

Dunpender Community Action and Local Place Plan 2024 - 2025

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	2
Acknowledgements	3
CONSULTATIONS AND FINDINGS	4
Online survey (late summer 2023)	4
Methods and respondents	4
Vision for East Linton area	5
Housing	7
Community facilities	7
Local travel	8
Local economy	8
Education and employment	9
Tourism	9
Health and wellbeing	9
Environment	10
Primary 6 and 7 classes: Group discussions (18 Dec. 2023)	11
Methods	11
Map exercise	11
Group discussions	13
Consultation meeting on draft recommendations (12 March 2024)	13
Methods and participants	13
Feedback	14
Interpretation of findings	14
RECOMMENDATIONS	15
Economy	16
Economic diversification	16
Sustainable tourism	17
Housing	19
Energy	20
Transport and Active travel	21
Natural environment and Food	23
Public services and Leisure	25
Community relationships	27
MAPS	28
Suggested locations of possible initiatives: northern Dunpender area	28
Suggested locations of possible initiatives: southern Dunpender area	29
APPENDICES	30
Acronyms	30
Invitees to consultation meeting 12 March	30

INTRODUCTION

The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 introduced a new statutory right for communities to prepare plans for their local areas. The aim was to achieve better community engagement, increase trust in planning and reduce conflict. 'Local Place Plans' were intended to inform local authorities' Local Development Plans which largely determine what planning applications will be accepted or rejected over the following 10 years. Scottish Government guidance states: "A Local Place Plan (LPP) is a proposal by a community body about the development and use of land. It can describe what changes people want to see made to the LDP. LPPs aim to improve people's engagement and involvement in the planning system. They are a way for communities to achieve change in their local area by proactively feeding into development planning. Our intention is for local communities to think about how to make their place better, agree priorities, and take action (often working with others) to make change happen." Once completed and registered by the planning authority the authority is meant to "pay due regard" to the LPP in developing their Local Development Plan. The remit of LPPs is therefore restricted to planning issues: the development and use of land. However, consultations on planning-related matters almost inevitably prompt people to think through their wider aspirations for the neighbourhood. This is especially likely if there has not been any community consultation of this kind in recent years.

The Dunpender Community Council (DCC) covers East Linton and settlements to the north and south, from Whitekirk to Whittinghame, including Tyninghame and Markle. In 2022 it decided to develop a LPP in the hope of influencing East Lothian Council (ELC)'s Local Development Plan. The primary mode of consultation was an online survey. Although it was intended specifically for the LPP it generated wide-ranging views on the future of the neighbourhood, especially the open-end questions which were included to avoid overly prescribing the data being collected. The subsequent consultations in East Linton Primary School and a face-to-face consultation meeting also prompted views and aspirations for the locality that went beyond planning matters. Since we have not restricted this report to purely planning matters, which would have distorted our respondents' views, it makes this a Community Action Plan rather than simply a LPP. However, our recommendations are linked to specific Council departments and those related to planning should be readily identified. Thus this Community Action Plan incorporates a LPP for the purposes of the Local Development Plan.

The task of developing the LPP fell to a community councillor with limited available time, after the original lead resigned from the council. Early on it was made clear that the ELC had no resources to support the development of LPPs and it was thought too time consuming to seek funds elsewhere. We have therefore taken a minimalist approach to developing this plan and have relied entirely on voluntary work and limited resources.

The Plan first describes the three methods of consultation we conducted and the main findings of each: the online survey, group discussions with primary school pupils and a face-to-face consultation meeting in East Linton Community Hall. It then sets out our recommendations for the locality for the coming 10 years.

Acknowledgements

Dunbar Community Council readily shared their online survey for DCC to draw on, and Pippa Swan subsequently provided valuable IT advice, as did Naomi Barnes. Councillor Lyn Jardine has provided useful advice on the scope of the plan and practical assistance with the survey. Within Dunpender, Neil Morland of the East Linton Primary School Parent Council has devoted considerable time advising on how to develop the plan and commenting on successive drafts, and Haydn Thomas provided detailed comments and professional expertise relating to the natural environment. Judith Priest, Chair of DCC, has provided on-going support throughout, and shared the administration of the online survey and the analysis of responses. Gill Gardner, Headteacher of East Linton Primary School, and her staff were very cooperative and helpful in facilitating groups discussions with P6 and P7 pupils. Members of DCC have provided comments to successive drafts of the plan and/or participated in the consultation meeting. Climate Action East Linton (CAEL), and in particular Jo Gibb, Tim Hetherington and Ros Finlay, have been very supportive and played a key role in organising and facilitating the consultation meeting. Chris Bruce and Sarah McLeary of East Lammermuir Community Council readily shared their draft Place Plan to illustrate how it might be presented and, finally, Alastair Seagroatt took the cover photo of East Linton from Pencraig Hill and has provided ongoing support in managing the DCC website. Many thanks to everyone for their voluntary time.

Daniel Wight on behalf of Dunpender Community Council. April 2024.

CONSULTATIONS AND FINDINGS

ONLINE SURVEY (late summer 2023)

Methods and respondents

An online survey was conducted in August and September 2023. A flyer describing the survey and encouraging people to complete it, using a QR code, was distributed to all households in the Dunpender area. Members of the Dunpender Community Council used their social media networks to promote the survey. The flyer informed people that a hard copy of the questionnaire could be got, and completed, in the East Linton library.

149 people responded, 4 of whom did so on paper rather than online. The sample was disproportionately biased towards older residents, with none under 25 years old and 65% over 54 (Table 1).

East Linton 2020 (C	Gen. Rec. Scotland)	Dunpender	LPP survey
0 - 19	21 %	5 - 24	0 %
20 - 29	6 %	25 – 34	6 %
30 – 39	9%	35 – 44	7 %
40 – 49	12 %	45 – 54	22 %
50 – 59	17 %	55 – 64	29 %
60 – 69	16 %	65 -74	26 %
70 - 79	14 %	75 +	10 %
80 +	6 %		

Table 1. Age profile of sample

Nearly half the sample were retired, a third in full time employment and 15% part-time employed (Fig. 1).

Are you currently employed? 149 responses

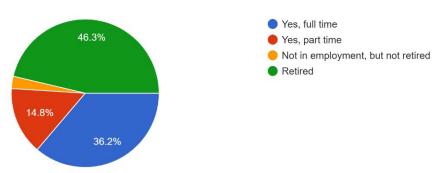


Fig. 1. Economic activity of sample

Nearly three-quarters of the sample (72%) lived in East Linton, mainly within the conservation area, and 17% lived in the Tyninghame area, over-representing this locality. 92% of respondents were home owners, with slightly more in 2/3 bedroom homes than 4/5 bedroom homes. The tenants were in private (5%), housing association (3%) or local authority (2%) accommodation, and a few in

sheltered housing or living with family/friends. We do not have official figures for the Dunpender area to assess the representativeness of this sample. In East Lothian as a whole, 65% of dwellings are owner-occupied, 19% are Council owned, 11% are private rented and 5% are housing association.

