

REDESIGN FOR COMMUNITY ACTION

WRAP UP REPORT
11TH NOVEMBER 2016



The Highland Third Sector Interface, also known as the HTSI, is a Scottish Registered Charity SC043521 and a Scottish Registered Company SC425808.

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***'If we work together & communicate well
Own something substantial, our story tell
See a genuine gap that we can fill
Develop, share & use our skill
Plan for the future, think of cash flow
With open hearts, communities can grow'***

Irene—Participant, Redesigning for Community Action,
11th November 2016



Introduction

This report outlines the feedback, themes and activities from the *Redesigning for Community Action* event that the HTSI hosted on behalf of The Highland Council on the 11th of November 2016. Over 80 delegates took part in the discussion on the day which ranged in nature from considering the examples which already exist around quality, inspiring community led action and the actions necessary to achieve an environment within Highland that facilitates communities to achieve their own outcomes better.

Concept

The day was planned to focus on what we wanted a productive environment to look like, the actions needed to get us to where we wanted to be and the roles we have in achieving that. A combination of activities including discussion, visual imaging and voting allowed evidence to be gathered through group work and at an individual level.

Effectively the groups worked from a) existing action, b) the environment necessary to achieve more and effective community action, c) previous proposals from a smaller group of community organisations and finally d) the potential role of the new Community Partnerships.

Date and location

The event was held on the 11th of November at Smithton Free Church, Culloden.

Attendance

In total over 90 people registered with over 80 attending on the day. There was a geographical spread throughout Highland Communities as well as participants from other public agencies and the Scottish Government.

Outcomes

The feedback from the activities is detailed within this report. There was a clear level of interest in a partnership approach, ensuring that learning happens across communities and across public agencies as a whole not just the Council. There is also interest to consider the support and infrastructure for communities as well as a need to think about the implications the attitudes and approaches adopted to supporting community action can have on its viability and the people undertaking it.

Reactions

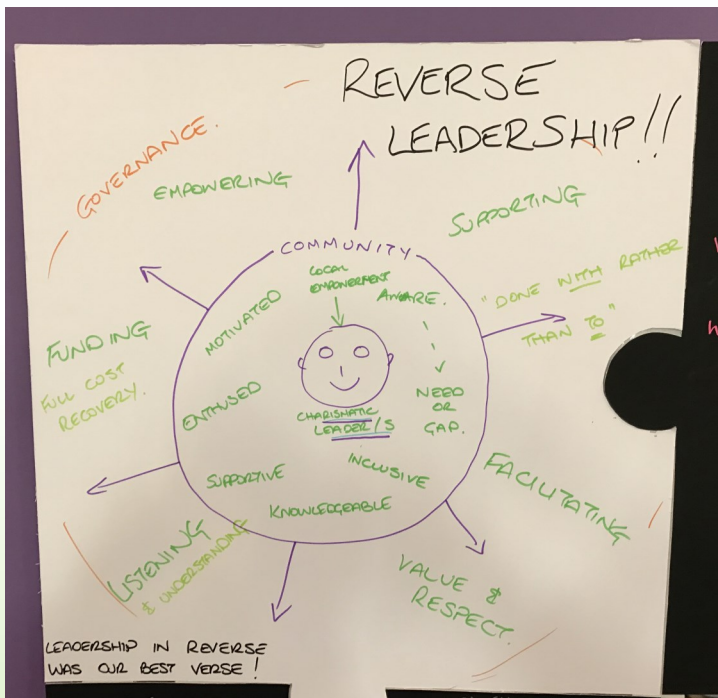
Generally the response to the discussion was positive. The most common words feedback were *Well Planned, Thought Provoking, Informative, Interesting and Thoughtful*. There were a series of comment forms completed with a varying array of questions and comments. Combined with the questions gathered in respect of the Community Partnerships these should be considered not just by the Council but by the other CPP agencies and the Community Partnerships.

Where Next

The report, once complete, will be circulated to attendees and the Council for their information. The Redesign Board are potentially concerned with the majority of the content but there are aspects that will be passed for consideration to other agencies.

What does the environment need to look like for community action to thrive?

Delegates were asked to think about what environment needs to exist around community action for it not only to exist but to thrive. To record that conversation each table was given a jigsaw piece to illustrate their ideas. The pieces were then put together to form a large picture of what that environment needs to look like.

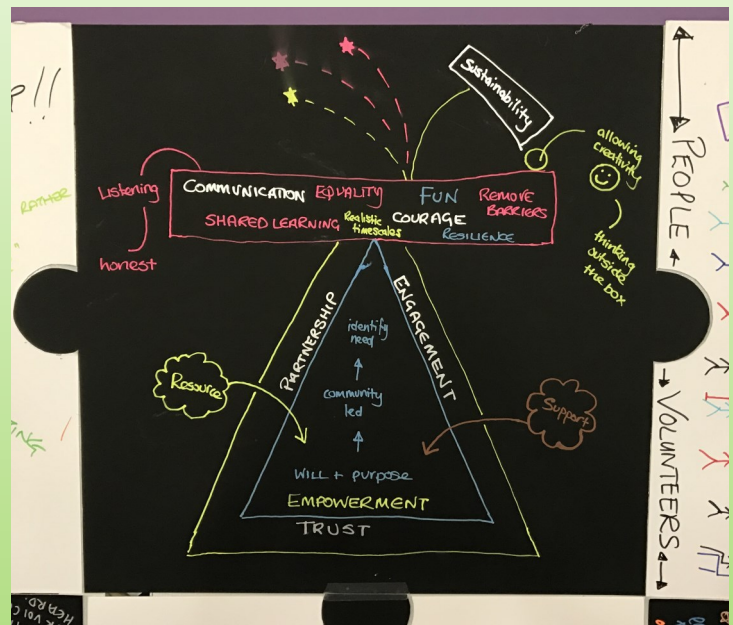


Piece 1 - Key Points

- Reverse Leadership
- Community needs to have/be:
 - Locally Empowered
 - Motivated
 - Enthused
 - Supportive
 - Knowledgeable
 - Inclusive
 - Aware (of need or gap)
- Listening
- Funding
- Value and respect
- Supporting

Piece 2 - Key Points

- Partnership
- Engagement
- Trust
- Shared leaning
- Equality
- Fun
- Remove barriers
- Courage
- Resilience
- Sustainability



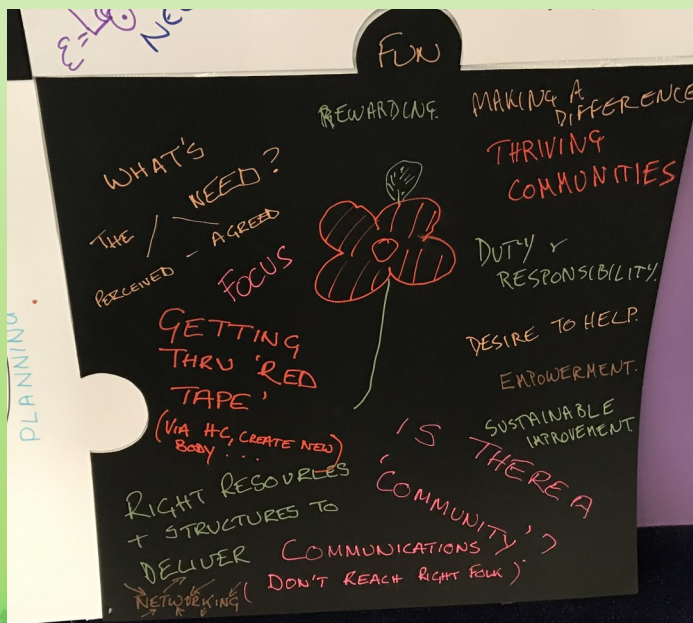
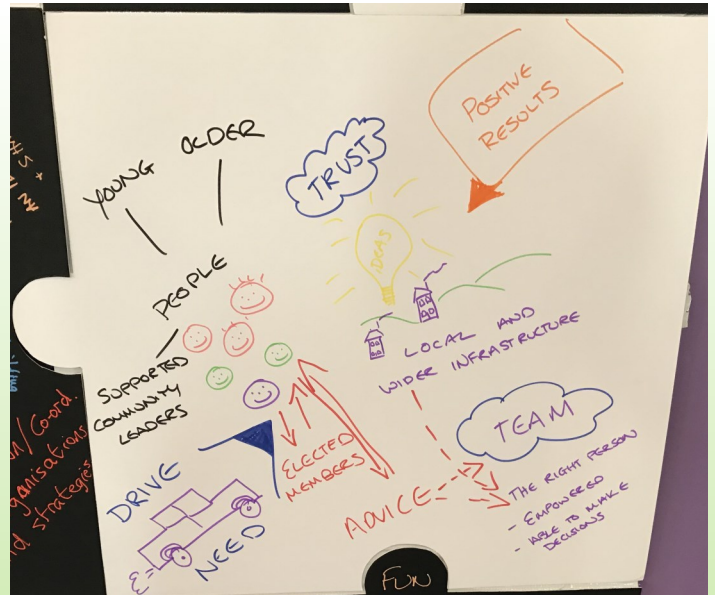
Piece 3 - Key Points

