



OLD LUCE
DEVELOPMENT TRUST



Old Luce Community Facilities Consultation 2024/2025

9 July 2025

Version 1.0

Summary

A community consultation was carried out aimed at residents of Old Luce from October 2024 to January 2025 to establish support for a various activities at Glenluce Public Hall and the new Dunragit Community Hub. Old Luce residents were asked about exercise, social activities, special interest groups, markets and children’s activities. Almost all activities suggested in the survey across the categories had sufficient support to be viable, with the exception of parent and baby/toddler groups and secondary-school-aged youth groups. In the case of the Dunragit Community Hub, interest exceeded the venue capacity for many activities and this would need to be carefully managed. Parking was raised as prohibitive for attendance at Glenluce Public Hall and awareness of activity was an issue across both facilities. Further work should be carried out to gain the opinions of the secondary school-aged population, who were particularly underrepresented in the survey responses.

There was strong interest in volunteering at both facilities and setting up new volunteer-led Management Committees and voluntary groups will be key to successful use of facilities moving forward. Due to the number of activities of interest, there is strong potential to provide a full programme of activity at both facilities. However, it is likely to be beyond the capacity of any volunteer group to deliver this. It is therefore recommended that funding is sought for an Activities and Facilities Manager post to work alongside these groups to coordinate and facilitate activity across both facilities and wider community events.

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1 Introduction

Old Luce is an area in South West Scotland which sits at the joining of the Machars and Rhins peninsulas in Galloway. It is a remote and rural area in the old county of Wigtownshire. The main villages in the area are Glenluce, Dunragit and Auchenmalg. The 2022 census showed 1204 residents in the Old Luce Community Council area.

Glenluce Public Hall was under threat of closure in 2018. Management of the hall was taken over by Old Luce Development Trust to retain the facility for the community, supported by funding from Old Luce Community Fund, and a Friends of the Hall group established with the hope that the hall would eventually be transferred under a Community Asset Transfer by the Friends of the Hall group. The facility is under used with use currently limited mainly to third party bookings.

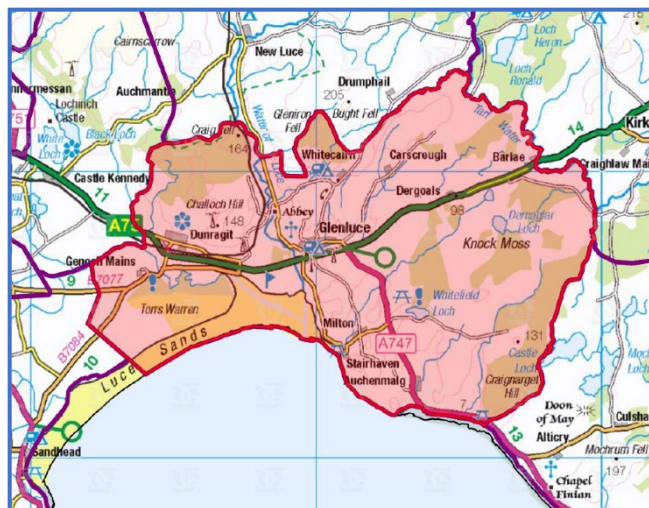
Dunragit lost its Village Hall some years ago and the need for a new facility was identified in a Community Action Plan carried out in 2015/2016. Following successful funding applications to the Coastal Benefit Fund, managed by Dumfries and Galloway Council, and the Old Luce Community Fund, a new Community Hub for Dunragit was opened for limited use in October 2024 and fully opened for public bookings in December 2024.

The Trust wished to explore the possibility of providing activities directly in the hall and hub, aimed at improving social cohesion, reducing isolation and loneliness, increasing activities for children and helping to address the cost of living crisis. This report details the results of a community consultation to look at current use of Glenluce public Hall and activities that could be provided at both facilities.

