in the Development Plan Scheme which is available online at www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/ldp2

Supplementary Planning Guidance

The public consultation for the SPG Renewable Energy, and accompanying Environmental Report, ended on 12th May 2016.

The SPG contains the Spatial Framework for wind farms, as required by Scottish Planning Policy (2014). It also develops wind energy guidance for East Renfrewshire for large and small scale wind energy developments and provide details on other forms of renewable energy including commercial scale solar farms and biogas plants, and domestic scale microgeneration.

The Council received twelve responses, and we are currently analysing all comments received. We will incorporate any relevant alterations prior to seeking further approval to adopt the guidance later in the year.



WELCOME to the Summer edition of the Local Development Plan Newsletter

This is the 22nd quarterly newsletter keeping you informed about the latest progress on the Local Development Plan and other projects, and will let you know how and when you can get involved.

Key articles in this edition include:

-  **Local Development Plan 2**
-  **SPG Renewable Energy**
-  **Clarkston Town Centre**
-  **Your Town Audits**
-  **Clydeplan**
-  **Whitelee Windfarm - "Run the Blades"**
-  **World Ranger Congress**
-  **Dams to Darnley Path-works**
-  **The Day the Sun Stood Still**



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Clarkston Town Centre - Community Engagement Programme

East Renfrewshire Council has identified that Clarkston town centre should be a priority for action. To make sure that local residents and businesses can influence how development in the town centre may take shape over the next 10-15 years, the council has commissioned external consultants to assist in a workshop style community engagement programme, known as a charrette. The sessions will be held at Clarkston Hall on the following times and dates:

Tuesday 13th September:

4-6pm: Drop in session

7pm: Workshop

Wednesday 14th September:

4-6pm: Drop in session

7pm: Workshop

Saturday 17th September:

12-4pm: Exhibition



The council want to hear as many views as possible and events will be drop in sessions where views can be freely expressed and some firm options identified to start the process of reinventing Clarkston town centre. We will be working closely with the I love Clarkston BID and with local retailers, residents, school children and visitors. We want to hear your views. Look out for more detail though flyers, posters and social media. This will be your chance to influence council actions within the town centre. Clarkston town centre should be a place where people want to come to shop, meet neighbours and enjoy and this is a great opportunity to take action to ensure this happens.

Your Town Audits

East Renfrewshire Council has recently commissioned the Scotland's Towns Partnership (STP) to undertake 'Your Town Audits' on our town centres. Clarkston and Barrhead town centres have been completed and the reports can be viewed online. Audits on Newton Mearns and Giffnock are currently underway together with a combined audit covering Neilston, Eaglesham, Thornliebank and Busby. Final Reports will be published when completed.

These provide additional bespoke knowledge to enhance the understanding that people have of their local town, village or city suburb. The audits, prepared by socio-economic development professionals from EKOS and STP, will use a combination of data gathered through local place audits, business surveys, stakeholder consultations and official government sources. This is a pilot product supported by the Scottish Government to encourage Local Authorities to harmonise their approach to town centre benchmarking and data collection.

For more information check the website on
<http://www.scotlandstowns.org>



Scottish Ministers have appointed Mr David Liddell BA(Hons) MRTPI to carry out the examination of the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Proposed Strategic Development Plan.

The Reporter has concluded the first stage of the process through the examination of the report on 'Conformity with Clydeplan's Participation Statement'. It is anticipated that the full examination of the proposed plan will commence in late August.

www.clydeplan-sdpa.gov.uk/

Whitelee Windfarm - "Run the Blades"

Saturday 23rd July 2016 saw the second running of the 'Run the Blades' event at Whitelee windfarm. Following the successful inaugural event in 2015 the event was expanded with the addition of 10k and 21k distances alongside the 'ultra' 50k course. Numbers were expanded significantly, with up to 500 participants taking part across the 3 race distances. On this second running of the event weather conditions were far more favourable than in 2015, which had seen near-storm force winds and driving rain.

The 10K men's race was won by Matthew Leckie and the women's race by Julie Steventon. The 21K distance was won by Cris Walsh and the women's race by Olivia McBride, while the 50K events were won by Lee Muir and Shona Young, both setting new course records from last year's event.