Vision for East Linton area

At the start of the survey participants were asked: 'What three changes would you like to see in the East Linton area over the next 10 years?'. The responses are important since there was no prompting and respondents had not been potentially biased by the focus of subsequent questions. 133 responded, most providing three answers, with 361 in total. These can be broadly grouped into four main issues: travel (148 comments), housing (54), the natural environment (54) and public services (54). However, it is important to note that, inevitably, the classification of comments is rather arbitrary and several comments relate to several categories. Nevertheless, for the purpose of quantification each comment has only been allocated to one broad issue.

The responses relating to travel were overwhelmingly in favour of more public transport, active travel, and reduced dominance of motor vehicles. They can be grouped around: traffic calming (47); restricted parking (10); better public transport (45) which included a good train service (21) and better buses (16); enhanced active travel (28) which included improved/extended footpaths (18) and cycling infrastructure (6); and road improvements (16), especially pothole repairs. Most of this last category of comments might have been for the benefit of motorists, of cyclists, or both.

The responses relating to housing overwhelmingly called for the total cessation of new house building (24) or that it should be minimized (16). 8 people identified the kind of new housing that they would like, which was almost entirely affordable/ social housing.

The responses relating to the natural environment ranged from a general wish for more sustainable lifestyles/reducing climate change to more focused issues such as boosting biodiversity and protecting green space (28), increased renewable energy generation (9), more sustainable food growing (5) and less pollution (5).

Regarding public services there were 12 calls for the new school, 2 of which specified it should be in a new site and 1 that the park should be 'reconfigured' to accommodate it. 6 people wished for more on-street electric car charging and 4 for expanded/improved medical facilities. The 17 comments relating to leisure provision included protecting the park (6), more activities for young people (5) and better sport/gym facilities (4).

There were also two groups of answers that can be interpreted as wanting to protect and enhance community life/ the current feel and scale of a small town/village (20). 11 related to community life and the wish to 'preserve the nature of the village' or boost community activities, and another 9 related to conserving East Linton's appearance and 'village charm'.

Somewhat in tension with the predominantly conservative/conservationist trend of most responses, there were some calls for economic developments in EL. Sixteen people wanted more shops and/or restaurants/eateries on the High St, especially instead of offices. There were 13 comments broadly related to business, with 5 calls for better broadband connections, 3 for investment in local businesses and 2 specifically for further development of the Mart.

At the end of the survey participants were asked: 'What three words would you like to use to describe your locality in 10 years time?' There were 135 responses, most providing three words. These can be aggregated into three main broad categories that overlap: community relationships (98), 'green' (71), and attractive and undeveloped (58). A smaller number of words related to two further categories: economically thriving (13) and good transport connections (8). A breakdown of these categories is provided in Table 2.

Aspira	ations for 'your locality' in 10 years time in three words	e Other things to include in the p		
No. words	Category	No. comments	Category	
98	Community relationships			
32	Friendly/welcoming/caring	11	Community initiatives/ involvement/facilities	
28	Community (sense of)/village life etc.			
15	Safe	4	More police/safety	
13	Vibrant/fun			
10	Socially diverse/inclusive	5	Cheaper/smaller/social housing	
71	'Green'			
16	Sustainable/resilient + healthy (4)	11	Traffic calming/speeding	
14	Green	11	Trees/environment/ green space	
14	Environmentally friendly/sustainable etc	6	Clean energy/energy efficiency/district heating/solar	
13	Rural/natural/countryside	4	Agriculture – support/maintain/educate	
12	Clean/tidy	2	Water quality/sewage	
2	Cycle friendly	2	Footpaths maintenance/cycle	
58	Attractive and undeveloped			
30	Peaceful/quiet/idyllic etc	9	Not too much/overdevelopment	
16	Beautiful	5	No housing in fields	
12	Unspoilt/undeveloped/uncrowded	5	Supporting facilities needed for new housing	
		3	Not too much tourism – properly planned	
		3	Litter	
13	Economically thriving			
13	Thriving/prosperous/businesses/growth	8	Promote local initiatives/traders	
8	Good transport connections			
8	Accessible/well connected			
2	Other	16	Other	
		7	School (any mentions) children to be considered	
250	Total no. words	105	Total no. comments	

Table 2. Aspirations for 'your locality' in 10 years time (three words each) and Other things to include.

The final question was: 'If there is anything else that you think we should include in a community plan for the next 10 years, let us know here!'. The 83 who added something largely returned to issues raised in previous survey questions. Since their responses were largely in line with the words describing aspirations for 10 years time, they have been presented alongside these in Table 2.

Housing

In keeping with people's vision for the area (above), when asked the overwhelming majority wanted to strictly limit new house building (Fig. 2).

There are now two questions about new housing in your locality. First, what is your general view on new housing?

148 responses

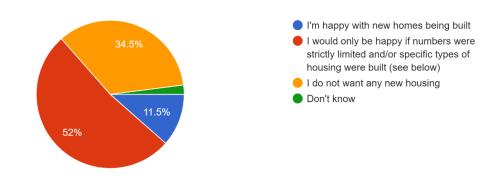
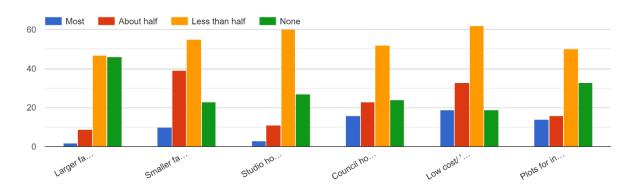


Fig. 2 Views on new housing

If there was to be new housing, there was greatest preference for low cost, council housing and small family houses with least wish for large family houses. There was almost as much preference for plots for individual self-build, although 22% were against this idea (Fig. 3).

Second, if there was new housing in your locality, what mix would you prefer? Please complete each line.





Community facilities

Most people were positive about opportunities for play, sport and recreation, with only 26% scoring this below the mid-point of the scale. Of the 101 respondents who identified a new facility they would like and would use regularly (open-ended), half identified sporting facilities. 23 would like a

sports centre or gym and others called for a swimming pool (7), sports facilities in the park (6) and football pitches (5). 14 called for more, and better access to, green space.