2 Survey, Distribution and Population

The survey questions focused on current use of Glenluce Public Hall and what would encourage respondents to attend more frequently, activities that would be of interest in both facilities, what loss of Glenluce Public Hall would mean to the community, volunteering, and wider community events. Questions on activities were divided into categories of exercise, inter-community leagues, social activities, special interest groups, markets and children's activities. The full survey is provided at [Appendix I](#). The survey was created using Microsoft Forms and published by email to members resident in Old Luce, through the Trust Facebook page (and shared with relevant local pages) and also a direct email to the catchment primary schools and secondary schools. Paper copies were available and, in Dunragit, volunteers knocked on doors and completed surveys for those unable to complete online.

Respondents were asked where they first heard of the survey and the most popular response was Facebook 39%, followed by door knocking at 30%. Word of mouth 12% or via a primary school 8% were also





effective at introducing the survey to residents. Direct email to members 5% and The Trust newsletter 2% and events 2% also garnered respondents. Less effective were posters in shops 1% each. Village noticeboards, the Trust AGM, notices in the hall and hub and the secondary schools were not the initial source of information for any respondents. However, we cannot rule out that these may have served as a reminder to people who had already heard about the survey elsewhere.

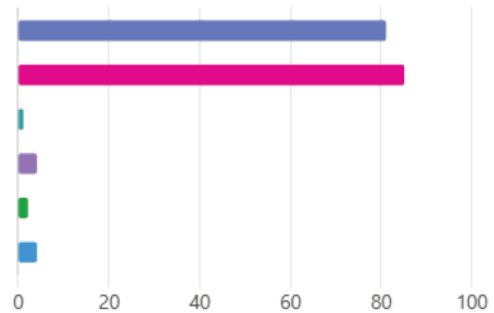
3 Responses, Validity and Demographic

One hundred and seventy-seven responses were received to the questionnaire¹.

Respondent Distribution

Respondents were asked whether they are a resident of Old Luce and also to provide a postcode, in order to reduce any spurious responses and increase the validity of the survey.

