Community Led Action Plans give people a real opportunity to say what’s important to them and what needs to happen to make their communities better places to live.

This community plan sets out the priorities and aspirations of Sandford & Upper Avondale residents and identifies ways of making them happen.

GETTING INVOLVED

The Sandford and Upper Avondale groups involved in developing this plan look forward to more local volunteering opportunities being made available, and are keen to welcome volunteers from the area to help continue the work they do.

If you want to get involved in helping to progress or deliver any of the ideas and projects in this Plan, or if you have any other ideas for the future of the area, then please get in contact with Sandford and Upper Avondale Community Council.


COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

0-2 YEARS
- Establish a new Community Development Trust
- Support local clubs/activities for residents
- Improved foot/cycle path from Sandford to Strathaven
- Supporting community transport service
- Traffic Calming Measures
- Organise community volunteer days

3-4 YEARS
- Provision of electric community vehicle
- Additional car parking/signage at Sandford Hall
- New and improved play facilities
- Maintain and improve existing village Hall in Sandford
- Heritage project to improve signage and interpretation
- Improved Broadband connectivity

5-6 YEARS
- Establish new cycle and footpaths
- New Village Hall for Gilmourton
What we did

PLACE STANDARD WORKSHOP

A Place Standard workshop was delivered to Community Council members to assess the quality of the area and identify priorities for development. Discussions about each theme in the Place Standard tool took place, which identified key issues affecting the area and where priorities should most likely be focused. The results can be seen below.

STAGE 1 COMMUNITY SURVEY

A stage 1 postal survey was circulated to 400 households with 86 of them completed, a response rate of 22%. 46 residents attended workshops held in Sandford and Gilmourton Hall. Priorities included the following:

Environment
Introduce new footpaths/cycle paths

Transport and Access
Introduction of a community bus or public bus

Legacy and Heritage
Conservation & interpretation work

Enterprise
Improve broadband & mobile reception

Enhancing Communities
Improve existing village halls

STAGE 2 COMMUNITY SURVEY

A stage 2 survey was carried out in December 2019, completed by 68 residents both online and by post. Issues highlighted included:

- The demand for a community vehicle to Strathaven High School, shopping trips, and weekend social events.
- Activities for older residents: social events, walking group exercise classes.
- Activities for young people: youth club, cinema, and arts/music club.
- The footpath to Strathaven should be resurfaced, have solar ground lights and a roadside barrier, in that order.
- 16 respondents indicated they would be interested in finding out more about a local community development trust.

YOUTH SURVEY

82 young people at Sandford and Gilmourton Primary Schools took part in workshops and surveys. Amongst other things they identified the need for more cycle paths, and more activities and clubs for young people.

WHAT YOU SAID

“I would like to see a proper cycle/footpath upgraded between Sandford and Strathaven."

“Can we convert the old railway line into a cycle path?”

“An electric car and electric bikes with charge points at Sandford village hall.”

“Better parking at Sandford Hall, when something is on, cars are abandoned all over the place!”

“Improve sign posting and have interpretation panels for heritage trails and monuments.”

“A side or rear extension to the Sandford Village Hall.”

“A new village hall at Gilmourton.”