Local travel

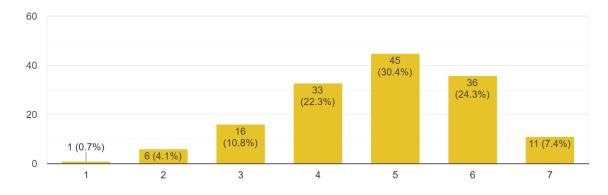
Most people found it easy to access shops and friends in the local area or to access the countryside, with only 11% and 7% respectively scoring this below the mid-point of the scale. 93% owned a car and 3% could borrow one. Things that would make 'local travel' and 'accessing outdoors' easier largely overlapped, the top things identified being more frequent bus services (47%), new bus routes (32%), better cycle routes (48%), traffic calming (41%), new footpaths (50%) and more accessible footpaths (35%). However, 26% wanted more free parking and 11% (perhaps an overlapping group) more parking even with a charge.

There were 72 suggestions for new footpaths and/or cycle routes, several of which demonstrated unawareness of existing routes, e.g. the off-road footpath between EL and Tyninghame. Two requested routes have since been established: between Tyninghame and Binning Wood (8 suggestions) and between EL and Smeaton (3). Five respondents called for better maintenance of existing routes, rather than establishing new ones. The specific routes most widely requested to be established or improved were EL to Tyninghame (15), Tyninghame to the coast (11), EL to the coast (4), EL to Dunbar (8), getting to North Berwick (8), towards Haddington (7), and Tyninghame to the John Muir Way (4).

Forty-seven respondents offered other ideas about active travel. Eleven called for the improvement and/or better maintenance of paths in general, 10 called for better cycle paths, especially off road, and six called for improvements in bus services.

Local economy

The majority of respondents scored their reliance on local shops and businesses at the upper end of the scale (Fig. 5). The thing most widely selected as encouraging greater use of local shops and services was more food shops (51%), with suggestions they might provide local fish and vegetables and organic produce. 32% selected more specialist shops, 26% more clothing shops, 18% better parking and 11% Sunday opening.



How much do you rely upon local shops and businesses in the East Linton area to meet your needs? 148 responses

Fig. 5. Reliance on local shops and businesses (1 = not at all, 7 = totally rely on them)

5% of respondents owned or ran their own businesses and 2% planned to do so. There were 15 suggestions for what ELC could do to help local businesses, 5 of which were about funding, e.g. reduced business rates and rents and seed funding. Two called for better fiber and mobile connectivity and other suggestions included a delivery hub for small deliveries to Edinburgh etc. and better promotion of local businesses.

Education and employment

Scores for ease of finding employment or training were at the lower end of the scale (Fig. 4).

How easy is it to find employment, receive training or learn new skills locally? 95 responses

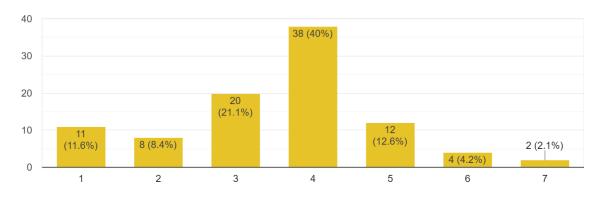


Fig. 4. Ease of finding employment or training (1 = very difficult, 7 = very easy)

Suggestions for improvement (to an open-ended question with 52 responses) included training opportunities/courses/apprenticeships (14), greater support for/investment in local businesses (7), and improved transport links (6).

Tourism

Of the options suggested, those most widely thought might attract more visitors to the area were: a wider choice of restaurants (51%), improved bus services (39%), car parking (34%), bike parking (32%), mapping and signposting (32%) and marketing for tourism (30%). However, 5% questioned the need for more tourists and there were 95 responses to an open-ended question on what was *not* wanted to boost tourism. Ten challenged the need for any increase in tourism, over a third (38) wanted no further conversion of housing to BnBs or holiday lets, 23 opposed excessive tourist commercialization, such as chain stores, fast food outlets or visitor centres, and 12 opposed increased traffic or coach tours. When respondents were asked specifically, there was overwhelming rejection to converting housing for holiday use (76% No, 14% Maybe) or allowing tourism to increase motor traffic (64% No, 26% Maybe).

Health and wellbeing

There was a positive assessment of services to support health and wellbeing, with 68% rating them above the mid-point of the scale. All the suggested improvements for health and social care received at least 29% support. In order of demand these were: a minor injuries clinic (61%), out of hours GP service (56%), better care at home services (46%), mental health services (33%), support for family

carers (33%), residential dementia care (30%) and residential care homes (29%). Under 'other' 5% called for better GP services.

Environment

A large majority of the sample stated they try to minimize their impact on climate change, with 85% rating their efforts above the mid-point of the scale (Fig. 6). All the suggested measures to reduce climate impacts received at least 26% endorsement, the most wanted being increased electric car charging points (42%), eased planning regulations to allow solar panels (40%), allotments nearby (37%), advice on house insulation (30%), and facilitating recycling (28%), followed by eased planning regulations to allow double glazing (26%).

How much do you try to minimise your impact on climate change in terms of your lifestyle? 148 responses

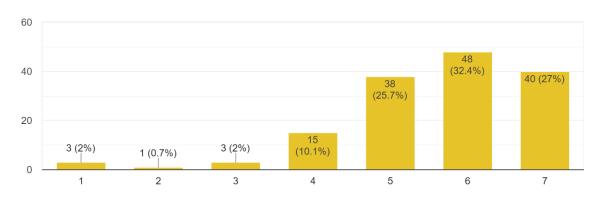


Fig. 6. Degree try to minimise climate change (1 = don't think about it at all, 7 = do all that I can)

There was majority support for a community renewable energy project, with greater support for solar arrays than wind turbines (Fig. 7).

By community renewable energy project we mean one owned by the community, with the profits used by and for the community. If the Community Co...ject in the Dunpender area, would you support it?

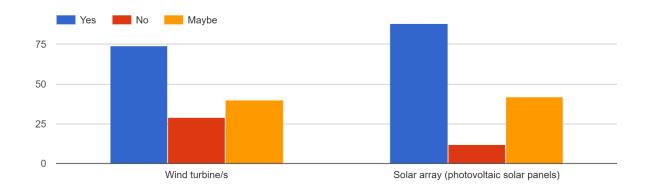


Fig. 7. Support for a community renewable energy project (absolute numbers).

A small majority wanted to end all uses of glyphosate weedkiller except for invasive weeds and one third wanted its use minimized (Fig. 8).

The Council's control of weeds with Roundup/glyphosate weedkiller is very effective but it reduces wildlife/biodiversity and has health risks. Which of these options best reflects your views? 146 responses



Fig. 8. Views on glyphosate.

PRIMARY 6 AND 7 CLASSES: GROUP DISCUSSIONS (18 December 2023)

Methods

Since participation in the online survey was highly skewed towards older people, we sought the opinions of young people through East Linton Primary School and Dunbar Grammar. Dunbar Grammar were unwilling to facilitate consultation except through us seeking permission from East Lothian Council and, in the short timescale available, we abandoned these negotiations.