- Communication
- Enthusiasm
- Volunteers
- Commitment
- Sustainability
- Money
- Engaging Young People
- Need for change in thinking and understanding
- Trust throughout the system - between everyone
- Working in partnership



Piece 4 - Key Points

- Trust
- Supported Community Leaders
- Driven by needs
- Team
- Local and wider infrastructure
- Young & Older
- The right person
- Empowered
- Able to make decisions



Piece 5 - Key Points

- Fun
- Rewarding
- Getting thru 'red tape'
- Right resources & structures to deliver
- Making a difference
- Duty and Responsibility
- Empowerment
- Communication (Don't reach right Folk)
- Is there a 'Community'?

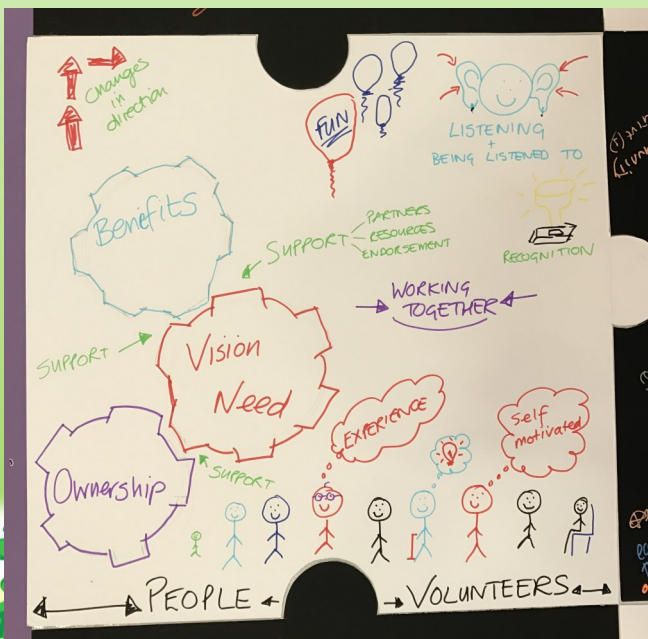


Piece 6 - Key Points

- Local people
- Support
- Real Influence

Piece 7 - Key Points

- Innovation
- Key Players
- Shared Vision
- Inclusion
- Embracing change
- Embracing technology
- Collaboration
- Listening



Piece 8 - Key Points

- Benefits
- Vision Needed
- Ownership
- People
- Volunteers
- Support
- Working together
- Listening



Are these the right actions to create that environment?

In August the Redesign Board met with a small group of community organisations and representatives. These individuals put forward a series of suggested priorities that needed to be addressed if community action was to flourish. There were presented to the delegates and include:

1. **A support or brokerage service in the Highlands for community bodies – ‘A Community Gateway’ offering a single point of contact for help, advice and ‘know how’**

This would:

- Connect volunteers to volunteering opportunities in local communities e.g. having local co-ordinators
- Connect volunteers to the assets held by others e.g. sharing fleet and vehicles
- Provide help to apply for funding – knowing what is available, dealing with the bureaucracy, form filling
- Help community bodies follow clear steps to acquire assets from public bodies
- Assist in acquiring a physical base
- Provide advice on legal issues, governance matters, managing human resources
- Provide tailored training and development. It might include:
 - How to identify local priorities
 - How to break down barriers to people participating
 - Community development and building capacity for people to be involved
 - Identifying and managing risk
 - Business planning

2. **Access to expertise in the Council to help community groups with more complicated business**

The types of issues requiring support might be:

- Legal advice
- Advice on governance
- Support with employing and managing people
- Dealing with big organisations e.g. energy suppliers, other utilities

Another idea is to enable community organisations to attend Council training in a planned way.

3. **Modern apprenticeships in community development**

4. **Changing attitudes about community organisations**

A more supportive attitude from Council staff – with community groups offering training to Council staff

This would mean the Council:

- Being more appreciative about what a community body can do
- Being more open to challenge – especially if the community has different priorities to the Council
- Seeing community bodies positively and not a threat to Council jobs
- Being open about who to contact about different things
- Improving response times and providing better responses:

- to particular requests
- on consultations
- for paying invoices
- Being a better listener
- Being more willing to negotiate, compromise and be flexible
- Being less risk averse – including changing rules and restrictions on what communities bodies can and can't do

To support this improvement in attitudes, community bodies could provide training to Council staff

5. Council leadership locally to excite, engage and enable creative thinking in communities

6. Getting new local community partnerships off to the right start

This would include:

- Using Plain English
- Considering who to involve and not having a sense of hierarchy
- Thinking about how often the groups have to meet
- Finding a way of learning and sharing the good that is happening
- Making sure there is proper consultation before public services are changed
- Accepting that doing things in partnership can mean it takes longer

7. Funding: Easy access to small grants to allow groups to move quickly

These could be for feasibility studies or supplying material to volunteers.

They should be easy to access and responded to quickly and with prompt payment.

Council Ward Discretionary budgets were helpful and could be re-named as a Community investment Fund.

8. A new look at Community Councils

Mixed views exist on and within Community Councils.

Some Community Councils want more people to be encouraged to be Community Councillors. This would mean workload could be shared better.

Other groups feel that sometimes there is too much reliance on Community Councils to provide a community voice; other groups with local knowledge should be engaged.

Groups were then asked to priorities them into what they felt was most important and to add in any additional things they felt were missing. They were particularly asked to consider the environment that they had just talked about and to think specifically around what was need to make that a reality.

Ranking (no. 1 as the highest priority)

1. Changing attitudes about community groups
2. A support or brokerage service in the Highlands for Community Bodies - 'A Community gateway'
3. Getting new local community partnerships off to the right start
4. Access to expertise in the council to help community groups with more complicated business
5. Funding: easier access to small grants to allow groups to move quickly
6. A new look at community councils
7. Council leadership locally to excite, engage and enable creative thinking in communities
8. Modern apprenticeships in community development

Additional Notes and Comments on Priorities:

1. Changing attitudes about community groups

- Learning from each other
- Making the system easier for staff to do this (ref points on sheet, as above)
- And respectful
- Real influence
- Individual relationships critical
- This also needs to apply to arms length company HLH
- Very important
- Better communication
- Two ?? Credibility and Trust
- Reversing leadership
- Not just the council all partners may have ability
- Cultural change within the C.Partners to communities
- Willingness to compromise and recognise community bodies
- Community / people skills should be core
- Could take a long time to happen
- Recognise the challenge in this
- Absolutely necessary—principle great how put into practice

