

Statement supporting submission of Mayfield and Easthouses Local Place Plan to Midlothian Council

Contact details

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The constitution of the Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council is included in this pack.

Preparing the Local Place Plan

Since their inception in 1975, and the decision to continue with them in 1994, Community Councils (CCs) have been the most local tier of statutory representation in Scotland. They bridge the gap between local authorities and communities and help to make public bodies aware of the opinions and needs of the communities they represent. As such, they are “community-controlled bodies” in terms of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act, 2015. In that respect, they are the obvious partners to the local authority in respect of Local Place Planning. This is reinforced by the Scottish Government’s “Model Constitution” for Community Councils which sets out core objectives for CCs. These include:

- i. to ascertain, co-ordinate and reflect the views of the community which it represents, to liaise with other community groups within the area, and to fairly express the diversity of opinions and outlooks of the people.
- ii. to express the views of the community to the local authority for the area.

Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council proposed to lead on a LPP for its boundary area in June 2022. An invitation to prepare a LPP was issued in early March 2023 and a training session with Midlothian Council Planning Department was attended in late March 2023.

In April/May 2023, the process began with a pilot public survey to help inform a survey that could be distributed widely across Mayfield and Easthouses in both online and paper forms. Formal notice of the intention was given to Midlothian Council CEO & elected members, as well as relevant community interest bodies in the area. There was also a public notice giving the intention placed in the Midlothian Advertiser on 8th June 2023.

Mayfield & Easthouses Community Council
Gives notice that it will take the lead in the preparation of a **LOCAL PLACE PLAN** for our community. Interested individuals & organisations active in our area are invited to contact us at enquiries@mayfieldandeasthouses.cc to discuss their possible involvement in this process. Appendix 6.11

A public survey was launched both online and in paper form on 5th September 2023. It remained open for 25 days. It was published on the CC website (<https://mayfieldandeasthouses.cc/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MECC-website-post-about-LPP-consultation.pdf>) and on the MECC Facebook Group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MayfieldandEasthousesCommunityCouncil>), the post is included with this pack. Paper copies were placed at the following locations:

- Scotmid, Mayfield
- Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust Office / Pantry (Bogwood Court)
- MAEDT Pavilion, Bowling Green, Mayfield Park
- Lawfield Primary School
- Mayfield Primary School
- St Luke’s Primary School
- Newbattle High School
- Newbattle Campus Leisure Centre (reception)
- Newbattle Library (at the High School Campus)

A report was given at October CC meeting citing 111 responses to the survey (53 online and 58 on paper). The LPP was then prepared based on that evidence plus others cited in the document. A first draft was circulated to Community Councillors on 20 October 2023. It was then sent to Midlothian Council Planning Department on 7th December 2023 and feedback was given on 20th December 2023.

Consultation Requirements

The draft Local Place Plan was emailed on 12th February 2024 to:

- Local Authority Councillors
- Adjoining Community Councils
- Local Partners

This email constituted the Information Notice required to comply with Section 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Place Plans) (Scotland) Regulations 2021. A copy is included in this statement pack.

The following Ward Councillors were emailed the Notice:

- Stuart.McKenzie@midlothian.gov.uk
- Bryan.Pottinger@midlothian.gov.uk
- Peter.Smaill@midlothian.gov.uk

The adjoining Community Councils which received the Information Notice were:

- Dalkeith and District CC
- Eskbank and Newbattle CC
- Gorebridge CC
- Newtongrange CC
- Tynewater CC

Local Partners which received the Information Notice were:

- Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust
- McSence
- Y2K
- Mayfield and Easthouses Church
- Newbattle High Campus
- Lawfield Primary School
- Mayfield Primary School
- St Luke's Primary School

Local Place Plan

The Mayfield and Easthouses Local Place Plan is referred to throughout this statement and can be seen online and downloaded here: <https://mayfieldandeasthouses.cc/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Mayfield-and-Easthouses-Local-Place-Plan-2023-full-compressed.pdf>

Regard Given to Existing Plans

In preparing the LPP, our Community Body must demonstrate they have had regard to the National Planning Framework 4, which aims to create sustainable, liveable and productive places and the Midlothian Local Development Plan (MLDP) adopted in 2017 and the Single Midlothian Plan.

“The vision of Midlothian Council in MLDP is for Midlothian to play it’s part in economic and population growth, securing long-term social, economic and environmental benefits. Whilst demonstrating a renewed vibrancy, our towns and villages will retain their character and identities, striving to meet needs locally. Wherever possible, new housing will be located close to good community facilities, shops and employment opportunities, with efficient and high quality transport connections. New development shall

be of high quality, balancing a desire for good contemporary design with respect for the area's heritage. The established community will benefit as much as possible from growth, through new affordable homes, enhanced employment prospects, improved facilities and the development of green networks with opportunities for leisure and recreation. The natural and built environment will be protected and be an attraction and inspiration to its communities and visitors alike.

Recognising its responsibilities to both existing and new residents, the Council will work with its communities and partners to ensure that prosperity, quality of life and wider sustainable development principles are central to its planning decisions."

These national and local policies are reflected in the Mayfield & Easthouses Local Place Plan priorities and actions summarised in the LPP.