At the primary school group discussions were conducted with P6 and P7 classes. In each case the class was divided in two. Half completed an exercise with maps, led by the class teacher (P6 Miss Warrender, P7 Miss McKay), while the other half engaged in a group discussion led by Daniel Wight and recorded by Anne Hunter. After approximately 25 minutes the two halves swapped activities.

Map exercise

Pupils were given two large scale maps, one of East Linton and the other of the wider Dunpender area. With each group the teacher asked them to identify particular locations with different coloured stickers. Green indicated favorite places to go; Red, worst places; Blue, places they would like to go but cannot due to unsafe routes; and Orange, difficult places for them on their existing journeys.

Favorite locations identified (Green) were primarily the EL park, other green spaces, the River Tyne, individual homes, the Mart and Bostock bakery (see Fig. 1). Places pupils would have liked to access but could not (Blue) included Phantassie Farm, the river, the station and Markle fisheries.

Both teachers reported that orange stickers were mainly used to identify places with fast traffic, narrow pavements or the lack of any pavement. Bank Road was noted to have a very poor surface making it difficult to cycle. Teachers reported that the red stickers included play areas no longer in

use or accessible, such as on Longstone Avenue and off Rennie Place, and places where an accident had occurred.



Fig. 1 Locations identified by P6 and P7 pupils in East Linton (Green: favorite places to go; Red: worst places; Blue: places would like to go but cannot due to unsafe routes; Orange: difficult places on existing journeys)

Group discussions

In both P6 and P7 nearly all pupils liked the small size and community-feel of East Linton, especially knowing most people in the town. They did not want it to increase in size. When asked what they liked best about living in East Linton many stated being able to walk easily and safely to school, friends' houses, play areas, shops, etc., and several said meeting friends when out. The most widely stated 'least good thing' about East Linton was that it is growing too big.

Other things identified by five or more pupils as the best aspects of East Linton were the park, the skatepark, the station and swimming in the river, nearly always at Lin rocks. Favourite places to play beyond their homes were Smeaton, Phantassie and Markle fisheries.

In tension with valuing the small size of the town, when asked about 'the least good things' about East Linton many commented on the lack of things to do, although a few were happy with the number of activities and organisations available. Most pupils would like more shops, e.g. cafes, carryout food shops and craft shops. Other things identified as 'least good things' by six or more pupils were: too much traffic; the need to upgrade the worn out play equipment in the park, e.g. with a climbing frame, climbing wall or monkey bars; and the need to clean the toilets and get the locks fixed.

Most pupils swim in the Dunbar or North Berwick swimming pools. While river swimming was enjoyed pupils said it was marred by the presence of rowdy teenagers, litter and polluted water (attributed to sewage). Nearly everyone welcomed the idea of a safe swimming pool/lake created in or beside the river. Few pupils swim in the sea.

Pupils found it difficult to identify local places that they would like to visit but cannot, due to unsafe routes, and they had few ideas about how East Linton could be made a better place to live in 10 years time, other than having more food shops, cafes and cleaner public toilets. Most stated that it should remain the same size and not become crowded or noisy.

CONSULTATION MEETING ON DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS (12 March 2024)

Methods and participants

A face-to-face consultation meeting was organized in the EL Community Hall to discuss the draft recommendations arising from the online survey responses. We attempted to contact all community organisations and local businesses, as key stakeholders potentially affected by the CAP/LPP, emailed them the draft recommendations and invited them to attend the consultation. Invitees are listed in Appendix 2. The meeting was also advertised through the DCC website, the Tyninghame and CAEL email networks, flyers on EL notice boards and DCC personal networks.

The 2½ hour meeting followed the following structure:

- Introduction
- Explanation of LPP: purpose, consultation so far, draft recommendations; distinctions between LPP and CAP; how everyone can help with their ideas/feedback.
- First group discussions around different topics: participants chose topic and joined that group; discussed agreement/disagreement with, or modifications of, draft recommendations; proposed new recommendations. Key points recorded on large sheets. If time available, moved on to other topics. One facilitator per group.

- Second group discussions: participants chose a different topic to focus on and joined that group. Similar format to above.
- Comments displayed on tables (annotated on maps and recommendation sheets);
 participants read each others' ideas and had plenary discussion.

It was facilitated by Daniel Wight and Judith Priest of DCC and Neil Armstrong, Ros Finlay, Hillary Fraser, Jo Gibb, Tim Hetherington, Ros Lowry and Erica Wimbush. There were 38 participants who were overwhelmingly above the age of 40, with most of retirement age.

Feedback

Nearly all the draft recommendations for each topic area were widely endorsed with some being refined. However, some recommendations prompted scepticism about their feasibility and a few generated opposition from some participants. Views differed considerably over proposals to facilitate enjoyment of, and swimming in, the River Tyne.

INTERPRETATION OF FINDINGS

From responses to the online survey, group discussions with primary school pupils and the face-toface consultation meeting, it is clear that there is an overwhelming concern to:

- Keep East Linton largely as it is and avoid further growth. Most people feel fortunate to live in a relatively small, cohesive community, epitomized by the almost universal reference to EL as a 'village' rather than 'town', and they want to keep it that way. However, somewhat in tension with this view, there is a widespread desire for more shops and better/more facilities, for which an increased population would provide justification and demand.
- Be very cautious about the expansion of tourism, although many people would like more restaurants/eateries. Proposals for sustainable tourism are widely supported.
- Improve public transport, active travel (especially through more footpaths and cycle paths) and calm traffic.
- Enhance green space and biodiversity.
- Get the new school built.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The survey questions prompted wishes that are often unrealistic, especially given extremely restricted local authority funding and private local land ownership. Our recommendations are therefore divided between potentially more achievable, short-term recommendations and long-term, aspirational recommendations, many of which would require new funding to become available.

Recommendations are linked to the bodies or groups that might take them forward. The relevant department or 'Service' of ELC are identified: Connected Communities, Economic Development and Tourism (EDT), Education, Facilities Management, Housing, Infrastructure, Planning, Roads, Sport, Countryside and Leisure (SCL), and the East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership (ELHSCP).

ECONOMY

Economic Diversification

To provide more job opportunities within the village, work on economic diversification. This will help strengthen a thriving local economy and reduce commuter dependency, particularly on Edinburgh. These changes can help East Linton maintain its small village feel while attracting newcomers who appreciate its charm, contribute positively to the community, and stimulate economic growth in a sustainable manner.