2. A support or brokerage service in the Highlands for Community Bodies - 'A Community gateway'

- Don't undermine what is already there (some CVS do some of this already—can they work closer with other bodies)
- Needs strengthen what is there just now & make communication better across those who can help—a bridge setting out who does what?
- Community benefit to employ people but could the council offer employment—as a broker for employment
- Already in place through the CVS
- Not a wide awareness of the CVS role
- The need to connect people and services
- Doesn't happen everywhere—the need for consistency—difficult due to diverse needs of each area
- TSI - will this be duplicate
- Expertise in social enterprise needed
- Available after hours to meet group requirements
- Self Directed support has not worked
- TSI as a point of contact important within areas
- Trust, accessibility
- Provided by 3rd sector
- Resource / people in place already.
- Fund HTSI to provide this
- Provide local delivery through partners
- Branding of HTSI is an issue
- Must be 3rd sector not THC
- Could THC Service Centre be developed to signpost to organisations who can help?
- Should not just be about volunteer—we need local jobs too. Enables long term stability
- Needs to be clear what the brokerage/structure is and communicate that out to communities
- Single point of contact for information, support and advice
- No mention of the need to bring all key players e.g. HIE, SCVO etc.
- Theory good needs to work in practice
- Does this exist already?
- Better networking of existing groups
- How will this be resources
- Needs to be clear timescales for responses and decisions
- Needs to understand local issues and be based locally
- Council local councillors be better equipped and act as the gateway
- Some communities may not want political involvement (Councillors)
- Principle worthwhile with further engagement to better understand what this would look like
- Point of failure - SPOC need to be knowledgeable/supported and well connected
- Pan Highland
- But build on existing resources don't duplicate
- We have this already with the local TSI
- New community partnerships should help

3. Getting new local community partnerships off to the right start

- Real influence
- Meet when people can meet & not at work
- Skype
- How do highland wide and communities of interest get involved?
- Value groups involved
- Recognising communities of interest
- Why are Community Councils not included Scottish Government
- Locally relevant agenda supported by statutory partners, TSI and Voluntary Groups.
- Meaningful consultation and engagement needs to be partnership of equals

4. Access to expertise in the council to help community groups with more complicated business

- Governance / employment can be provided by CVS
- Some areas where expertise required—signposting to appropriate org.
- Need access to accessible information
- Access to public liability insurance
- Relationship need to be defined—shadow trustees
- No duplication
- Complicated - language/bureaucratic
- “the monster” of Highland Council
- Enable Community Orgs. To participate in council planning - part of community gateway service
- Not just something for the council - they are one of a number of partners that can provide this as appropriate ?? Community Partnerships
- Allowing staff time in the day job to develop skill needed for the new landscape
- Advice is available now
- Signposting
- Development Trust Association
- HTSI etc. etc.
- Supportive with request for appropriate financial advice inc. tax implications
- Not approachable—too bureaucratic

5. Funding: easier access to small grants to allow groups to move quickly

- Share information on feasibility studies
- Really needed
- Yes!
- Very important and need to have very little administration for volunteers to cope
- Good idea but important to get the criteria right for small grants e.g. £1000<
- Need clear audit trail
- Need for transition funding / support to either continue / move to next phase
- Signposting—making fund finding easier
- Social Enterprise needs community benefit and structure for spend

6. A new look at community councils

- Review—how to make sexy
- Constitute to include rotation
- Time limited periods
- More influence for CCs
- CCs not just about elections—make easier to be involved but not as cllr
- New ways to collect voices
- CCs could become conduit through which local/national govt. support comms, and help /manage/ facilitate coms to plan and prioritise
- Boundaries
- More powers high priority (not box tickers)
- Should have shared responsibility—communication is key
- Ccs need ongoing training for skills and understanding of purpose
- PR marketing/communication job around CCs and what they do
- Very valuable for local democracy need to be supported and bigged up
- Perhaps CC should be part of a wider community forum which would include the voices of other community groups
- Lack of understating about community council and their role
- Highlights challenge of engagement

7. Council leadership locally to excite, engage and enable creative thinking in communities

- Not just for the council—but also NHS and other service providers
- Shared leadership—not necessarily just the Council
- This to come from grass roots rather than top down
- Not just something for the council - there are a number of partners who should be involved in this
- Support and training for councillors
- Big balancing(?) act
- Community leaders—as well?
- Councillors should support their community before party politics
- Targeted, engage all community , hard to reach / hear, sharing success
- We don't understand

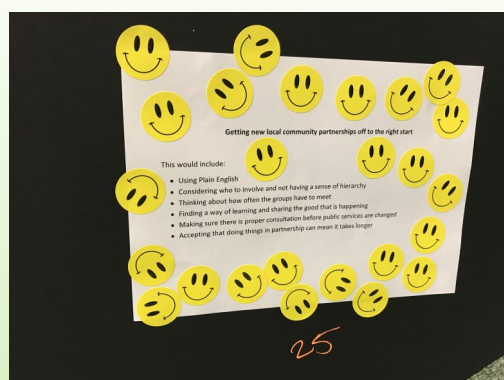
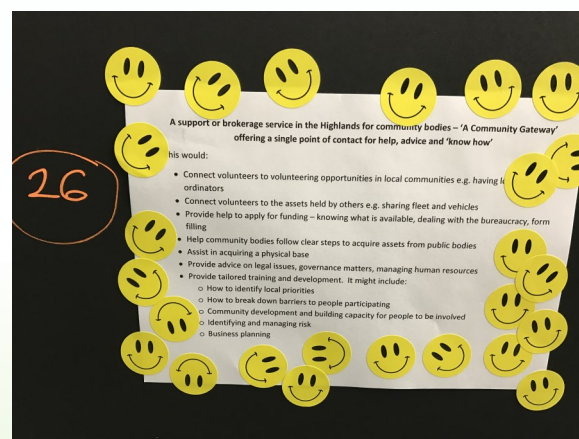
8. Modern apprenticeships in community development

- Should be done in voluntary sector
- Need to identify opportunities for apprenticeships
- Select the right people
- Supported by govt.
- What does it mean? Good for expertise increase skills base
- Would get young people involved
- Not entirely sure how this would work
- Development and Education
- We need community catalysts
- Recognition of one route is useful
- No mention of other possible opportunities or flexibility of approach
- How?
- Integration of young people into community planning and development—positive
- Supportive in principle but need more information to make informed decision
- More work with schools, increase focus, build on existing work to increase sustainability

When we considered the same proposed actions as individuals:

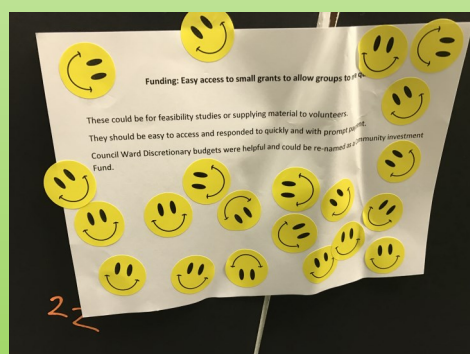
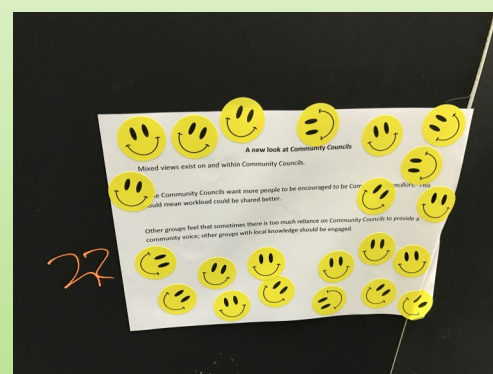
Each participant was invited to consider the proposed actions and those that had been added to the list from the previous exercise. They were asked to place a 'smiley face' sticker against those that they felt were a priority and an 'unhappy face' sticker on those that they felt less happy about. The following are the results as per the individual results:

1. Support for a Community Gateway offering a single point of contact for help, advice and 'know how' for communities scored 26 votes and no unhappy faces.

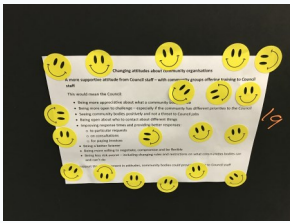


2. Getting the new Local Community Partnerships off to the right start was only a little behind the 'Community Gateway' with 25 votes and no unhappy faces. This was an increase on the table prioritisation ordering and emphasises the need for community engagement to be built into the new approach at an intrinsic level.

3. A new look at community councils came third with 22 votes and continued the consistent theme that people would welcome a renewed dialogue around the role, power and functions of Community Councils.