In preparing the Local Place Plan, the community had regard to the following plans/policies:

- Midlothian Local Development Plan (LDP): Adopted 07 November 2017 (<https://midlothian-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/event/31779/section/>)
- National Planning Framework (NPF): Adopted 13 February 2023 (<https://www.transformingplanning.scot/national-planning-framework/>)
- Midlothian Council Single Midlothian Plans (https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/download/89/single_midlothian_plan_documents)
- Midlothian Council Performance Team: Mayfield & Easthouses Neighbourhood Profile 2016 (https://mayfieldandeasthouses.cc/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/2016-Mayfield_Easthouses-Neighbourhood-Profile.pdf)
- Midlothian Council Single Midlothian Plans (https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/download/89/single_midlothian_plan_documents)
- Mayfield & Easthouses Community Futures Neighbourhood Plan 2012-2017 (https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/206/mayfield_and_easthouses_neighbourhood_plan)
- Mayfield & Easthouses Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2024 (<https://mayfieldandeasthouses.cc/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Plan-document-2019-April.pdf>)
- Argentix & Lemon Tree Consulting Mayfield & Easthouses Roadmap 2017 (<https://mayfieldandeasthouses.cc/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/MERoadmap-2017.pdf>)
- Mayfield Town Centre Regeneration Masterplan 2021 (<https://mayfieldandeasthouses.cc/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Mayfield-Town-Centre-Masterplan.pdf>)
- Midlothian Council: A Great Place to Grow: Profile of Midlothian 2019 (https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/3839/midlothian_profile_2019)
- Midlothian Council: A Great Place to Grow: Profile of Midlothian 2021 (https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/4509/midlothian_community_planning_partnership_profile_2021_pdf)
- Midlothian Council Performance Unit Midlothian: A Great Place to Grow: Profile of Midlothian 2022 (https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/download/861/midlothian_profile_2022_pdf)

The Local Place Plan and this Statement has been prepared in accordance with:

- Town and Country Planning (Local Place Plans) (Scotland) Regulations 2021 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2021/353/contents>)
- Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 (<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/13/contents>)
- Directorate General Education & Social Justice Local place plans: literature review and final report March 2021 (<https://www.gov.scot/publications/local-place-plans-guide-literature-review-final-report/>)

- Directorate General Education & Social Justice Local place plans - proposals for regulations: consultation March 2021 (<https://www.gov.scot/publications/proposals-regulations-local-place-plans-consultation>)
- Planning circular 1/2022: Local Place Plans January 2022: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/circular-1-2022-local-place-plans/>
- Midlothian Council's Development Plan Scheme for Midlothian 15, March 2023 (https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/4888/development_plan_scheme_15)

Support for the Local Place Plan

Our Community Body has demonstrated that there is support for the priorities and proposals in our LPP. There were wide reaching consultations with, and support for, the identified priorities from the Local Development Trust, Local Enterprise Company, the Church, young people at the Local Youth Project, school children at the local primary and secondary schools, as well as businesses and residents of all ages within our community.

The community engagement process used to develop the Local Place Plan is explained in section 3 of the Plan. Included with these statements is the analysis of the survey responses.

The draft Local Place Plan was published to Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MayfieldandEasthousesCommunityCouncil>) and to the website (<https://mayfieldandeasthouses.cc/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/MECC-website-post-about-LPP-consultation-2.pdf>) on 12th February 2024. A printed copy was made available in the Newbattle Library and Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust office from 12th February 2024. The Facebook post was shared again to the same page a further two times during the 28-day consultation period (3rd March 2024 and 8th March 2024). A Copy of the website post is included in this statement pack. Comments were welcomed both on paper, in the two physical locations, and by email.



No emails were received and there was one written comment (included in this pack). Lack of engagement from the community is generally accepted as commonplace. Negative feedback is more likely than positive. Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council are counting a lack of negative feedback as a positive. The written comment was supportive of the plan.

No changes to the Local Place Plan were required or made following the 28-day consultation period.

Statement Setting Out MLDP 2017 Proposed Amendments and Considerations

This LPP considers the following priorities should be taken account of in the current update of MLDP 2017 and preparation of MLDP2. All of these priorities were identified in MLDP 2017 and therefore remain unchanged as our priorities for MLDP2:

Environmental

- Protect Midlothian's built and historic environment from inappropriate development.
- Avoid coalescence and the loss of community identity.
- Protect and enhance the countryside and rural environment, the landscape setting of towns and villages, and open space generally.
- Ensure careful integration of new building into the landscape.
- Prioritise the reuse of brownfield land over the development of Greenfield, especially Green Belt land and the efficient use of land generally.
- Support environmental improvements, including Mayfield Town Centre and provision of green networks.

Social

- Provide an adequate supply and mix of housing suited to local needs, including affordable housing.
- Secure active and sustainable transport options for existing communities and future growth areas, and promote opportunities for walking, cycling and public transport, including links to shared open spaces.
- Create new or extended communities that are more self-contained with local access to jobs, services and facilities and a strong neighbourhood focus.
- Seek agreements and partnerships with developers and agencies to ensure delivery of infrastructure, affordable housing, facilities and environmental enhancement.
- Improve access opportunities to public open space and to Midlothian's countryside.

Economic

- Support Midlothian's growing economy by creating quality and sustainable business locations.
- Identify new economic and commercial opportunities to provide local jobs and help reduce out-commuting.
- seek the early implementation of strategic transport and other physical and digital infrastructure projects, including the roll-out of high speed broadband, and ensure that efficient use is made of existing and new infrastructure.

Statement of Proposals and a Map

4.10 Mayfield Town Centre Regeneration

Improvements to the Mayfield town centre have been in the actions of the Neighbourhood plans in both recent versions.

