

An aerial photograph of a coastal town, likely Ardrrossan, showing a dense cluster of buildings along the coast. In the foreground, there is a grassy field. In the background, there are hills and a few wind turbines. A white rectangular box is overlaid on the right side of the image, containing the text 'OUR PLACE' in large blue letters, followed by 'Ardrossan Central & North East' in smaller blue letters.

OUR PLACE

Ardrossan Central
& North East

Asset Map: April 2015

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Most Active Community Groups

Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society
Ardrossan Library Craft Group
Ardrossan Scouts
Ardrossan Sea Cadets
Ardrossan Youth Association
The Autumn Club
The Butterfly Club
Christmas Lights Committee
North Ayrshire Food Bank

Nazarene Church Lunch Club
Opportunities in Retirement
Pensioners Club
Three Towns Motor Project
Weight Watchers
Whitlees Community Centre
Winton Rovers Football Club

Volunteering & Activism

Activism: Ardrossan Residents Association, Disability Forum, Elderly Forum, Political Activism, Welfare Group
Whitlees Association

Volunteering:
Butterfly Club, Charity Fundraising, Child Line,
Church of the Nazarene, Fishing Club, Food Bank,
Girl Guides, Indoor Bowling Club, Kids Football Club,
Park Church, Reach Out, Scouts, St. Peters Church,
St. Vincent de Paul Charity, Weight Watchers, Winton Primary, Winton Rovers, Whitlees Community Centre

OUR PLACE
Ardrossan Central
& North East

Physical Assets

The Castle Hill
Central Avenue Park
Garden of Remembrance
North Shore

External Support

Ardrossan Youth Association
Ayrshire Community Trust
Cunninghame Housing Association
NHS Ayrshire & Arran
North Ayrshire Council
North Ayrshire Food Bank
Police Scotland
Three Towns Motor Project
Whitlees Community Centre

Gifts & Talents

Author
Bowling Coach
Crafters, Flower Arranger
Gardener, Historian
Music Producer
Musicians – Guitar Keyboard, Piper
Public Speaker, Radio Presenter
Singer
World Bowling Champion

Local Enterprise

Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Green, Asda,
Barclay & Sons Butcher, Cancer Care Shop,
Cassandras Café, Castlehill Vaults, Central Bakery
Charlie's Bar, Cheery Cup & Saucer, Clyde &
Forth Press, Clyde Marina Ltd, Community Craft
Shop, Esso Petrol Station, Express Laundry Service,
Garfield's, In Bloom, Lothian Butchers, McColl's,
Nisa Local, Palazzo, Ron's Bistro, Smiths Barber,
Wavelength Hair Salon, William Hill