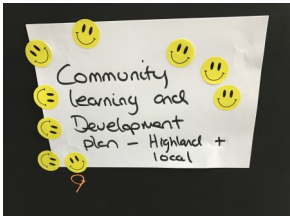
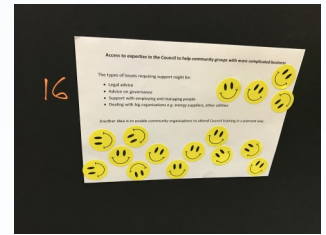


4. Easy Access to Small Funding Grants Actually came 4th (despite the miscount on the day). Highlighting the need for seed grants accessible quickly to support the growth of momentum and ideas at local level



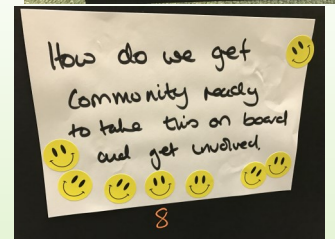
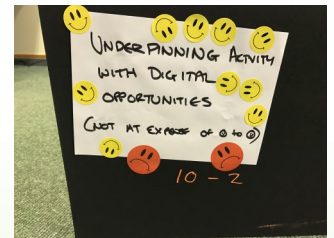
5. Changing attitudes came 5th with 19 votes and this was the largest change from the table prioritisation where this came 1st.

6. Access to expertise in the council came 6th with 16 votes.



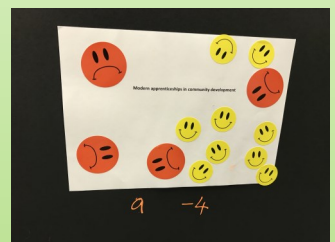
7. Community learning and Development plan was the first additional action within the ranking and came 7th overall with 9 votes.

8. Underpinning Activity with Digital Opportunities had a total of 10 votes for an two votes against giving it an overall positive of 8 votes and making it joint 8th overall with **How do we get communities ready to take this on board and get involved**, who also had a total of 8 votes.

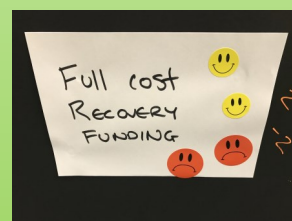
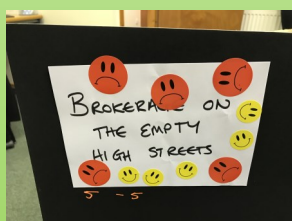


9. Community plans not just services came 9th with 6 votes.

10. Council leadership received a total of 12 votes but had 7 unhappy faces leaving a total positive vote of 5. This may reflect the idea that leadership for communities needs to come from more than just the council as is reflected in other comments made throughout the day. **Community Development Apprenticeships** came out with a positive vote of five as well; once the total number of votes for were subject to the deduction of the unhappy faces.



11. Full cost recovery and brokerage on the empty highstreets essentially received neutral results.



What role, responsibilities and support needs do we all have in putting this in place?

What RESPONSIBILITIES do they have?

- Representative role for communities
- To maintain a positive and collaborative relationship with their community(ies)
- To be inclusive and ensure equalities are taken account of
- To be professional
- Being willing to develop their role and explore new opportunities
- To take an interest in the wider context and environment
- To be actively involved with Community Councils
- To be trustworthy
- To be knowledgeable and willing to exchange that knowledge
- To be open and transparent
- To be good communicators
- Enabling
- As questions
- To be brave

What ROLE do they have?

- Role to ensure they are embedded within their community(ies)
- Need to take their role of 'representation' seriously
- More open to discussions with the council and other public agencies
- They have a role if allowed in full participatory budgeting, not just discretionary funds
- They have a role to generate more partnerships at local levels
- To work closer and more effectively together
- Work closer with Community Councils
- Role in shaping a shared vision for communities
- As specialists with valuable knowledge and skills
- As facilitators, consultants and support for engagement
- As a Partners in the new Community Partnerships
- As evidence gatherers

- Volunteers
- Communicators within communities

Community & 3rd Sector Groups

- To be included, informed and valued
- Training
- Funding including longer term contracts
- Support to engage
- Need a shared structure
- Plain language
- Timely information and response
- Support for volunteers
- Access to advice
- Asset based approach

What SUPPORT do they need?

What RESPONSIBILITIES do they have?

- To develop better ways at engagement with communities and third sector organisations
- To be supportive, provide guidance and advice
- To help shift the public image of Community Councils
- To build collaborative partnerships and relationships with communities
- To be open and transparent
- To consult and engage in a timely manner
- To let go of control and allow the CPP and communities to take over some responsibility
- To not manage the answers
- To take action on what is agreed and put forward
- To be accountable for the changes they promise to make
- To effectively enact the new Community Empowerment Act
- To remember the Highlands is diverse and rural
- Get over yourselves
- Make structure so it is engaging
- Understand real need rather than perceived need
- Support the development of resilience within communities
- Be flexible about what hours people work to engage with people when they are involved in their communities
- To try

What ROLE do they have?

- Encourage paid staff to be more involved through their paid role with organisations and communities. Staff release for volunteering or similar.
- Facilitate and fund the creation of a new 'Gateway' service
- Everything
- Conduit to ensuring community action happens
- To review what works well and support more of that
- Funders and commissioners of services within Communities
- Deliverers of training
- Strategic leaders
- Potentially offering legal support and guidance
- Representative champions for the region and their agendas
- To respect the value of the third sector and its resources
- To listen to the communities and third sector groups
- As communicators including enhancing their online presence

The Highland Council

- To feel valued
- Needs support from the Government to redesign Community Councils
- Openness and responsibility from communities
- Training on how to engage better and communicate more effectively
- Training on how to use plain English
- Support from the CPP
- Strong links with the TSI
- Finances that cover their costs

What SUPPORT do they need?

What RESPONSIBILITIES do they have?

- To communicate well with their community
- To identify the needs of their community
- To identify the assets of their community
- To establish engagement mechanisms at a local level
- To represent the community
- To be inclusive
- To challenge THC on behalf of the community
- To be accessible to their community
- To be an information point
- To be partners in community projects
- To get better at engaging young people
- To present themselves in a more positive light
- To better understand their own role
- To be visible to the community, statutory and third sector partners

What ROLE do they have?

- To feedback what they do and what they want to do
- To find out and articulate the needs of the community
- To be knowledgeable about their communities
- To promote their role as a community enabler
- To liaise on behalf and with the community
- To engage with the community on important issues
- To be strategic leaders in articulating how the community council role could change and be reshaped
- Potentially points of local partnership and hubs for development
- To ensure accountability for their activities
- In supporting community planning across the region locally and to feed into strategic planning.

Community Councils

- Support from their own communities
- Training and access to key information and knowledge
- Help to recruit more effectively
- REVIEW OF THE PURPOSE OF THE CC STRUCTURE, POWERS AND PURPOSE
- Ability to change their legal structure
- Support to be better engaged with planning processes

What SUPPORT do they need?

What RESPONSIBILITIES do they have?

- To work to the benefit of the communities of Highland
- They have statutory duties to meet
- To speak in a way that people understand—Plain English
- To lead by example
- ‘nobody is everything to everyone’
- To consider opportunities for shared resources
- To work from an asset point of view
- To provide information

As per the council responsibilities generally

What ROLE do they have?

- Not to work in isolation from everyone else
- To help facilitate communication, resources and knowledge
- To engage

Other Public Bodies

- Good communication
- Opportunities to work together
- Knowledge sharing

As per the council support needs generally

What SUPPORT do they need?

What RESPONSIBILITIES do they have?

- Encourage the civil service to be more involved through their paid role with organisations and communities across the whole of Scotland
- To undertake a review of the Community Council structure, powers and purpose
- To listen to what is fed back in reviews
- Stop centralising everything
- To ensure legislation is carried out properly
- Make it easier to understand where money gets spent
- Support a more risk taking environment
- Support more extensive integration
- Be solution and outcome focused
- Rollout decision making beyond 'Edinburgh'
- Recognise one size does not fit all
- Time limit decision making periods
-

What ROLE do they have?