Consultation findings and other	Short/Medium-term plans	Potential	Long-term aspirations	Potential
 rationales Most responses throughout the survey aligned with a wish to protect and enhance community life and retain the current scale and small town/village feel of East Linton. Responding to open-ended questions on their vision for the EL area, a minority called for it to be economically thriving, have more shops and more investment in local businesses. Asked about ease of finding local employment or training, 40% scored the mid-point and 41% lower. Asked how much they rely on local shops and businesses, 62% scored above mid-point. The thing most widely identified as encouraging greater use of local shops was to have more food shops. 	 leveraging the village's unique selling points (see Sustainable Tourism). Presumption to allow new shops and restaurants in the EL High Street. Presumption to discourage more offices in EL High Street. Encourage retail outlets for basic food stuffs, e.g. milk, in 	leads EDT Planning Planning private retailer, community. Planning, private sector.	 Support the growth of local businesses and attract new ones by offering incentives like tax breaks or grants for startups that align with the village's character and values. Consider creating co-working spaces or business incubators to encourage entrepreneurs and remote workers drawn by the new railway station's convenience. Make facilities available to residents. Locate new businesses around the Mart and, potentially, Phantassie steading, with retailers, cafes and restaurants located in High Street. Use financial incentives (e.g. council tax surcharge) and, possibly, compulsory purchase, to convert empty and abandoned buildings for businesses (if not for accommodation), e.g. Tyninghame Links steading, Stonelaw Fm outbuildings, Knowes Fm outbuildings, Phantassie steading, etc 	EDT, EDT, Planning, EDT. Planning, 3 rd sector, Scot. Gov.

Sustainable Tourism

To attract visitors without over-developing the area, promote sustainable/'slow' tourism initiatives. This should attract visitors who: appreciate the town's charm and the rural landscape, contribute positively to the local economy, and travel with minimal carbon footprint (i.e. active travel or public transport). Closely related to this, see recommendations for Transport and Active Travel.

Consultation findings and other	Short/Medium-term plans	Potential	Long-term aspirations	Potential	
rationales		leads		leads	
 Of the options suggested in the survey, those most thought might attract visitors were: more restaurants (51%), improved bus services (39%), car parking (34%), bike parking (32%), mapping and 	 Promote sustainable tourism in East Linton area through national and county tourist information and detailed notice boards at station and in transport hub. 	EDT	 Create infrastructure that allows over- night visits without competing for housing: traditional BnBs within people's houses; a camp site within a mile of the station; camper van pitches; low-cost backpackers' hostels. 	Planning, householders, landowners.	
 signposting (32%) and marketing for tourism (30%). Asked about converting housing for holiday use, 76% were opposed and 14% said 'maybe'. Asked about allowing tourism to increase motor traffic, 64% were opposed and 26% said 'maybe'. 95 survey respondents identified things they did not want to boost tourism, including more BnBs, excessive commercialization, and increased traffic. 	 Encourage day trippers to visit EL by train and bus: lobby for good bike storage on both; encourage bike hire near station; lobby for late night trains allowing visitors to eat and drink in EL before returning to Edinburgh. Develop walking and cycling trails that intersect with the John Muir Way and National Cycle Route 76. Complete safe walking and cycling route to Tyninghame Links from EL. Improve sign posting on routes. 	EDT, rail comp., bus comp., RAGES, ELCRP, private sector. Planning, Roads, SCL, 3 rd sector.	 Encourage the arts, especially fine art and music, through, e.g., a gallery, 'art en plein aire', a sculpture park, music concerts, theatre, etc Facilitate locals' and visitors' enjoyment of the river while preventing anti-social behaviour: picnic areas overlooking the river, e.g. around the EL bridge, and if premises become available, cafe and/or restaurant overlooking the river. Facilitate swimming in the Tyne, while preventing anti-social behaviour, by working with SEPA to improve water quality and exploring creation of accessible, child-safe swimming sites, e.g. near EL mill, off Ladies' Walk, Tyninghame, and Hailes Castle. Explore 	private sector, landowners, 3 rd sector, community. Planning, landowners. Planning, SEPA, community, Police, landowners.	

 Showcase the village's natural beauty and historical sites, e.g. neolithic standing stones. Invest in visitor information 	EDT, private sector.	possibility of using one lake of old Markle Fisheries for swimming.	
centres or digital platforms to educate tourists about the village's history, culture, and independent shops	EDT		
Encourage local businesses and	private		
East Lothian Countryside	sector,		
 Rangers to offer unique experiences like: guided tours; foraging courses; bird watching tours; artisan workshops; local, sustainably grown produce (farmers' market); or farm-to- table dining. Prevent conversion of houses to 	SCL, EDT.		
holiday lets or exclusive use for BnB.Presumption not to allow	Planning		
developments that involve extra motorized traffic.	Planning		

HOUSING

To minimise climate collapse there is an urgent need to improve the energy efficiency of existing housing stock and de-carbonise house heating. Despite the new housing in EL in the last decade, ELC is likely to require further new housing in the Dunpender area to meet obligations to the Scottish Government to increase the nation's housing stock. An imaginative approach is needed to achieve greater social heterogeneity and resource efficiency, especially through small, non-detached housing and, possibly, co-housing.

Consultation findings and other	Short/Medium-term plans	Potential	Long-term aspirations	Potential
rationales		leads		leads
 Responding to open-ended questions on their vision for the EL area, over a third referred to housing, half wanting the total cessation of new house building. Asked specifically about new 	 Minimise new house building, the vast majority of which should be affordable housing, council/social housing and/or plots for self-build. Any new housing should not use Grade 1 or 2 agricultural land. 	Planning, Housing, SFHA. Planning	 Aim for greater social heterogeneity with more low cost housing, especially rented accommodation, ideally in form of council/social housing. 	Planning, Housing, SFHA, 3 rd sector.
 housing, 52% said it should be strictly limited and 35% do not want any. Asked about types of new housing, low cost, council 	 Any new housing should not increase traffic through EL High Street. Relax planning regulations on retrofitting double glazing in conservation areas. 	Planning Scot. Gov., Planning.	• At least two sheltered accommodation complexes, with wardens, to address aging population and free-up larger houses.	Planning, ELHSCP.
housing and small family houses were preferred. There was some interest in plots for self-build.	 Relax planning regulations on PV solar panels on rooves in conservation areas. 	Scot. Gov.,	 Incorporate district heating systems in any new housing projects. 	Planning, Housing.
 40% would like planning regulations eased for solar panels and 26% for double glazing. Asked about improvements for 	 Provide advice on energy efficiency/insulation. 	Planning. 3 rd sector, Housing. private	 Use financial incentives (e.g. council tax surcharge) and, possibly, compulsory purchase, to get empty and abandoned buildings refurbished and inhabited, e.g. Tyninghame Links 	Planning, Housing, SEHP, 3 rd sector, Scot. Gov
 Asked about improvements for health and social care, 30% would like residential dementia care and 29% residential care 	 Co-ordinate collective retrofitting across neighbouring houses to reduce costs. 	sector, Housing, 3 rd sector.	steading, Tyninghame Estate cottages, Stonelaw Fm outbuildings, Knowes Fm outbuildings, Luggate	
homes.	 Prevent conversion of houses to holiday lets. 	Planning	Burn post office, Phantassie steading (if not used for new businesses), etc	