4.12 Road Improvements

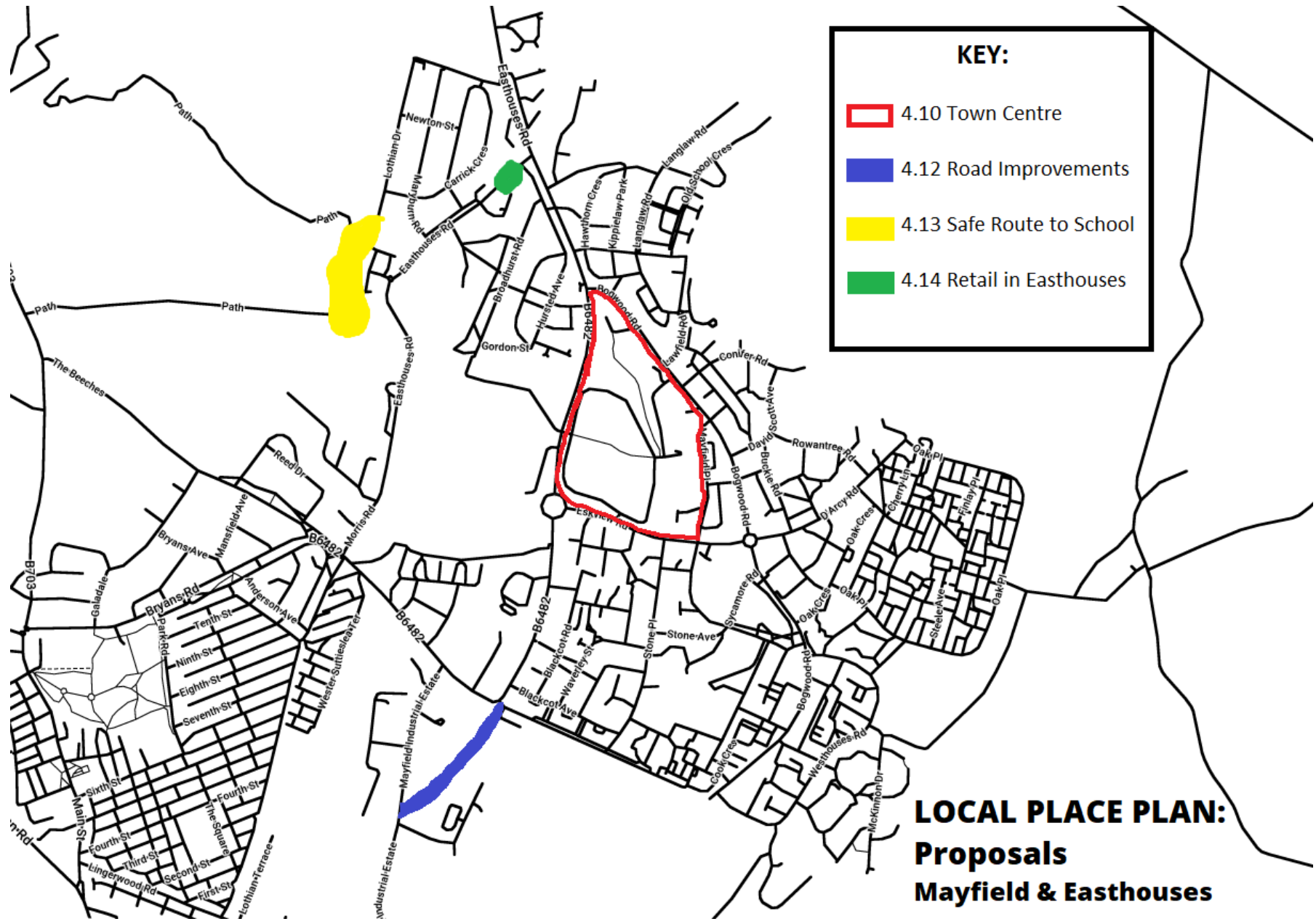
Alternative to the Crawlees Road, particularly considering the new Lingerwood development.

4.13 Safe Routes to School

A safe route has been identified for the new Easthouses Primary school from Lothian Drive.

4.14 Retail in Easthouses

Little improvement has been carried out on the shopping area in over 50 years and does need investment.



KEY:

- 4.10 Town Centre
- 4.12 Road Improvements
- 4.13 Safe Route to School
- 4.14 Retail in Easthouses

**LOCAL PLACE PLAN:
Proposals
Mayfield & Easthouses**

MAYFIELD AND EASTHOUSES COMMUNITY COUNCIL

CONSTITUTION

1. **Name.** The name of the Community Council shall be '*Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council*' (hereinafter called '*The Community Council*').
2. **Area.** The area of the Community Council shall be as shown on the map attached to Midlothian Council's Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils.
3. **Objectives.** The Objectives of the Council shall be:
 - a. To ascertain, co-ordinate and reflect the views of the community which it represents, to liaise with other community groups within the area, to fairly express the diversity of opinions and outlooks of the residents and to take such action in the interests of the community, as it appears to it, to be desirable and practicable.
 - b. To express the views of the community to the local authority for the area, to public authorities and to other organisations.
 - c. To retain the identity of the Community amongst people living within the Community Council area and the safeguarding of their interests.
 - d. The encouragement of co-operation between the various community organisations in the Community Council area.
 - e. The fostering of a strong community spirit in the Community Council area and the maintenance of historical or traditional links.
 - f. The continuation of all local customs and events.
4. **Role and Responsibilities.** The role of the Community Council is to take such action in the interests of the community, as it appears to be expedient and practicable. Members of the Community Council should be guided in their responsibilities by the Code of Conduct for Community Councillors, shown at Appendix C to Midlothian Council's Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils.
5. **Membership.** The Community Council shall consist of twelve persons elected by and from all persons aged sixteen and over living in the Community Council area whose names appear on the relevant Electoral Register. In the case of candidates who are not on the electoral register solely by reason of age, their nomination form must be accompanied by a declaration signed by 2 individuals who are named on the electoral register for the Community Council area confirming that the nominee is a resident of the Community Council area.