- To review performance targets to enable local autonomy
- To help review the purpose of Community Councils
- To promote good practice
- To raise the profile of Community Councils
- Empowering legislation and its enactment
- To fund and commission services
- To enforce compliance
- Devolving responsibility to regions

The Scot. Government

- Community Councils to feed back more effectively
- Training in rural dimension
- Awareness raising

What SUPPORT do they need?

What are our questions about the new Community Partnerships?

In the next few months nine new Community Partnerships will be established throughout Highland. They will be led by one of the five responsible organisations for Community Planning within the new Community Empowerment Legislation; The Highland Council, NHS Highland, Police Scotland, The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

At this stage the Partnerships are still forming and there is a lot that we are yet to develop around the new structures. This presents an opportunity for community groups and members to help shape them as they develop.

The groups were asked to think about the questions that they have about the new Partnerships. Answers will be circulated where possible as a separate document.

- How will community members be supported to attend CPs (esp. those that would not naturally become involved)?
- How do you make people believe that they will be listened to and that there is value and benefit to participating?
- How do you ensure equality?
- How do you make sure different voices are heard?
- Need to ensure flexibility to allow membership
- What is representation? How to input? How are regional and national third sector groups to input and form part of the conversation?
- How the HTSI (& other groups) make sure community groups are able to feed in?
- Must be open—build relationships and trust
- Mustn't be the same straight lines—needs to be a new approach
- Nothing about us without us—how can we realise?
- What can we expect of communities and input when the range is so huge from getting involved in planning or children's services to care to economic regeneration?
- Community groups can do things that public agencies can't get away with due to the levels of bureaucracy. Does raise questions of liability though.
- Need some form of citizen's education as to how this might work
- Need to be honest as partner about what is and what isn't working
- Need clarification around community councils and how they fit with local democracy function
- Who will take the credit for things going well?
- How will they ensure
 - They are utilising existing networks and links
 - Information sharing about developments
 - They are action focused
 - Inclusive in their approach
- Where is the democratic control?
- How are the CP members selected?
- How does real grass roots engagement take place?
- Is this devolution or control?
- Need for SPOC contact info for LCP
- Need to understand structures, governance and value of all groups including thematic groups
- Need for single platform to go for all LCP information
- Who decides on membership?

- What influences the chairs thinking on membership?
- How do they truly engage across the area?
- How do highland wide organisation and thematic groups engage?
- Are you going to have a register of specialist organisations?
- How are you going to engage with everyone to get the LOIP fully responsive?
- Will they be undertaking nationally recognised CLD standards/methods to do this work?
- How do we know who to contact?
- How do we get answers to our questions?
- Who are they?
- Need to communicate their role
- Purpose?
- Flexible structures?
- Transparency and accountability?
- Timescales?
- Connectivity at grass roots?
- How do people find out about the new CP? (website mentioned as being developed)
- Point made about how does community get involved in CPs?
- Community Councils involvement—will CCs be contacted proactively?
- How will CPs be monitored and evaluated to ensure delivery to its community?
- Where does the strategic direction come from?
- Will they become bogged down again in top down bureaucracy?
- If government national outcomes are embedded in this—how does the community make it meaningful?
- Do they have budget making powers?
- Do they have budgets?
- Delegated authority?
- Link between planning and budgeting?
- Balance between what you can resource and deliver
- Escalating issues to community partnership board level—greater authority?
- Planning—identifying key local needs—changing outcomes for local communities
- CP can seek to influence wider organisational spend but not enforce / demand this (?)
- Local groups to have representation at CPs
- Community Partnerships
- Scottish Government. Localities guidance (Pub)
- Need for satalite involvement and close involvement
- They should consider from the outset:
 - How they can help 'us' to help ourselves
 - How can the Public Bodies get out of the way
- How do we manage the tension between the government requirements, the community partnerships and what communities want to do?
- How will the five (THC, NHS, SFRS, Police and HIE) resource the partnerships when they are all facing budget challenges?



What did our 'Key Listeners' hear throughout the day?

Dr David Alston, NHS Highland

We need to: understand the need; make it easy to be involved; be honest (say no when needed); deliver on commitments; communicate and if in doubt communicate more; support each other and be kind; find the passion in the community and in organisations; be inspired by what works; celebrate success and each other.



John MacDonald, SFRS

There is a will and desire that communities want to be involved and organisations want to support it. A single structure to support action must not be stifling and maybe it is re-badging rather than setting up something new. Communities have a role but also have limitations – is it about being more empowered or is there another model? We need to get wider community representation. How do we get really small groups involved? How does the community itself understand the new community partnerships? There is some fear out there in organisations. We need a shift to outcomes and less on outputs. We should look at the assets we have collectively to deliver services rather than focusing on who has responsibility. We should promote self-reliance. We should make most of our local places, exploiting their brand. 'Public bodies need to get over themselves'; they don't know best.

Angela Simpson, HIE

There will be key pieces of work for partners to take away from today. We need to consider that not everyone is here today and that some communities are not yet engaged. Awareness of the CPP and new local community partnerships is not there yet and partners need to work out how to be engaging.

Cllr Graham Ross

This is the time to support community development and empowerment given the political will for it. We must work better together and across our silos to enable it. The Community Gateway idea is supported and it needs to have resources to make it work and to help community bodies access funding. All public servants need to be good at community engagement – part of the day job and not just the job for some people. This will need better language and communication. We need improvements to community benefit agreements to support more community action.

George Hogg, SNH

We have had respectful conversations and identified common ground today. But we make things complicated and need better communication. We need to simplify things. Identifying needs locally is important but public bodies should support and not lead this process. The new community partnerships must show how partnerships will make a difference and have real decision-making. How will communities of interest take part and be involved in the new arrangements for community planning? This is serious business but it has to be fun! Remember it needs to be a rewarding and good experience for people to get involved.

Alistair McKinlay Scottish Government

The Minister was sorry he could not attend, and he would have enjoyed it. There is diversity in the people attending today and they have come from different places; that brings strengths to discussion. The energy and passion is obvious. It is important to have common cause and vision and that implies trust. Are we too polite? Conflict and difference of opinion will arise and how good are we at resolving these? How can we best collaborate? Funding will be critical but it's not just about the money, there is much through in-kind support. How do we decide to stop doing things? This can be difficult, for example stopping preventative services can have unintended consequences. Good ideas have come up today about community councils. Our direction is fantastic – it will be tough, but be kind.

What you told us about how you felt about the topic and the event.

The more frequent the word was fed back by participants the larger it appears. The smallest words appeared on one or two returns only.

Energised **Inspired** Confused Excited Unsure

Thoughtful Cynical Frustrated

Apprehensive Assured Concerned

Interested Noisy Great

Thought provoking

Tired **Informative** Engaged

Well Planned



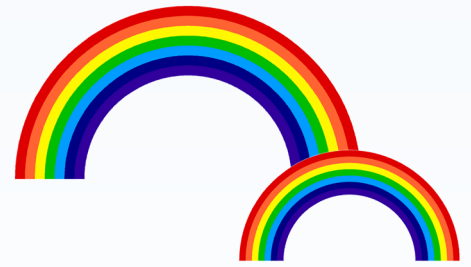


- Organisation
- Lunch
- Felt empowered
- Very informative
- Learned a lot
- !Lunch!
- The people
- Good Discussion
- Organised
- Food!
- Good Venue
- The interactive aspects of the morning session were brilliant! Fantastic ideas that ensured or encouraged everyone to get involved, have their say and become excited about the subject at hand.
- Lunch, Location and structure of the day.
- Well Done—good balance between presentations and active participation really creative ways so gathering views
- That people with influence and power were in the room
- Well done Mhairi your innovation always inspires me!
- Dialogue with diverse group of people
- Opportunity to engage in Highland policy reform
- Felt all contributions were valued
- Welcome, catering, sound and time keeping
- Positive engagement with a diverse 'community network'
- Lunch and people
- Lunch
- David Alston
- Well organised
- Good Presentations
- Lunch
- Availability of support and information, its there but fragmented
- Found it hard as a young person to be heard by some people
- Not enough time
- Don't just talk about volunteers being the solution lets create local jobs and revitalise our communities
- Power points bigger font!
- Attendance list to help us who forget names and roles
- Bigger names on labels
- "listeners at the end were a bit wandered at the end of the day—not very cohesive although good points amongst it.
- Some slides to small to read
- Some unclear instructions
- Unable to read whiteboards better with handouts
- Listeners added nothing waste of time