ENERGY

To minimise climate collapse and improve energy security there is an urgent need to minimise carbon emissions and reduce reliance on centralised energy generation via the National Grid. In the medium to long-term, this should reduce energy costs and fuel poverty.

rationalesleads• Responding to open-ended questions on their vision for• Improve energy efficiency of existing housing stock (seeHousing	ng	leads
questions on their vision for existing housing stock (see	• Where technically and financially	
 a Asked specifically about community renewable energy projects, the majority supported both a wind or solar project, with greater support a Asked specifically about community renewable energy projects, the majority supported both a wind or solar project, with greater support b Asked specifically about community renewable energy projects. c Asked specifically about community	feasible, establish district heating systems that are community owned. This should ensure that all surpluses are used to provide the cheapest possible heating for householders. unity, tor, mg. unity, tor, mg. unity, e.g. Tyninghame, a heating system might be based on water-sourced heat pumps from the Tyne. Where technically and financially feasible, establish community- owned renewable energy generation. Work with farmers and landowners to install	Planning, Housing, Infrastructure, community, home owners. Planning, Housing, Infrastructure, community, home owners. community, home owners, farmers, landlords, 3 rd sector, Planning, Infrastructure.

TRANSPORT AND ACTIVE TRAVEL

Future transport developments should facilitate a shift from car use to public transport and active travel, in line with the promotion of sustainable/'slow' tourism (see recommendations for Economy).

	nsultation findings and other	Sh	ort/Medium-term plans	Potential	Lo	ng-term aspirations	Potential
rat	ionales			leads			leads
•	Responding to open-ended questions on their vision for the EL area, a large majority referred to travel with overwhelming support	•	Reduce speed limits, in particular to 20 mph on Main St. and 30 mph on A198 through Tyninghame and on Lime Tree Walk, Tyninghame. Introduce more road bumps, subject to accessibility for emergency services.	Roads	•	Achieve modal shift from car use to trains, buses and active travel.	Roads, Planning, Transport Scotland.
	for public transport, active travel, and reduced dominance of motor vehicles. When asked what would	•	Improve footpath and cycle network, especially drainage and signposting, and route EL to Dunbar.	Roads, SCL.	•	Establish frequent and reliable train service, at least hourly in each direction, with coordinated bus times.	Roads, rail comp., RAGES, ELCRP,
	make local travel and accessing the outdoors easier, better bike routes was the most selected suggestion offered, for	•	Extend footpath and cycle network (see maps), focusing on EL to smaller settlements, the coast, North Berwick, Drem and south of A1. Create route from Binning Wood north across Peffer Burn linking to upgraded Becky's Strip.	landowners, Planning, Roads, SCL.	•	Provide more carriages on trains at peak times.	rail comp.,
	both activities (by about half), followed closely by more frequent bus services and reduced speed limits.	•	Extend existing ELC path warden volunteer scheme to keep local footpaths clear.	SCL	•	Establish a public transport	RAGES, ELCRP. Roads,
	For accessing the outdoors, new footpaths was also selected by half the respondents.	•	Achieve frequent and reliable bus services. Increase frequency of Eve 120 buses (N. Berwick to Dunbar) to regular hourly service and into the evening. Ideally this would facilitate shift from	Roads, bus comp		'Journey Hub' at The Mart serving bus and rail travellers, incorporating an attractive waiting room, café, bike	Planning.
•	72 people identified new cycle routes or footpaths wanted. Those most requested were EL to		car to bus use for shoppers, evening socializing, those using the three stations on the route, day trippers, walkers, etc			storage, better path to station, etc	

Tyninghame (15),	• Lobby for good bike storage on trains and buses.	train and bus	
Tyninghame to the coast		comp.,	
(11), EL to the coast (4), EL		RAGES,	
to Dunbar (8), getting to		ELCRP.	
North Berwick (8), towards			
Haddington (7), and	Encourage bike hire near station.	private	
Tyninghame to the John		sector	
Muir Way (4).			
	Complete installation of more on street car	Planning,	
	charging points.	Roads.	
	• If it proceeds, explore with cycling and walking	Planning,	
	organisations the value of converting the new	SCL, 3 rd	
	routes for construction traffic to Newlands Hill	sector,	
	wind farm into cycle/ pedestrian paths once	Roads.	
	construction is completed.		

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD

Dunpender already benefits from much attractive countryside, with woodlands, river valleys, beaches and long views, and also has high quality agricultural land. Changes in land use should enhance wellbeing and health and mitigate the biodiversity and climate crises while minimizing reduced food production.

Со	nsultation findings and other	Shor	t/Medium-term plans	Potential	Lo	ng-term aspirations	Potential	
rat	tionales			leads			leads	
•	Responding to open-ended questions on their vision for the EL area, over a third referred to the natural environment. The main calls	e s	Council to end glyphosate use except on giant hogweed or similarly invasive species.	SCL	•	Identify and purchase or lease land for allotments.	Planning, SCL, community, landowners.	
	were for more sustainable lifestyles, boosting biodiversity and protecting green space,	fa V	Encourage residents to acilitate movement of wildlife between gardens.		•	Working with farmers and landowners, improve nature networks across the Dunpender area and connectivity with other	Planning, SCL, farmers, landowners,	
•	increased renewable energy generation, more sustainable food growing and less pollution. At the end of the survey participants were asked: 'What three words would you like to use to describe your locality in	r fi t c	Encourage and support residents to grow their own ruit and vegetables, e.g. chrough Horticultural Society, communal composting, communal apple pressing, etc	community		habitats across East Lothian. This could include: establishing hedgerows, scrub and shelterbelts linking existing biodiverse habitat; establishing wetlands to minimize distance between them; and adapting bridges over the A1 and railway to become 'green bridges' / wildlife friendly (e.g. minimize width of paved carriageway,	Roads.	
•	10 years time?' Of the 135 responses 71 were about environmental sustainability. Half survey respondents would like the council to only use glyphosate for invasive weeds and a further 30% want its use minimized.	a t t c	Encourage residents, farmers and landowners to leave the trunks of old trees rather than fell at ground level, creating decaying wood habitat.	community, farmers, landowners, SCL.		maximise width of biodiverse verge, reduce speed limit to 10mph). This could be supported by development of a 'nature network plan' working with local farmers, landowners and community groups to identity priority areas and support implementation. This could build in educational opportunities, e.g. with EL Primary School. Possible 'wildlife corridors' include Tyne valley, Whittinghame Water valley, Binning Wood to Ashfield House		

wood, north drive from Biel estate crossing A1 and railway, etc. (see maps).	
Re-wild old Markle Fisheries to become bird reserve. Explore using one lake for swimming. SCL.	•
Create attractive footpaths and parkland Plannin linking Markle fisheries to East Linton and SCL, establish shelter belt to protect EL from landow prevailing winds.	