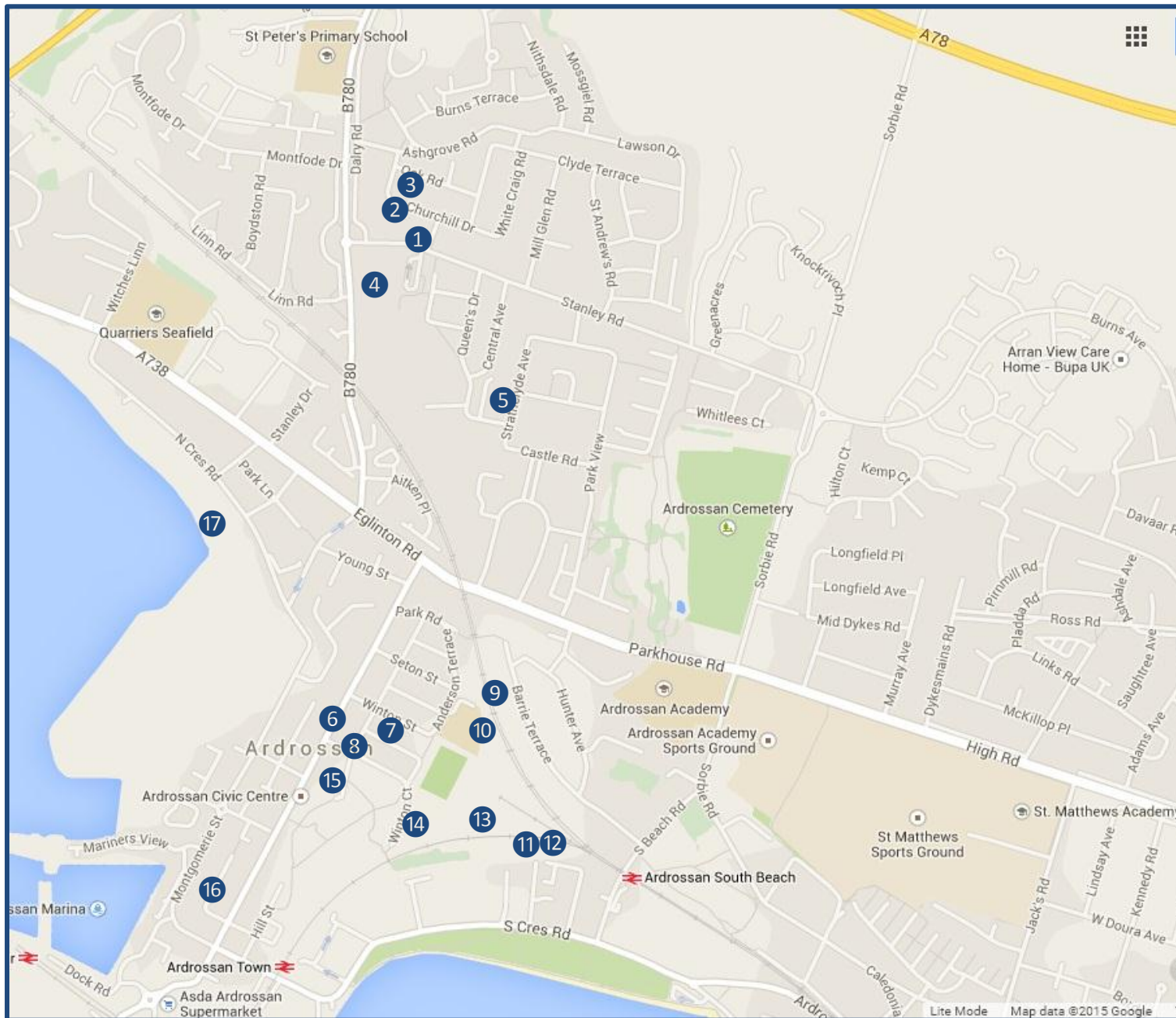
“Great potential for improvement”

“Gateway to Arran”

“Its home, wouldn't live anywhere else”

“It's an environment you can return to again and again”

“There's a positive change in Ardrossan”



- Key
- 1 Stanley Primary School
 - 2 Ardrrossan Youth Centre
 - 3 Park Church
 - 4 James McFarlane School
 - 5 Three Towns Motor Project
 - 6 Church of the Nazarene
 - 7 North Ayrshire Food Bank
 - 8 Ardrrossan Indoor Bowling Club
 - 9 Winton Primary School
 - 10 Winton Rovers Football Club
 - 11 Ardrrossan Outdoor Bowling Club
 - 12 Ardrrossan Scout Hut
 - 13 Castle Hill
 - 14 Ardrrossan Castle
 - 15 Garden of Remembrance
 - 16 Ardrrossan Library
 - 17 North Shore

Section 2: Further Details

The Local Economy

Barclays & Brothers Butcher, The Cheery Cup, Charlie's Bar, Ron's Bistro, Castlehill Vaults, Community Craft Shop, Cassandra's Café, Central Bakery have allowed us to promote Our Place and survey their customers.

Asda – Though a very large corporation, they have been very keen to be involved, offering space in the store for survey work.

Ardrossan Medical Centre & Ardrossan Library were both very cooperative in assisting us with the survey process.

Wavelength Hair Salon & Smith's Barber both were open and receptive to participating in community consultation.

Individual Talents & Gifts

The people of Ardrossan have an array of talents including: flower arranging, public speaking, sports coaching, historian who is currently writing a book on the history of Ardrossan, a published author, a radio presenter, gardeners, musicians and many more.

Volunteering and Community Activism

Anecdotal evidence and work with Community Connectors indicates that there is a large but not a quantified number of local people who “help” but who are not viewed as formal volunteers and therefore are not trained, supported and supervised properly. There is an opportunity to tap into the large population of the area to increase volunteering as people seem keen to be involved in the community. The volunteers identified do a variety of work within the community for example: working in the North Ayrshire Food Bank and the café at the Church of the Nazarene, Whitlees Community Centre is operated by a group of volunteers.