- Good Morning Session, afternoon less well organised. Surprisingly low understanding of how local government, TSI and Community Groups work
- Further clarity required around ?? And real purpose of the community partnerships connected with the local plan. Anxious(?) re 'outcomes of plan' relating to what public service is responsible for leading(?) the implementation
- Good interaction demonstrating that our communities care, want to be involved and want to make a difference.
- Good Day, well organised. The groups today all have like minded views. Help their community. Mhairi kept everyone in order. Food (good?).
- How do we access the community planning partnership
- Thoughtful and informed day
- Thank you for bringing this all together. Excited to see some movement/ action from this.
- Well Done! Got so much from today and there was so much passion in the room to achieve together.
- Make sure what we've said is really heard and leads to the necessary changes
- Brilliant Lunch :)
- We need to feel positive about community activists. We need to develop training in engaging communities to enthuse and invigorate community action.
- How do vol. sector orgs and local groups/communities of interest get involved in CPPs?
- Is the Council going to 'buy into' CLD Competencies
- View the vol sector as a professional sector
- Broaden involvement in CPPs—or it will not work and will not bring about community action and change.
- Is the dialogue going to be equal?
- How do we ensure community groups and bodies are strong and supported in case services need to go/more?
- Statutory agencies have to open their minds to this, not just the communities.
- Community planning needs to engage with the community at all levels
- These events are so important getting public and third sector talking together is good. Action not words is to be set with targets and timescales.
- Does the public sector actually believe in outcomes or are they strong believers in outputs and wont change?
- Too much information, too little time to absorb and discuss the many points e.g. what they told us would help!'. Some points hardly had time for sufficient consideration and writing down. The outcomes of today will inform the future! The value is often to be found in the follow on of such events—contacting people met, sharing knowledge and experience specific to our own situations.
- Very useful session today. Good discussions on both sessions, although see challenges where some individuals had their own agendas.
- Don't change the groupings half way through the day—changes the developed group dynamic
- Interesting day, some good discussions. Very much hope that some change of attitude between council and communities does happen with good will.
- Clarify the status of the Arms Length Company Highlife Highland as a delivery arm of THC they are Not a 3rd sector organisation but can at times operate as though they are.
- Interesting day Unsure what will happen when council has to cut more services—will third sector be able to step up?
- PP slides unreadable—not enough time on each subject
- Speakers, facilitation and feedback listener/(?) all gave very informative presentations
- David Alston summing up very good
- Thanks for the full and informative day. Good to hear more about the recent developments in within THC and public sector redesign.



Appendix 1 -

Community Action to inspire us:

Ardersier Play—<https://www.facebook.com/Ardersier-PLAY-245615032227415/>

- Mothers in community came together to explore play facilities for their children
- Ardersier now has a playpark the envy of many bigger communities, it is well used by people from the community
- Group raised funds and continue to work together encouraging other groups who plan a similar action

Boleskin Home Care—<http://www.boleskine-communitycare.org.uk/>

- Provides among other things - Provides homecare services
- The services people want
- Local responses to need
- Employs local staff
- Supports by umbrella organisations for employment but has freedom & facilities to deliver what the clients wants rather than what someone says they want/need

Woodland trust—<http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk>

- Protecting & improving landscapes, Biodiversity, maintaining and restoring healthy environment for long-term benefits to all not immediate dratification for some

Social media for social good

- Central Scotland based project which supports a wide range of agencies (3rd Sector Primarily) to make the most of the internet. They're open, creative, partner and digital.

Nairn Book & Art Festival—<https://nairnfestival.co.uk/>

- Annual week event featuring programme of speakers, exhibition, musical events. Footfall +/- 6500
- Organised as an initiative by local bookshop
- Currently involves a dozen voluntary committee members who organise the festival plus helping during the week
- Funded by creative, highland grants and sales
- Aspires to widen its appeal to include youth, families & working people & to work with anti& sport/leisure groups in the town to promote Nairn as a visitor centre and to increase/support local shops & employment

Culloden & Smithton Juggernaut

- Local community newsletter delivered to all households
- Came about as a result of community conversations and feedback on lack of newsletter/noticeboards
- Run by community members, funding agreed on by community steering group and out of local people progr. Comm. Fund

Braemar Castle—<http://www.braemarcastle.co.uk/>

- Community took on an "asset" from the estate and now run it as a visitor attraction. Very successful – but hard work to keep in going
- Google Braemar castle

Bradbury Centre—<http://www.bradburycentre.co.uk/>

- Built by community as care of older people in Borar Bridge/Ardgay was to be moved to Dornoch (early 90s)
- Battled over the years to enable people to get there. 2009 – transport funding withdrawn – they now do it sustainably with NO council/NHS funding
- The future about to extend building

Aigas Community forest—<http://www.aigasforest.co.uk/>

- Locals identified the need for free fuel for some residents

- Last year wind blow collected out and deliver to those in need
- This year community programed to produce wood in larger amounts & shall support this in local community

P.A.C.E café Ardersier

- Hall was no longer in use. Local couple started a café and then a charity shop
- Proceeds from shop are distributed to local organisations
- Café has become a hub for local people, has a history group concentrating on village history

Social Bite Edinburgh/central Belt—<http://social-bite.co.uk/>

- Social business – community of interest
- Sandwich shop – 25% staff previously homeless
- Profits spread across 3 charities
- 1 Scottish
- 2 international
- Enterpreual, accessible, innovative, passion, simple, expandable, effective, direct, replicable

Camuscross Community—<http://www.camuscross.org/>

- Based between Broadford & Armdale on Skye
- Local shop closing, also then affecting post office
- Community of 180 people – no meeting place
- Put an action plan in place to steer funding for local hub. No mean feat.
- Whole community got involved secured planning permission & started their search for funding
- In 2016 secured 1.2million from lottery
- Hub will provide a shop, post office, community hall for events, meetings for whole community, local crofters will showcase/sell produce @the hub
- It will provide employment for 7 people
- When they got the news of the funding they decided to hold an impromptu ceilidh

Edinburgh Tool Library - <http://edinburghtoolibrary.org.uk/>

- Think they do workshops, skill training too
- Social activities – what fun!
- Good to share tools& skills and give all people a chance to so things

Cerbost pier Company

- Local community saw a key local feature fall into disrepair.
- Group formed & immediately advice & guidance sought – fund & work followed with a community pier now forming a key element in the local economy by stimulating both water based & land based activities. What saw this group through was positivity and belief & commitment

Starthpeffer Community Centre—www.strathpeffercommunitycentre.org.uk/

- Locally based & run community centre that continues to innovate of develop to both survive& meet the needs of the community

Raasay Community Shop—www.facebook.com/RaasayCommunityStores/

- Isle of Raasay – shop was for sale – no buyers so was set to close
- Only 150 residents on island but they managed to set up a steering group, sourced funding & bought shop
- Innovative ideas for funding the purchase inspired me – Raised £10,000 by selling shares to local residents
- We need to be innovative in how communities run services

PSE

- 2 years ago young people realised that PSE wasn't effective enough for us. We weren't learning enough about current issues. A young person then created a questionnaire for senior pupils to fill out
- The result of all of us coming together as a school community and



supporting this issue, it lead teachers to understand what we needed to learn more about

- The young people felt more in control of what they were being taught about and felt more confident in being able to change anything in the future

Cromarty care project—<http://www.cromartycareproject.org/>

- Began when old building & land came on market
- Bought with idea of developing “hub” for older people – some accommodating some socialisation – but as part of community not apart from it
- Then local old folks home closed. Developed “Boleskin” style care at home project
- Raised money for emergency service so generator and other resources for power cuts/floods etc
- Starting “good will Groups” to match people of similar interest & support people to access activities etc
- What inspired – builds on good will & desire to include people – keep people at home with Meaningful lives

City Repair—<http://www.cityrepair.org/>

- Portland, Oregon
- Volunteer led, environmental and creative place marking
- Cityrepair.org ? I think