PUBLIC SERVICES AND LEISURE

Most respondents were very appreciative about life in and around EL, and positive about opportunities for play, sport and recreation. Nevertheless, there was considerable demand for a new primary school, improved sporting facilities, provision for teenagers and enhanced health and social care services.

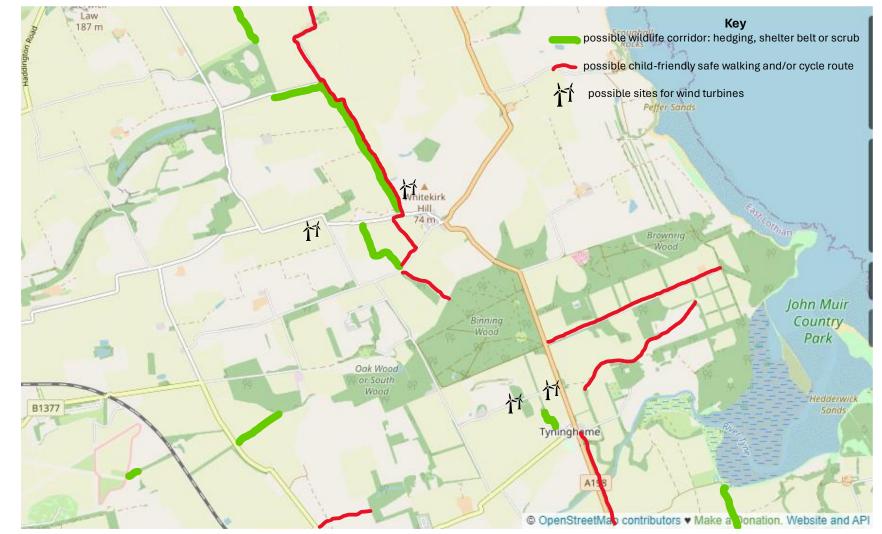
Consultation findings and other	Short/Medium-term plans	Potential	Long-term aspirations	Potential
rationales		leads		leads
 Responding to open-ended questions on their vision for the EL area, over a third referred to public services identifying a 	 Subject to current demand, build skate park for which Section 75 funding (£62k) already exists. If new school proceeds, 	SCL, Planning.	 Achieve funding for, and build, new primary school. 	ELC, Education, Scot. Gov
new school, protecting the park, more on street EV charging, better provision for young people, etc	 Upgrade play equipment and facilities in park, especially providing swings for older 	SCL	• Greatly extend pre-school childcare provision in EL., ideally linked to provision of new school.	Planning, private sector.
• Of the improvements for health and social care suggested in the survey, those most requested	children, a climbing frame like Lauderdale Park, and a sheltered location for teenagers to meet		Provide a youth club.	community, Connected Communities.
 were: a minor injuries clinic (61%), out of hours GP service (56%), better care at home services (46%), mental health services (33%), support for family carers (33%), residential dementia care (30%) and residential care homes (29%). Most respondents were positive 	 up. Upgrade public toilets, provide signs to them from High Street and station, and explore scope to improve security. If new school proceeds, incorporate new public toilets within plans. Reinstate children's play park on 	Facilities Managemen t Longstone	 Facilitate swimming in the Tyne, while preventing anti-social behaviour, by working with SEPA to improve water quality and exploring creation of accessible, child-safe swimming sites, e.g. near EL mill, off Ladies' Walk, Tyninghame, and Hailes Castle. Explore possibility of using one lake of old Markle Fisheries for swimming. 	Planning, SEPA, community, Police, landowners.
 about play, sport and recreational opportunities. Of the new facilities most requested (open-ended question), half identified sporting facilities, especially a sports centre or gym (23), a 	Longstone Avenue.	Av. Residents Assoc., SCL, 3 rd sector.	 Instal toilets in centre of EL and at the station. 	Planning, Facilities Management, Iandowner, Rail Track.

swimming pool (7), sports facilities in the park (6) and football pitches (5). 14 called for	• Ensure existing work of Linton Day Centre is supported.	community, 3 rd sector, ELHSCP.	
 more, and better access to, green space. P6 and P7 pupils want play equipment in the park improved, the Longstone Ave. playpark reinstated and swimming in the Tyne made easier and safer. 	• Provide summer clubs for children.	community, Connected Communitie s, 3 rd sector.	

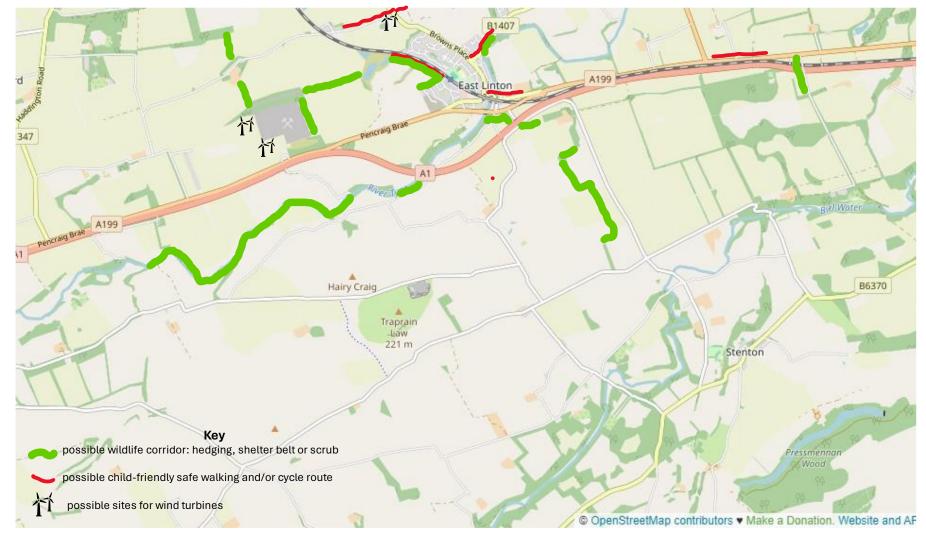
COMMUNITY RELATIONSHIPS

To ensure newcomers are fully engaged in village life, and encourage established residents to become more involved, establish community engagement programs. This should help bridge the gap between different groups and promote a close-knit community where everyone feels valued.