6. **Method of Election.** Members of the Community Council shall be elected in accordance with Midlothian Council's Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils.
7. **Resignation of a Community Councillor.** A Community Councillor may resign from the Community Council at any time by submitting a letter of resignation to the Chairperson or Secretary. If a Community Councillor does not attend three consecutive meetings of the Community Council, and failed to submit apologies to the Chairperson or Secretary, the Community Councillor shall be considered to have resigned. Unless there are exceptional circumstances, a Community Councillor who does not attend six consecutive meetings of the Community Council shall be considered to have resigned.
8. **Casual Vacancies.** A casual vacancy in the Community Council occurring by reason of death, resignation, removal or disqualification, shall be filled as soon as may be possible by a vote of the Community Council. The person appointed to fill a casual vacancy shall hold office and be entitled to enter into discussion and to vote on all matters until the next election of members to the Community Council. The proceedings of the Community Council shall not be invalidated due to any vacancy in the number of members thereof above the necessary quorum for each meeting.
9. **Voting Rights.** All elected members of the Community Council, including those appointed to fill a casual vacancy, shall have equal voting rights. Other than for the election of office bearers, voting shall normally be by a show of hands, unless the Chair decides otherwise. In all votes, where there is a tie, the Chair shall have a casting vote.
10. **Election of Office Bearers.** At the Annual General Meeting featuring occasion of elections, the Community Council shall elect from within its members a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary and any other such officers, as it shall from time to time decide. Office Bearers will be elected for a period of 3 years, and may be re-elected thereafter. In the event that more than one person is nominated for a particular office, a ballot shall be held for that post.

11. **Committees of the Community Council.** From time to time, the Community Council may form a sub-committee of the Community Council to gather, collate, and provide information to the Community Council. Membership of such subcommittees will be determined by the Community Council, and may include members of the Community Council and co-opted persons of relevant experience. All deliberations of Community Council sub-committees must be referred to the Community Council for decision.

12. **Meetings of the Community Council.** The Annual General Meeting of the Community Council shall be held each year in June, where the Chairperson shall deliver a report and Treasurer shall provide the Audited Account. Elections to the Community Council shall be held at every third Annual General Meeting. Thereafter, the Community Council shall meet throughout the year at intervals not exceeding two months. Excluding occasions when an extraordinary general meeting requires to be called, the Community Council will not meet in January or July. Dates of regular meetings during the year, the times of meetings, and the venue, shall be agreed at the first meeting of the Community Council following election, or at the Annual General Meeting. A quorum of four (4) members shall be sufficient to hold a meeting of the Community Council, during which members must adhere to the Standing Orders published as Annex A to this Constitution. Minutes are to be taken of each meeting of the Community Council, and a draft is to be circulated to members of the Community Council and to the Midlothian Council Liaison Officer, within 14 days following the meeting or as soon as practical thereafter. Minutes should be approved at the next meeting of the Community Council and copies should subsequently be displayed in the Mayfield Library, on digital media and in other places deemed suitable.

The Community Council may conduct virtual (on-line) meetings by means of a telephone conference, video conferencing facility or similar communications equipment - so long as all Community Council representatives participating in the meeting can hear each other; a Community Council representative participating in a meeting in this manner shall be deemed to be 'present' in person at the meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, a vote given by an attendee participating in the meeting through any of these methods will be taken to be given personally. Hybrid (combined regular and virtual) meetings of the Community Council shall be valid provided they are conducted in the same manner as meeting described above.

- 13. Public Participation in the Work of the Community Council.** All meetings of the Community Council shall be open to the public, except that the Community Council may by resolution agree to go into private session for the consideration of any items of business of a particularly private or confidential nature, where in the interests of the community it appears to the Community Council that it would be advisable to do so. Members of the public shall be invited to address the Community Council on matters within its objectives. Any member of the public wishing to address the Community Council should give the Secretary formal notice of this intention seven days prior to the meeting but the Chair may accept any request at shorter notice.
- 14. Liaison with Midlothian Council.** Midlothian Council has identified an official to act as a Liaison Officer with Community Councils. Unless there is a specific agreement, or an issue is a specific departmental issue, all correspondence between the Community Council and Midlothian Council should, in the first instance, be directed through that Liaison Officer. The Community Council must advise the Liaison Officer on the annual calendar of scheduled meetings, the AGM and give at least 10 working days' notice of any Special Meeting arranged by the Community Council. Additionally, the Community Council must provide the Liaison Officer with a copy of the draft minutes of each meeting within 14 days of that meeting or as soon as practical thereafter.
- 15. Control of Finance.** All moneys held by the Community Council, from whatever source, are solely to further the objectives of the Community Council, and shall be held by an elected Treasurer on behalf of the Community Council. The Treasurer is authorised to receive moneys on behalf of the Community Council, and when approved by the Community Council, to disburse moneys held. All disbursement shall either be by cheque (which must be signed by at least two Office Bearers who are not related to each other or co-habitees) or by any approved debit payment including Banker's Automated Clearing System (BACS) (provided that the action is included in meeting minutes). Receipts for expenditure must be obtained and held by the Treasurer. The Treasurer is to keep a written account and is to prepare and have the accounts independently examined for presentation and approval at the Annual General Meeting.
- 16. Title to Property.** The title to all property owned by the Community Council shall be vested in the Chairperson, Treasurer and Secretary, and their successors in such offices.