Congratulations to all the competitors that took part across all race distances and age categories. Feedback from event organisers and participants was extremely positive and plans are already in discussion for what's hoped will be another successful event in 2017, putting the event well and truly on the race calendar.

Ranger Kate's adventure to World Ranger Congress

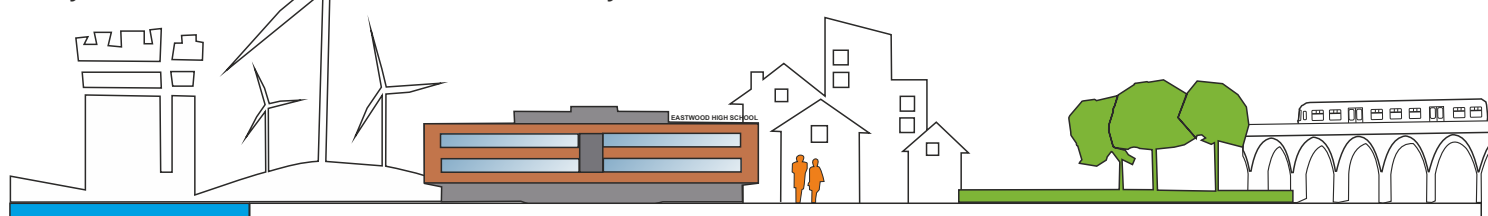
On Sunday 22nd May 2016, over 300 Rangers from 63 countries gathered around the flagpole at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado, for the International Ranger Federation's (IRF) 8th World Ranger Congress. Kate Williamson from East Renfrewshire Council's Ranger service was one of those lucky enough to have the opportunity to attend, part-funded by the Scottish Countryside Rangers' Association (SCRA).



An intense week of key-note speeches, workshops, presentations and IRF members' meetings ensued, on the theme of "Connecting Parks, Rangers and Communities". The fun came with a field trip to hike in Rocky Mountain National Park, at an altitude of over 9,000ft with around 50% less oxygen than at sea level.

In between the social activities which included a square-dancing party, a rock 'n' roll dance party and the obligatory international talent night, Kate gave a 30-minute presentation about the work

of the Ranger Service at Whitelee windfarm. Kate received great feedback and arrived home to say she "truly had one of the best adventures of my life so far".



Dams to Darnley



Since it opened in 2008 the path around the southern half of Balgray Reservoir has become a popular route for walkers, cyclists and horse riders. The 2km long path runs from Balgraystone Road, Barrhead all the way to Aurs Road. A spur off the path's eastern tip also links to Springfield Road, Barrhead. The western end of the route connects to the linear path that heads north of Aurs Road, past the remainder of the Barrhead dams, Waulkmill Glen and Darnley Mill, eventually finishing on Nitshill Road at the World Buffet restaurant.



The route gets approximately 20-25,000 visitors each year. It provides a great vantage point from which to spot birdlife attracted to Balgray Reservoir, both resident species and winter visitors. The route is also great for a bit of exercise; the level path is perfect for walking, jogging or a leisurely cycle. It is also a popular spot to walk the dog.

All those feet, tyres, hooves and paws eventually take their toll. So after eight years of constant use it was time for the path got a comprehensive repair. As a result work has recently been completed to resurface the path. Existing drainage ditches have also been repaired and new ones installed. As part of the work the country park car park off Balgraystone Road has also been resurfaced.

The Day the Sun Stood Still

This year's Whitelee Ranger Service summer solstice event was always going to be something special and the serendipitous arrival of a 'strawberry moon' only added to the excitement. More than 40 people joined us to head to Blackwood Hill viewpoint.



As the group mulled around through the site, the clouds parted to reveal a stunning, bright strawberry moon. The rangers had their spotting scope on hand and once focused on the moon, a long line of people formed behind it to take in a crystal clear view of the spectacular moon that had everyone talking.

A small 'litha' fire was lit to inspire the old custom of walking through the fire to cast off the previous year's woes and exit the other side with new vigour. The magic of the 'litha' fire was followed by some impromptu panpipe music which ensured the calm tranquillity of the night will long linger in the memory...



CONTACT US

If you are not already on our distribution list, and would like to be added, please contact us at the details shown below. Please supply your email address if possible.

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Previous Editions of the LDP Quarterly Newsletter are available at our website at www.eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk/ldp-newsletter