Consultation findings and other rationales	Short/Medium-term plans	Potential leads	Long-term aspirations	Potential leads
 At the end of the survey participants were asked: 'What three words would you like to use 	 Create welcome committees or events to introduce newcomers to long-time residents and local 	community	Community council to actively shape Dunpender area.	DCC
to describe your locality in 10 years time?' Of the 135 responses 98 were about community	 organisations. Encourage participation in village events, clubs, and 	community	• DCC seen as important enough to make membership competitive (elections).	DCC
relationships, including friendly, welcoming and caring (32), sense of community (28), safe (15), vibrant/fun (13) and socially diverse (10).	committees, especially by new residents, supporting their long- term future and fostering a sense of belonging and shared responsibility.		• Secure source of independent funding to facilitate community activities and encourage participation in using these funds.	DCC, community.
	 Create opportunities to organise, or contribute to, community events without long term commitment, especially to involve younger people. 	community	 Increase the stock of community-owned resources available to community groups and individuals, e.g. tool library, apple press, mini bus, etc 	community, 3 rd sector, DCC.
	 Organise regular community meetings to gather input and ideas from both long-term and new residents. 	community, DCC.	• Establish a voluntary taxi service to transport elderly and immobile residents to community activities.	community
	 Extend the existing ELC path warden volunteer scheme to keep local footpaths clear. 	SCL, community.		



SUGGESTED LOCATIONS OF POSSIBLE INITIATIVES: NORTHERN DUNPENDER AREA



SUGGESTED LOCATIONS OF POSSIBLE INITIATIVES: SOUTHERN DUNPENDER AREA

APPENDIX 1: ACRONYMS

- CAEL Climate Action East Linton
- CAP Community Action Plan
- DCC Dunpender Community Council
- EDT Economic Development and Tourism, East Lothian Council
- EL East Linton
- ELC East Lothian Council
- ELCRP East Lothian Community Rail Partnership
- ELHSCP East Lothian Health and Social Care Partnership
- LPP Local Place Plan
- RAGES Rail Action Group East Scotland
- SCL Sport, Countryside and Leisure, East Lothian Council
- SEHP Scottish Empty Homes Partnership
- SEPA Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- SFHA Scottish Federation of Housing Associations

APPENDIX 2: SPECIFIC INVITEES TO CONSULTATION MEETING 12th MARCH

Name	Organisation/ Company/ rationale
David Affleck	EL Horticultural Society, Curling
Agata	yoga class
GR Aitken	GR Aitken & Sons farmers
Altitude Media & Survey Ltd	Altitude Media & Survey Ltd
Alec Anderson	Alec Anderson Blacksmiths
Neil Armstrong	Building trade
Babies and Toddlers	Babies and Toddlers
Joan Bell	The Men's Shed
Beth and Lee	self-employed
Bostocks	Bostocks
Andy Bradshaw	small business @ Phantassie
Brownies	Brownies
Mark Burnet	Mark Burnet Guitars
Cat	Gala Committee
Chris	specialises in local energy networks
Colin (yoga)	(can mobilise residents of new housing)
Crown & Kitchen	Crown & Kitchen
CBC Autobody	CBC Autobody car body repairs
Day Centre	
Chocolate Tree	Chocolate Tree
Lorraine Cormack	Choir
Hazel Crawford	Hazel Crawford Architect
Ralph and Fin Curry	Phantassie
Geoff Cusden	Golf Club
Alex Dale	farmer
Tommy Dale	Caledonian Horticulture, The Mart
Kate Darrah	The Ridge

Anna Davidson	Pix in the Sticks
Liz Dorrian and Helen	studio at the bottom of Lauder Place
Zoe Dowling	Hairdresser
East Linton Joinery	East Linton Joinery
Electric Fencing Direct	Electric Fencing Direct
Cathie Foulkes	Senior Citizens
Steve and Hillary Frazer	The Airshed (self-employed pollution software)
R. French	R. French Stonemasonry
Gill Gardener	Primary School
Jo Gibb	CAEL
Geddes Group	Geddes Group quarry
Gilmours	Butchers at Old Manse
Philip and Kenneth Gray	Preston Mains Farm
Sarah Gray	Binning Wood Smeaton Nursery Garden
Gray	Groundforce Team
Groundforce Team Guides	
	Guides Church of Scotland
Douglas Hamilton Willie Hamilton	Phantassie Farm
Rosie Harrison	
Hestia Woodwork	Fixing for a Future and Tool Library Hestia Woodwork
Anne Holywell	Old Time Dancing
Rosetta Horn	Beauty business
James Hunt	architect working @ Phantassie
Colin Hunter	Stonelaws Farm
Jackie Hunter	Drama club
Kenny and Liz Ingram	gardening & tree management business
Elizabeth Johnstone	Flower Show
Andrew Jones	Tyninghame District Heating Group
Lawhead Landscaping	Lawhead Landscaping
Linton Butchers	Linton Butchers
Linton Hotel	Linton Hotel
Linton Service Station	Linton Service Station
Kate and Andy Lowe	renewable energy
Bruce Lumsden	Art Group
Lunn Pharmacy	Lunn Pharmacy
Lyntoun Private Hire	Lyntoun Private Hire
Lynton Centre	Lynton Centre
MGS Tree Surgery	MGS Tree Surgery
Frazer Macdonald Hay	Self-employed: conflict resolution
Ali McDougall	Antiques Fair
The Mart	The Mart
Eric Martin	Whitekirk Village Hall Cmt
Heather Menzies	Library
Davide Metzger	Sustainable energy
A.W. Middlemass	A.W. & A. Middlemass farmers
Neil Morland	East Linton Primary School Parent Council
Tricia Moscati	Community Hall Committee
Richard Mosley	EL Whisky Society
Ords Taxis	Ords Taxis

Paddy and Ros	Minecraft @ Harvesters
Playgroup	Playgroup
Preston Mill	National Trust
Resolution Physiotherapy	Resolution Physiotherapy
Les Ritchie	EL Bowling Club
Mark Roper	architect
W M Rose	W M Rose & Son plant & machinery
Beavers / Rainbows	
James Sandie	James Sandie & Sons painters and decorators
M Smith	M Smith Joinery Services
Ian Smith	Plumber
Soltyre Ltd	Soltyre Ltd
lan Staples	Tyninghame Village Hall & Community Cmt
Steve and Jacky	Steve self-employed joiner, Jacky works in post office
Patricia Stephens	Phantassie Food
East Linton Surgery	East Linton Surgery
Jill Taylor	Scouts, Producer Dunpender News
Tennis Club	Tennis Club
A D Tooling	A D Tooling
	Torness Motors
Votadini	Votadini café
Dave Wakefields	Tyninghame café
Hilary White	Hilary White Hair Design, Christmas Lights