17. **Alterations to the Constitution.** Any proposal to alter this constitution must be delivered in writing to the Secretary of the Community Council not less than twenty-eight days before the date of the meeting at which it is first to be considered. Such an alteration will require the support of the two thirds of members of the Community Council present and voting at an Annual General Meeting or a special Community Council meeting convened to discuss the matter. Before such an amendment can be enacted, it must be submitted for approval by the Midlothian Council Liaison Officer.

18. **Dissolution.** The Community Council shall be dissolved when, following three consecutive meetings, it has not been able to form a Quorum, or at any time that a vote of two thirds of the Community Council members present so decide. Further, Midlothian Council may dissolve the Community Council when the terms of the Midlothian Council's Scheme for the Establishment of Community Councils, Para 18, are not compliant.

APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

This Constitution was adopted by the *Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council*:

Date: 1st June 2022

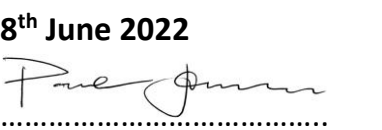
Signed:  **Chairperson**

 **Member**

 **Member**

The Constitution was approved on behalf of Midlothian Council on:

Date: 8th June 2022

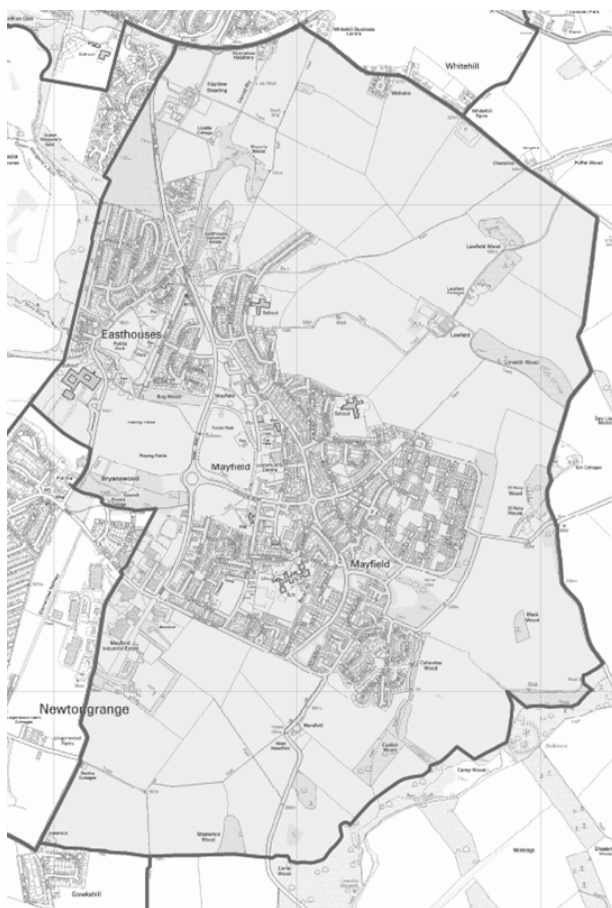
Signed:  **Midlothian Council**

Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council

Your local voice for Mayfield & Easthouses

Local Place Plan

A local place plan (LPP) is a proposal by a community body about the development and use of land in their community. These plans are a way for communities to set out their aspirations for how their local places might look in the future. By producing an LPP, a community will take a proactive role in the development planning process because a planning authority must consider valid LPPs when preparing a local development plan.



Local Development Plan

Every Council has to prepare a Local Development Plan for their area. This sets out proposals and policies for the development and use of land and for the protection and conservation of natural assets and amenity. The current Local Development Plan for Midlothian was adopted on 7 November 2017. The Council's Planning Committee on 28 February 2023 endorsed the start of the review of the current Midlothian Local

Development Plan (2017) (MLDP) and preparation of its replacement. The replacement will be called MLDP2.

Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council are producing a Local Place Plan on behalf of all the people that live here.

Your Place, Your Say

Please help us by giving your opinions and thoughts about your local area. There is an online survey and also a paper version available in public places (along with collection boxes so that you can return them once completed).

Online survey

<https://tinyurl.com/MECC-LPP-2023>



Locations for paper survey

- Scotmid, Mayfield
- Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust Office / Pantry (Bogwood Court)
- MAEDT Pavilion, Bowling Green, Mayfield Park
- Shell Garage
- Lawfield Primary School
- Mayfield Primary School
- St Luke's Primary School
- Newbattle High School
- Newbattle Campus Leisure Centre (reception)
- Newbattle Library (at the High School Campus)

Links

- [More about Local Place Plans](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Midlothian Local Development Plan](#)

Mayfield and Easthouses LPP – Survey analysis

What do you think are the most valuable assets, resources, or benefits that Mayfield and Easthouses have, whether they are being currently utilised or not? Examples might include housing, transport, education, jobs, recreation and amenities, shops, social support, etc.