Am Fasgadh Regeneration Company in Kingussie—<http://www.kingussie.co.uk/community/am-fasgadh>

- Dedication & determination – to acquire land & buildings in Kingussie, owed by Highland council
- Have undertaken power of walk over 7 years re community engagement, working with partners (incl. HC/ HIE/DTAS/TSI/CNPA & local other community organisations)
- Brought lots of people on board to develop a really complex but transprmtional project to regenerate the town

Ayr Adventure—Eden Project <https://www.edenproject.com/sites/default/files/ayr-adventure-eden-project-community-engagement.pdf>

- Space – field to be developed invited community- put out lots of den building materials
- Gathered views in creative ways including a washing line of clothes that could be written on
- Inspiring because: creative- all involved ages/ability/interests used activities to inspire
- Was fun

Pulteneytown Peoples Project Wick—<http://www.pppwick.org.uk/>

- Social enterprise, community hub, youth training facility, employability. Local employment, raising aspirations in a developed area
- Local people leading, clear about being self sufficient

Leonard Cheshire - <https://www.leonardcheshire.org/>

- Promoting & enabling the choices of people with disabilities (cared also for the elderly)
- Volunteer involvement to promote aims/activities and to encourage achievement offering support to integrate within the community. Contact loneliness.

WEvolution – Scottish Charity—<http://www.wevolution.org.uk/>

- Supports the development of self-reliant groups SRGs are groups of 6-10 people, usually woman, who come together to save together, support each other, and start trading business. The woman come from economically disadvantaged places. Currently SRGs are in Glasgow, Paisley, Inverclyde and Dundee. They were choses by NESTA as one of 50 new radicals in the UK

Sense Scotland—www.sensescotland.org.uk

- Communication within some of the schools in Glasgow.
- One of their who uses sign language and lived close to a primary school wanted to engage with the pupils
- With sense’s support it was arranged she visit the school now the majority of pupils can sign
- This costs nothing

Invergordon Environment Group -

- 1. Creates and initially as well as maintains the wall floral displays in Invergordon high street every year for 7

months

- 2. Searches for funding and employees. Volunteers to assist in putting up and taking down the planters
- 3. Engages the Isobel Rind centre which provided day time care for learning disabled adults. The IRC grow the flowers from scratch in their greenhouses & the IEG pay for these

Small Glens

- One man makes all the difference for all the community and users that use the picnic viewing areas to
- We cuts & strims the verges and brushes that keep the road safe for all .
- That's what we went back for members keeping these who cant

Men's Shed

- Aberdeenshire and other places across Scotland
- A creative way to bring people together & improve lives in lots of ways
- Lots of people who have never got involved before in a community initiative

Balloch Playpark Action Group

- To obtain suitable land & playpark equipment for the benefit of the youngest members of our community

Providing community transport services in a remote area – T4T by designing services around the needs of individuals – caring about them and putting them 1st

Scotland in Bloom— <http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org/local-environmental-quality/beautiful-scotland/>

- Made an individual in our community get volunteers to make the public spaces beautiful with plants & care of the village apx 1989?
- the community supports this project & gained an award
- The minister left the area & the project fell by the wayside However when the local com. Co. was started the residents asked them to do it & now we employ 4 staff have an SLA with H.C and keep the village to a lush standard

Fort William Town Team—<http://www.fortwilliamtownteam.epageuk.com/>

- 30 volunteers who are making Fort William Town Centre a better, Brighter and more attractive place
- Litter picking, painting, replanting work with Highland Council

Apple Juice: Applecross—<http://www.applecrosshydro.scot/>

- Local ECO-renewable electricity project
- Producing electricity for local homes
- Sold shares from £500- £50,000, but each Shareholder only has one vote regardless of the size of share
- Pay back to shareholders of approx. 4% p.a. & taxincentive
- Pay back to community of approx. £30k pa

Badenoch & Strathspey Community Transport Company—<http://www.ct4u.co.uk/>

- Helping Rural, elderly, infirm people (and many more) access services & social events who would not have been able.
- Run by Volunteer they have over 100 volunteer drivers who also befriend clients

Sleat Community Trust—<http://www.sleat.org.uk/>

- Involved in a wide range of community projects but what is inspiring is the groups diversification – identifying what needs of the community are & tapping into the resources (people & physical & natural) of their community

Caithness Youth Football

- Providing an opportunity for all Children to participate in Football irrespective of ability. Provides exercise and social interaction for rural children as well

Maryburgh Youth Initiative—<https://www.facebook.com/maryburghyouth/>

- “putting our community back together”



- Young people recognised the reduction in activities after school & local youth club closed. They have set up a youth led group to make a difference. They have run a number of fundraising, created a newsletter & organised a redecoration of the community hall

Laurandy Day Care Centre—<http://www.spanglefish.com/laurandydaycarecentre/>

- Set up by volunteers
- committee controls. Raises funds from public sector and privately
- Deals with frail elderly 5 days & were looking to expand to 7 days
- Employs 7 staff
- Provides many services for clients
- Bath, showers, meals, transport
- Looking to expand numbers catered for
- Originally had committed volunteers. Acquired premises etc

Inspiring Community Action – Camuscross & Dunsdale initiative—<http://www.camuscross.org/>

- In 2010 wrote a township plan looking at the strengths & weakness in the community
- In 2011 got development funding from the Big Lottery £50k to take their ideas forward to build a community building
- In 2015 awarded £2million to build a community hall, shop, café & revenue funding £200,000
- 2016 building of hubs with p/t post for project officer
- 2017 opening of new hubs & business manager in post
- Strong support from small community
- Determination & focused communities from start
- Very little involvement from Highland council which would be good to address at this stage

Carve Carrbridge—<http://www.carvecarrbridge.com/>

- 1 day event – Scottish chainsaw carving championships
- Organised entirely by local residents
- 9 months planning. In the day attracting 3 ½ - 4k people to the village
- 2016 event raised over £19K to support inactivates and growth within the village
- Uses the skills & resources of residents

Abriachan Forest Trust—<http://www.abriachan.org.uk/>

- Environmental improvement & protection
- Native/Natural
- Accessible
- Useful
 - Local employment
 - Recreation opportunities
 - Educational opportunities
- Inspires volunteers to devote many hours of willing & enthusiastic work
- Jobs

About 8 months ago Merkinch Partnership

- Community conversation following a rapid community appraisal exercise. Reinforced the findings gave direction for some activities

The Purple performers

- Millburn Academy students became dementia friends
- Self led students research about dementia including the “getting to know me” document
- Developing a piece of drama to take to schools, communities
- Attended the Miltion of Leys “Disney Day for dementia” and gave a presentation to the entire assembly, plus a short demonstration of difficulties people with dementia can face
- www.dementiafriendsscotland.org

Ardgeal – Near Kincaig – Highland – Highland Small Communities Housing Trust - <http://www.hscht.co.uk/>

- Rural housing development that was triggered by the threat of the local school closing
- How the community came together, worked together, embraced not only the opportunities, but the challenges and successes
- How it snowballed from 1 phase of housing into 2 phase of rural housing
- Created up skilling in trades, construction & forestry for young people who then went onto college MA's

BSCTC – “where 2 today?” Badenoch & Strathspey Community transport <http://www.ct4u.co.uk/>

- Development of social inclusion services from as assisted weekly shopping project in Aviemore. This developed into the following services for local people
- V.I. support group – which developed to cover 2 new groups
- Lunch club
- Monthly music afternoons
- Fish & Chip Suppers
- Befriending Services
- Telephone Befriending
- Sum Slame Clubs (over 50's)
- Otago social group

Dementia Friendly communities Helmsdale—<https://adementiafriendlycommunity.com/>

- Local support services developed to support people & their families who have dementia
- Services developed & driven by a local corner who found a gap in local provision & who worked hard with NHS & local people to change this, which has befriending the whole community
- Community Exercise groups Dunoon
- Exercise & social opportunity for mostly older people (although some younger with LTC)
- The difference that it makes to people both physically and mentally and building confidence and social network – Quite different model from when it was hospital based