Active Community Groups

Opportunities in Retirement ♦ Ardrossan Library Craft Group ♦ Ardrossan Civic Centre Pensioners Group ♦ Church of the Nazarene ♦ Indoor Bowling Club ♦ Weight Watchers Club ♦ Ardrossan Youth Association ♦ Disability Forum ♦ The Butterfly Club ♦ Ardrossan Focus Centre ♦ Ardrossan Christmas Lights Committee ♦ Winton Rovers Football Club ♦ Ardrossan Development Association ♦ Ardrossan Sea Cadets ♦ Ardrossan Scouts ♦ The Autumn Club ♦ Three Towns Motor Project ♦ Ardrossan Residents Association

Opportunities in Retirement (OIR) - Civic Centre

This group is open to people over 50, who are retired or near retirement. It offers many activities to its members, such as badminton, ballroom dancing, ten-pin bowling, aqua aerobics and much more.

The activities run over 5 days, Monday – Friday, it is a very well attended group, with annual membership of £3.00, encouraging people to keep active and socialise.

A meeting is held on the first Thursday of the month, and a guest speaker is invited.

The group try to minimise the cost of activities and are always looking to source funding to do this.

Craft Group – Ardrossan Library

The Craft Group is held in the library every Tuesday afternoon between 2pm and 4pm anyone is welcome, currently it has 12 members. There is no cost involved and each person brings along their own materials to work with, they share skills and are supportive of each other. One person had said “Coming to the group stops me feeling isolated.”

The group are keen to welcome new members and to further develop their skills, therefore would need funds to put on artistic/craft workshops with a professional person facilitating this.

Nazarene Church

The Church of the Nazarene plays a vital part in the community of Ardrossan, it has over 400 members, when just 8 years ago it was under threat of closure, and had only 4 members, it is now flourishing offering support to the whole community.

The church hosts a community cafe Monday, Wednesday and Friday 11am – 1pm offering filled rolls, tea/coffee as well as other light lunches, there is no charge, donations for those who can afford to pay are welcomed, many people from other areas also use the facility. The cafe is operated by the Pastor and a group of dedicated volunteers.

The cafe ties in with the North Ayrshire Food bank, on these days, distributing food to those who have been referred in a safe and non – judgemental environment. The food bank also operates on a Tuesday and Thursday. The Food bank distributes from the Whitlees Centre on Wednesday and Friday afternoon.

On the first Saturday of each month, reach out, a support group for people affected by addictions and ill mental health is in the church from 7pm – 9pm, this is run by a team of experienced volunteers

The church has had plans drawn up for a large extension to be built, this would consist of a training kitchen, community café and learning space, with the view to offering local people life skills and training opportunities. The estimated cost for this work is in the region of £1,000,000. It would also be used as a storage facility for the Food bank, funding has not yet been secured.

Pensioners Group – Civic Centre

This group meets on a Wednesday afternoon between 1pm – 3pm with approximately 50 female members. It is a very well attended group with a waiting list of 15 at the moment. The women come together to socialise, play bingo, as well as other activities. It provides an informal support network for many of the women. The group also tries to help the wider community of elderly people, by organising events, bus runs in the summer and a Christmas dinner and would like to continue with this in the future. At least 10 of the women are actively involved with the Elderly Forum.

The group suggested that to reduce isolation of those restricted by bad weather or physical ability a mini-bus would be an invaluable resource.

The Butterfly Club

The club was formed by parents of children with complex needs, to support particularly the pupils of James MacFarlane and Havsholm schools. The club supports both parents and children; it provides a holiday club for the children, offering a large range of stimulating activities during the summer holidays, which prevents the children from being isolated, as well as providing respite for the families. There is no other provision in the area that would support the needs of these children.

The group also campaign to improve local play facilities for children with disabilities.

The holiday club costs approximately £70,000 to run, last summer it employed 16 staff and 3 volunteers gained work experience.

The members fundraise tirelessly all year round, and host events to promote the holiday club as well as receiving donations from local businesses, they are planning on running it over 6 weeks next year, 2 days one week, 3 days the next, and this will incur further cost.

Indoor Bowling Green

The club has been operating for over 40yrs and currently has approximately 600 members of varying ages, although a large percentage of members are over 50. The club is run by an independent committee.