The responses to this question indicate that there is a strong appreciation for the green spaces and community facilities in the area, as well as a need for more housing, better shopping areas, and better educational facilities. Additionally, there is a need for better bus services, with more reliable buses and better maintained bus stops, as well as more recreational activities for young people and better care for the parks and green spaces. Overall, the responses indicate that there is a strong desire for improvements in the area, and that the community is eager to see these improvements implemented.

The most valued assets, resources, or benefits that Mayfield and Easthouses have, according to the responses, are green spaces, educational facilities, community engagement, the pavilion in Mayfield park, Newbattle campus and Mayfield pavilion, proximity to rural surroundings, active Community Council and Development Trust, parks and green spaces, transport, social support, amenities (Health Centre/Dentist, Library and Leisure centre), shops, pantry, community garden, open green spaces, housing, jobs and recreation, nature and outdoor space, education, excellent green spaces, brilliant views, Mayfield being a close-knit community, Newbattle community school, swimming pool and library, and the bus service to Edinburgh.

Availability

Respondents perceive the availability of housing, transport, education, jobs, recreation and amenities, shops, and social support in Mayfield and Easthouses to be varied. Many respondents noted the need for more housing, particularly bungalows for those who want to downsize, and better shopping areas. Transport was seen as reliable, with a good bus service to Edinburgh, but with bus stops in need of repair. Education was seen as good, with the Newbattle community campus offering swimming, gym, library, sport pitches, and fitness classes, as well as the café. Recreation and amenities were seen as good, with the pavilion in Mayfield Park being a well-used amenity, and open green spaces that are not being utilised enough by the public. Shops were seen as having a poor selection, and social support was seen as being provided by the local development trust. Overall, respondents perceive the availability of these resources and benefits to be varied, with some areas needing improvement.

Gaps

There are several gaps in the utilisation of assets, resources, and benefits in Mayfield and Easthouses. These include a lack of shops and amenities for a growing population, poor maintenance of green spaces, a lack of community engagement, inadequate facilities to meet and make a difference, a lack of housing for those who want to downsize, a lack of recreational activities for children, a lack of reliable public transport and a lack of jobs.

Impact

The different assets, resources, and benefits available to the residents of Mayfield and Easthouses have a significant impact on the quality of life for those living in the area. Education is a key asset, with the new Mayfield Primary School and Easthouses Primary School providing access to quality education for the local community. Transport is also an important asset, with the bus service providing access to Edinburgh.

Green spaces are also a valuable asset, providing a place for people to relax and enjoy nature. The parks and green spaces are well used, but need to be looked after better. The pavilion in Mayfield Park is a well-used amenity, and the community garden and projects in the development are great. Shops in Mayfield provide access to essential goods and services, and a wee shop in Easthouses would be beneficial. The Church in

Mayfield and Sweet Dignity are also important assets, providing a place for people to come together and support each other.

The proximity to rural surroundings and the local development trust and community council are also important.

Key action points

1. Improve transport links and access to jobs and recreation.
2. Increase access to outdoor spaces and public transport.
3. Protect and preserve green spaces.
4. Increase access to education.
5. Increase access to housing.
6. Increase access to shops and other amenities.
7. Improve safety in outdoor spaces.
8. Improve the state of bus stops.
9. Improve the selection of shops and amenities.
10. Improve access to the Newbattle community campus.
11. Improve the state of roads and reduce litter.
12. Increase access to double decker buses.
13. Improve the state of community woodlands.
14. Increase access to safe places for children to go out.
15. Improve community engagement and ensure the community knows the council is listening and acting on their needs.



What do you see as Mayfield and Easthouses's most significant disadvantages or absence of assets or resources that limit the area's potential?

Based on the responses, it is clear that the area is in need of significant improvement. There is a lack of recreational activities, public transport, shops, medical practices, and infrastructure. There is also a lack of visible policing and anti-social behaviour is rampant. The existing housing stock and amenities are in need of renovation or replacement, and there is a lack of social housing for working class people. Overall, the responses indicate that the area is in need of significant investment and improvement.

What do you believe should be our area's most important goals or aspirations for the future?

The responses to this question indicate that the local community is eager to see improvements in the infrastructure and amenities of the area, such as providing more doctors, shops, and public transport links. There is also a strong desire to create more job opportunities and activities for young people, as well as making the area safer and more welcoming. Additionally, there is a clear focus on preserving green spaces and historic points of interest. Overall, the responses to this question indicate that the local community is eager to see positive changes in the area.

The most important goals or aspirations for the area's future appear to be creating a safe and welcoming environment, providing infrastructure and amenities to support the population increase, town centre redevelopment, attracting new commercial and retail businesses, providing employment opportunities for local school leavers, road network improvements, making Mayfield and Easthouses a place where people want to shop, dine, drink and socialise, investing in the youths in the community, and reducing crime.

Common themes

The common themes expressed by respondents can be compared to identify similarities in their goals and aspirations. These include improving safety, providing infrastructure and amenities to support population growth, improving the appearance of the area, providing employment opportunities for local school leavers, creating a safe and welcoming environment for everyone, improving transport links, improving schools, doctors, shops, maintaining green spaces and reducing crime.

Achievable and sustainable

The goals and aspirations expressed by the respondents are achievable and sustainable for the area's future. The goals focus on improving the safety and appearance of the area, providing more facilities for young people, and investing in the youths in the community. Additionally, the goals of town centre redevelopment, attracting new businesses, and providing infrastructure and amenities to support the population increase are also achievable and sustainable. Finally, the goals of reducing crime, increasing presence of small businesses, and limiting housing development are also achievable and sustainable. These goals will help to create a more balanced and equitable environment for the people living in the area.