KOSDT (Kyle of Sutherland Development trust) – Falls of Shin—<http://www.kyleofsutherland.co.uk/>

- Purchase of Post office in Bonar Bridge
- Service
- For all
- Did not want to lose
- Service for Elderly
- Geographical Issues

Culloden Youth Forums wall (mural)

- The need:-
- Cover up unsightly graffiti
- reduce stigma (locally) around young people
- make young people empowered in the community
- CYF wrote there own funding application and then spray painted (with legal permission and a trained artist) a local community centre wall.
- For more info search: culloden Youth Forum on FB

South Kessock Community Clean – up

- (merkinch community council/South Kessock Residents' Association/ friends of Merkinch local Nature Reserve)
- Recognising the growing problem of litter and expensive uplift charges, these community groups organise their own litter pick ups and a one-day amnesty for unwanted large household good and waste

Grampian Opportunities—<http://grampian.altervista.org/>

- With support of national body outside the Box, group of Self-directed- support budget holders on the basis of their mental health.
- Approached public bodies and local businesses to point out financial opportunities of engaging & making their services more accessible

Community Buy out of the island of GIGHA - <http://www.gigha.org.uk/today/buyout/buyout.php>

- Where: Seven miles long, half a mile wide island situated three miles west of the Kintyre Periesula
- What: island was put on the market in 2001 and following discussions the community decided to launch a bid to buy the island. Funding available in the form of grants but agreed that £1m had to be paid back within the first year. Island now 'buzzing', houses being built, energy generation etc
- Why: never underestimate the will and desire of the community and the ability to get things done.

Knoydart foundation—<http://www.knoydart-foundation.com/>

- To encourage population growth and settlement but to appreciate natural beauty landscape & environment without Detriment
- Community entered to support & care for each other

Black Isle Cares—<http://www.blackislecares.com/>

- Community gather together to provide services to their local community
- They saw a gap, a need and filled it. Positive action to achieve great outcome for their community. Everyone involved. Support, events. Lunch etc
- Mondaragon cooperative – basque Region Spain
- Machinery ring cooperatives – originally generxiany now several in Scotland

Skateparks in Inverness and Muir of Ord

- Young peoples participation, design, running events, speed at which funding was acquired and spent gives more a young identity, put it on the map, opens up opportunities for training, health and safety, competitions, music – draws people from other areas

Rebuilding Together New Orleans—<http://www.rtno.org/>

- Home rehabilitation non-profit organisation in New Orleans. RTNO meet community needs by leveraging corporate, private & public money, volunteer labour & help from Americorps. RTNO have responded to poorer communities affected by the devastating effects of hurricane Katrina www.rtno.org

The Highland Small Communities Housing trust—<http://www.hscht.co.uk/>

- Rent to buy scheme allowing sustaining. Affordable. Rural home for sale
- Working with community groups, community development landowners
- Access local community housing needs
- Supporting housing issues in Rural communities allowing young people to afford to buy houses, allowing them to stay in their community

Kinlochberrie play park (early 1980s)

- Campaign led by 2 young mothers who were persistent and determined
- Articulated
- Got community support
- Pursued funding
- Formed a local group called planning for play
- Built the park & provide on-going maintenance
- Still going today – succession young families who value the asset
- REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCCESS: individual/leadership, vision, determination, community support, understanding of broader political context and ability to work within that context

Evanton Community Wood—<http://www.evantonwood.com/>

- Local community bought over local woodland from local landowners
- Enthusiastic group of local people manage woodland and have encouraged all age groups to (a) volunteer

and (b) enjoy facilities build mostly by volunteers eg. Play area, cabin

- School groups, including people with learning disabilities and clubs (brownies), regularly use woodland and arrange their own activities

Mental health project

- Where: Ross and Cromarty
- What: young people from within the Ross and Cromarty area recognised the need for improved support and info surrounding mental health affecting youth. R&C youth Forum took on this project (with other Highlife Highland & community Bodies) to become peer educators – training & workshops to be rolled out soon. This group will also produce a film.
- Inspire: young people in the area have been given a voice and are taking action with the aid of their community

South Uist Estates—<http://www.storasuibhist.com/>

- Company – Storces Uibhist
- Commeraice Arm – Shellced hve being other
- Originally £4m investment by public sector. High Risk
- Last year £28m T/o
- Just complete phase 1 of further public sector/private enterprise
- Development of loch boisdale as port of entry for Eilean S Icer
- Community Owed Estate

Rebuilding New Orleans – Together—<http://www.rtno.org/>

- Volunteering effect/with professional assistance
- Bottom up approach
- Focus on vulnerability
- Sustainable
- Now largest home rehabilitation no –profit organisation

Helmsdale Community Development Trust—<http://www.helmsdale.org/hddg.php>

- Issue, declining population, lack of employment, rural isolation
- Solutions – Acquire land & developed community owned affordable housing managed by a local hsq assue, with letting policy to prioritise allocated to people – local employment
- Community energy scheme
- Unsure other activities but they have a website.

Inverness south community council ownership/involvement with Inshes district park

- That such a “Jewel” of the area & important social facility could be locally run

Communities if interest working in partnership to swap skills and build capacity – crocus group and Tykes young Carers working together on a project to provide bereavement support & enable young people to realise their potential

Early years services

- Playgroups, toddlers groups etc
- In reality these are reducing as we grow & requirements increase with registration, care inspectors, SSSC, pensions etc

C.A.A.A.D—<http://www.bartonhillsettlement.org.uk/and-alcohol.html>

- Community action around Drugs and alcohol – Bristol
- Set up by woman in a deprived area who saw the problems that mainstream services weren't addressing & decided to do something about it

[services/drug-](#)



Mikey's line in Inverness

- Arose after two young boys took their lives as a means of support for young people (primarily men) suffering depression

Planting fruit trees (apples) in South Kessock for local people to local after and harvest

Tandem Cycling – particularly useful for disabled/blind people

Kirkhill – Beaully bridge cycle path

Kirkhill playpark

- Group of parents working with established community trust to replace a facility managed by council which was unappealing

Strontian

- Hydro project to generate income – community good fund
- Strontian primary School support group – moving ahead with project to build new primary school following 4 year fight for H.C. to replace unfit building

Croy

- Lunch club
- Walking club
- Community newsletter
- Hall emergency centre
- Walking patch sunyale to Balloch

Playpark for Balloch

- 40 years the community tried to get a play park
- The village trust approached HC for land at the end of the football pitch
- Land was given
- Funding is being sought
- Company engaged and providing designs
- Community (including children) chose design
- This was done by only 3 people

Locally community council set up community action Raigmore Estate to improve facilities E.g. playparks been upgraded, skate park under development. Identified need, worked with parents/children/young adults what needed/wanted their raised/raising finance from various sources. Playparks will be maintained by council. Care will be responsible for skate park as council not interested

Scouts million hands—<https://www.amillionhands.org.uk/>

- Across UK
- Four streams
- Involves beavers upwards
- Teaches them about issues
- Helps local/overseas charities

Playgroups & children's partner centres across the Highlands

The Pantheon (Paris)

- Boarded-up public buildings, clock & bell not working.
- Community activists broke in, set up a workshop, help 'secret events', repaired the clock and bell – and set it going (to the amazements of the citizens of Paris). They were prosecuted but the court held:
 - You could not trespass on a public building
 - Clock repair was no crime
- Inspiration
 - Just to it
 - Take a risk
 - Break the rules (sometimes)

- Enjoy it & hope for the best

Keeping active in longer life Inverclyde

- Address social isolation in older people
- Support network, physical, mental, emotional needs
- Karen.holdare@yourvoice.org.uk

Moray Firth Radio—<http://www.mfr.co.uk/>

- The idea came from 3-4 individuals – public meeting drew in many more who successfully put in a bid for a license with IBA
- 2 years on (funding was an Issue!) a unique commercial/community venture went to life – partnership of Shareholders & volunteer for 20 + years

Boleskine Model—<http://www.boleskine-communitycare.org.uk/>

- Stimulating Local delivery of care right down to the local level.





This report was produced by the Highland Third Sector Interface on behalf of The Highland Council Redesign Board, November 2016.