The function area has recently been re-furbished and caters for weddings, parties, fundraisers and other occasions. There is a café within the function area, which offers a lunch menu.

The club are keen to encourage community participation and membership, particularly amongst younger people. The club are working with local schools, to raise awareness of the sport and to offer coaching for the pupils, as well as promoting intergenerational working.

It is hoped that the club would be able to offer some sort of fund to assist young people who have to use public transport to get there, but do not have the money to do so.

There was an issue with accessibility to the club, a lift was needed, the council did not have available funds, the committee managed to raise £25,000 which was match funded by another organisation, the lift has recently been installed.

The committee have approached North Ayrshire Council to discuss the possibility of an asset transfer of the building.

Weight Watchers – Civic Centre

Weight Watchers take place in the Civic Centre on a Monday evening and Wednesday morning and has a large membership. The programme supports local people with weight management, nutritional and dietary advice and promotes peer support. There is one paid worker and 2 volunteers.

Three Towns Forum on Disability

The forum was created to act as a support network, as many of its members have disabilities. The forum campaigns to get accessible disabled facilities in the local area, promotes equality for those with physical disability and sensory impairment. The members visit local facilities and businesses to try to get people to make their premises accessible to all.

The forum has an open meeting on the last Thursday of the month 1pm -3pm in the Civic Centre to discuss what needs to change and how that can happen, all welcome.

The Autumn Club – Park Church

The club was established in 1994, to offer a leisure and companionable centre for retired members of the church; it now has over 90 members, who come not only from Ardrossan, but surrounding areas.

The club meets on alternate Mondays from September to May and is always well attended. It is non-denominational and open to women and men. At each session there is an invited speaker of their choice and usually a full agenda.

There are many organised outings, such as pantomime's, summer trips, lunches at Easter and Christmas.

In the past they have applied for funding for equipment, as well as fundraising to buy IT and digital equipment. They would like to develop their existing programme in the future, but were unable to be specific in what way.

External Support Agencies

Ardrossan Youth Association:

Working to promote the benefit of the young people of Ardrossan aged from 12 years old to 25 years old without distinction of sex or politics or religion or other opinions by associating the local authorities, voluntary organisations and community in a common effort to advance education and provide facilities in the interest of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for young people in the local area. By volunteering to own, manage and run a purpose built youth centre they can use for free to access services and get involved in projects we help to run. We are also involved in local groups and organisations to take the views of young people forward to meetings and help make the changes they want to see in their area.

Whitlees Community Association:

Ardrossan Whitlees Community Centre is a thriving establishment in the middle of Ardrossan and welcomes everyone to use the facilities available. The Centre has a brand new committee in place and they work hard to bring more social events, fundraisers, clubs and classes for the people of the community to participate in. The activities provided include a café, afterschool club, craft classes, Mothers and toddlers groups, slimming clubs, youth clubs, dance classes, bingo, Coop Guild and more. The centre is available for lets for private occasions.

The Ayrshire Community Trust:

The Ayrshire Community Trust provide a range of services to help and support community groups, organisations and individuals, including employability, basic I.T. classes, room and equipment hire, admin services and website creation.

Ardrossan Christmas Decorations Committee:

Service provides an annual Santa Parade and Lights switch on Event for Ardrossan community; this is run by a group of local people who fundraise to provide the Christmas event for the people of Ardrossan.

The North Ayrshire Food Bank:

The food bank is based in the Church of the Nazarene in Ardrossan helping people when they are experiencing a food crisis, providing a healthy and nutritious food box. Food is donated and then sorted by volunteers prior to the food being distributed.

Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society:

Ardrossan Castle Heritage Society was founded in October 2012 by a group of volunteers. Its aims are to safeguard and stabilise the Castle infrastructure, provide signs and information to access and give details about the castle. They also have plans to provide education & literature about the history of the castle, a heritage centre in the town centre, a heritage trail and to illuminate the castle.

Three Towns Motor Project:

The 3 Towns Motor Project is based in Ardrossan and has a variety of young people from schools, partners and Youth Groups attending the project, both during the day and at night, during school term and the school holidays. The age range is from 14 to 18 years, other than one group, due to health and safety reasons. There are 7 mainland schools attending. The majority of the young people with the support of North Ayrshire Council trained staff take part in 20 week (daytime) and 10 week (night time) SQA based mechanics programmes. There are other groups also the Remote Control Car Group, targeting the younger age range 12 to 14 years, the Custom Bike Group (fantasy bike building) and the Test Drive Success Group (supporting young people with their theory and practical driving tests).