Key action points

1. Improve safety when out walking to encourage use of green space.
2. Tackle the anti-social behaviour in the area.
3. Provide more facilities for the younger population.
4. Town centre redevelopment and new community hub.
5. Attracting new commercial and retail businesses.
6. Provide employment opportunities for local school leavers.
7. Provide infrastructure and amenities to support population increase.
8. Make Mayfield & Easthouses a place where people want to shop, dine, drink and socialise.
9. Keep some green space for generations to come and enjoy.



What ideas do you have for improving existing facilities? Would you be interested in joining or helping to organise any of these improvements, particularly in relation to facilities and activities that you're not currently involved in?

The responses suggest a variety of ideas for improving existing facilities, including more local events, green spaces, clubs and courses for young people, better amenities, community activities like litter picking, improved street lighting, and transport enhancements. Respondents express interest in activities such as clubs for young people, community litter picking, maintaining local areas, and creating off-road cycle routes. Suggestions vary based on current involvement levels, with some proposing community initiatives and others emphasising the need for new amenities. Common suggestions include increasing bins, improving street lighting, fixing roads, expanding shops, creating cycle paths, organising events and clubs, establishing green spaces, providing alternatives for young people, hosting litter picking events, maintaining paths and parks, blocking off areas, setting up markets and stalls, creating multi-use spaces, and increasing competition for local shops.

Key action points

1. Create cycle paths and safe areas to cycle.
2. Organise community litter picking events on a large scale, involving local schools and young people.
3. Maintain local paths, play parks, and woodland paths free from litter and dog mess, and block off areas for dirt bikes.
4. Create off-road cycle routes from Kippielaw Steading to Easthouses and from Mayfield bus terminus to Gowkshill.
5. Install better street lighting in and around Oak Place green space.
6. Install speed bumps on Oak Place and Bogwood Road.
7. Provide more bins in the local area.
8. Clubs and courses designed for young people to have a sense of pride and belonging to where they live.
9. More funded alternatives to hanging out on the streets.
10. More local events and green spaces that are inviting.
11. Invest in the town centre to improve it.
12. Set up a farmers market/handcrafting stalls.
13. Encourage more young people to get involved in the community.
14. Take account of the views and ideas of all age groups and encourage them in working to make a better community for all.



Do you have any other comments or ideas that you think we should reflect on with a view to including these in our LPP?

The responses to this question indicate that the community is generally dissatisfied with the current state of resources and infrastructure in the area. They are concerned about the lack of housing allocations, speed bumps, recreational facilities, GP access, bus services, and road maintenance. They are also worried about the safety of the area, with cars speeding, abandoned vehicles, and lack of police presence. Additionally, they are concerned about the lack of collaboration between the local authority and the community, and the lack of opportunities for local people to gain employment. Overall, the responses suggest that the community is unhappy with the current state of affairs and would like to see more resources and infrastructure in the area.

The responses suggest that local people would like more investment in public services such as libraries, parks, and sports facilities, better access to mental health services, more affordable housing, improved public transport links, better access to education and training opportunities, more support for small businesses, and improved access to healthcare.

Insights

There are several new insights that could be incorporated into the LPP. These include the need for more resources to be put towards correcting existing issues, a need for more collaboration between the local authority and community organisations, more opportunities for local people to gain employment in the local area, more infrastructure to support housing allocations, more involvement in the community, more collaboration with science, more activities for young people, more investment in the community, improvement to GP access, better maintenance of town, more local police presence, more bins, more leisure facilities for older people, prioritising local people for local housing, speed bumps, a sport centre or local facility, more help from funders and government, and salt spread regularly on Westhouses Road.

Key action points

1. Increase opportunities for local people to gain employment in the local area.
2. Improve maintenance of town, including rubbish and weeds.
3. Install speed bumps on Oak Place to reduce speeding.
4. Put speed bumps back in Andrew Dodds Avenue.
5. Improve GP access and bus services.
6. Collaborate with McSence to maintain Mayfield Public Park.
7. Increase police presence and make streets safer.

8. Remove abandoned vehicles from Oak Place.
9. Prioritise local people for local housing.
10. Spread salt regularly on Westhouses Road to reduce ice and snow.
11. Change housing allocations policy to invest in the community and support infrastructure.
12. Put resources towards correcting existing issues instead of creating something new.
13. Create a sport centre or local facility for people to access that is not in a school.
14. Provide more leisure facilities for older people.
15. Improve infrastructure, including roads and pavements.
16. Increase number of bins and ensure they are regularly emptied.
17. Avoid coalescence with surrounding areas.

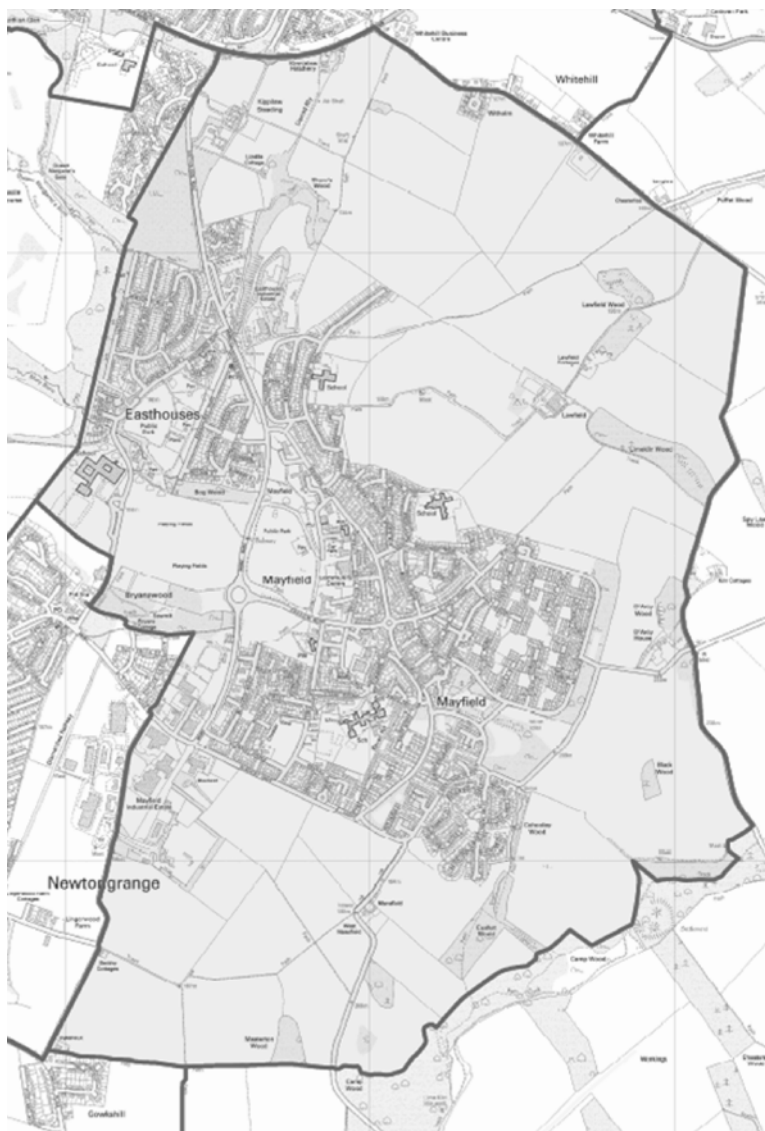


Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council

Your local voice for Mayfield & Easthouses

Local Place Plan

A Local Place Plan (LPP) is a proposal by a community body about the development and use of land in their community. These plans are a way for communities to set out their aspirations for how their local places might look in the future. By producing an LPP, a community will take a proactive role in the development planning process because a planning authority must consider valid LPPs when preparing a local development plan.



Draft Local Place Plan

We have been working on a Local Place Plan for our Community Council boundary area, involving community engagement over the last 6 months and analysis of previous research too. We have now prepared a draft Local Place Plan. There are printed copies available to view at Newbattle Library and the office of Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust in Bogwood Court. It can be viewed online or downloaded here (the file is 10mb, so it is a large file):

[Mayfield and Easthouses Local Place Plan](#)

We welcome any comments on the Plan, please email enquiries@mayfieldandeasthouses.cc. The deadline for comments is 11th March 2024, to allow time to take comments into consideration prior to submission to Midlothian Council by 31st March 2024. Any comments received after this time may not be included.

Further information:

- [More about Local Place Plans](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions about Local Place Plans](#)

Judy Thomson

From: Mayfield & Easthouses Community Council <enquiries@mayfieldandeasthouses.cc>
Sent: 12 February 2024 22:25
To: StuartMcKenzie; bryanpottinger; PeterSmaill; info; mailbox; gorebridgecommunitycouncil; secretary; tccchair2020; info; mail; info; sessionclerk; newbattle_hs; lawfieldps; mayfieldps; stlukesps; newbattlelibrary
Cc: roberthogg11; Stephenliddell; davidcmaxwell; development; gtaylor; mayfield_easthouses_CC
Subject: Mayfield and Easthouses Local Place Plan

Dear local Councillors, adjoining Community Councils and local partners,

I am contacting you on behalf of Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council. We have been working on a Local Place Plan for our Community Council boundary area, involving community engagement over the last 6 months and analysis of previous research too. We have now prepared a draft Local Place Plan. It has been published on our website for public consultation at <https://mayfieldandeasthouses.cc/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Mayfield-and-Easthouses-Local-Place-Plan-2023-full-compressed.pdf> and there are printed copies available to view at Newbattle Library and the office of Mayfield and Easthouses Development Trust. We are obliged to send the plan to you to comply with Section 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Place Plans) (Scotland) Regulations 2021.

The Plan covers the Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council area. The primary purpose of the Plan is to provide a statement of current issues we face and our aspirations for the future, to help public bodies, landowners, businesses and funders consider how they can best support positive change in the area.

If you have any comments on the Plan, please send them to Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council by replying to this email. The deadline for comments is 11th March 2024, to allow time to take comments into consideration prior to submission to Midlothian Council by 31st March 2024. Any comments received after this time may not be included.

Judy Thomson
Mayfield and Easthouses Community Council
enquiries@mayfieldandeasthouses.cc

LOCAL PLACE PLAN: Comments

Please give us any comments you may have about the draft Local Place Plan for Mayfield and Easthouses. You can note comments here or email enquiries@mayfieldandeahouses.cc

I am excited about positive changes and investment for the area. The Newbattle community campus has been a well needed development and I hope the new Easthouses Primary will have similar success.

Personally community engagement and enhancing a sense of belonging among the younger generation, especially teenagers, is an area that needs work.

I hope schools, youth groups and community clubs are being consulted and having their voice heard as this is their home too.

Deadline for comments is 11th March 2024