Section 3: Map and Photos of Physical Assets and Opportunities



Whitlees Community Centre – is managed by Whitlees Community Association on behalf of the Council.



The **Three Towns' Motor Project** is a youth project run by North Ayrshire Council's Community Learning and Development Youth Services. They work in partnership with a number of organisations, agencies and learning providers.



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Church of the Nazarene

1. The church plays a vital part of community life in Ardrossan and is host to Naztutz, NazKidz, Community Choir, Community Café, Family Workshops, Reach Out & North Ayrshire Food Bank.

2. Tony & George volunteer in the church community café where you can get lunch on Monday, Wednesday or a Friday morning for the price of a donation. The café is open to everyone and is very well attended.

3. Volunteers packing food parcel for distribution at the food bank.

4. The church garden was created, built and is maintained by volunteers.

The church has plans drawn up to build an extension to enable them to offer more community learning & training opportunities. Funding for this has not been secured.



The North Shore

This area has been highlighted by local people as having potential to make small scale improvements by installing benches along the shore front. This would allow people to rest and enjoy the breath taking view of Arran during a walk along the coastline.



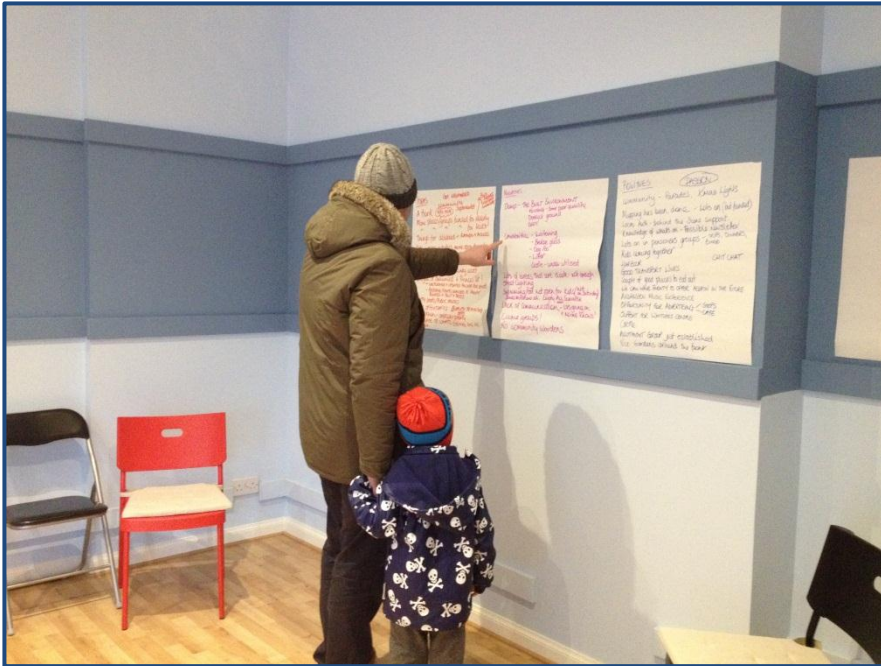
Play Area is adjacent to Central Avenue and situated within a large area of under-developed green space. This could be a more active adventure area for children and young people. Emerging themes suggest that there is a lack of play facilities for children in Ardrossan.



Green Space

A very large area of undeveloped green space situated between Stanley Primary School and Central Avenue shops.

At the moment this vast area has potential opportunities for future development.



Focus Group 27th January 2015

Looking at the positives and negatives that people have about the area, looking at the assets that people know of in the area and opening the discussion on ideas and suggestions on how to make the area a better place for the whole community.

Ardrossan Castle

The castle ruins are situated at the top of Castlehill with a children's play park alongside.

There is potential to develop the vast green space on Castlehill. The Castle Heritage Society has plans to develop the castle ruins & surrounding area.





Top Row – Ardrossan Youth Centre, Ardrossan Library, Park Church

Middle Row – Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Club, Central Avenue Shops, Ardrossan Bowling Green

Bottom Row – Ardrossan Civic Centre, Ardrossan Scout Hut

Section 4: Local Events