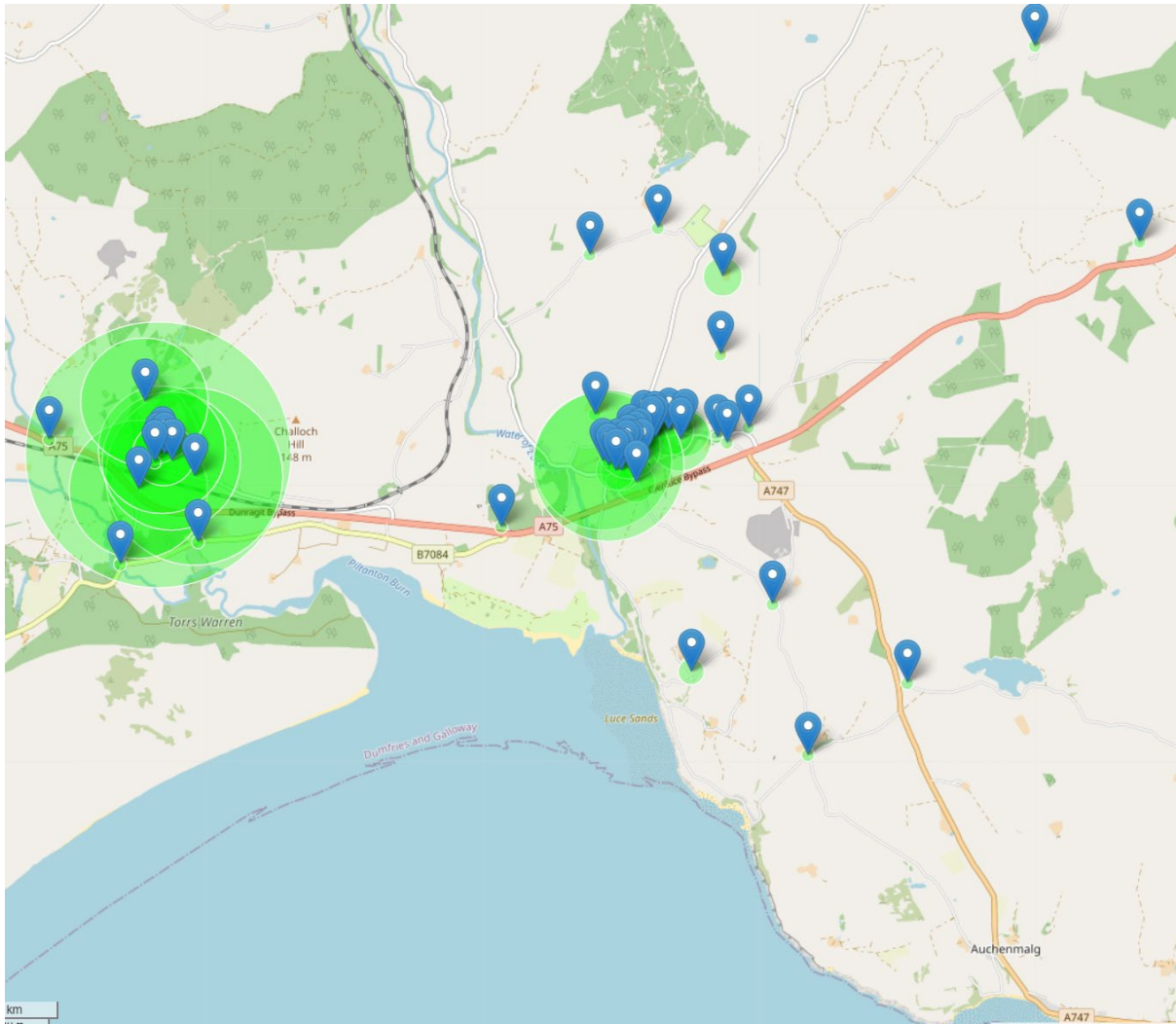
● Yes - Glenluce	81
● Yes - Dunragit	85
● Yes - Auchenmalg	1
● Yes - Stairhaven	4
● Yes - outside the main settlements listed	2
● No	4



Respondents who were not residents of Old Luce were branched to an additional question to ask what their interest in either of the facilities was. There were four responses from non-residents of Old Luce, one former resident, one whose child attended school in Glenluce and two who answered no, but then gave a postcode within the area. One explained that they were about to move into the area and it is assumed that the other answered incorrectly. The assumed 175 responses from local residents represent a 15% response rate. The response rate in Dunragit (at ~24%) was considerably higher than elsewhere, boosted by two local volunteers knocking on doors.

A postcode heat map below shows the geographical distribution of those respondents who gave a full postcode within the Old Luce area. The blue location icon shows the centre of the postcode and the green circle radius represents the number of respondents from that postcode. Responses came from across the Old Luce area. However, it is noted that there were no responses from the centre of Auchenmalg, Old Luce’s third largest settlement, perhaps because there is a locally-managed community facility in this area. The loss of opportunity to collaborate with this community and include the Glen-of-Luce hall in the survey is recognised.

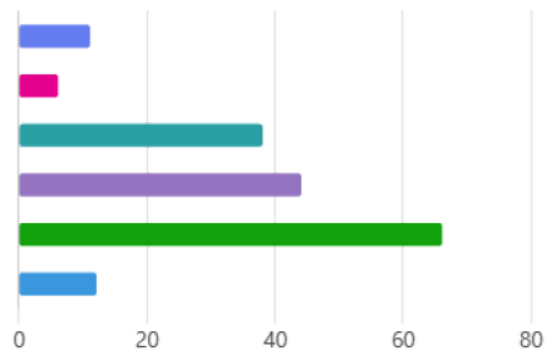
¹ After 1 response was removed. The first seven respondents replied when there was a technical issue with the survey preventing a nil response on some questions. Six of the seven resubmitted or confirmed they did not need to edit their response. The remaining respondent didn’t include any contact details, so the response was deleted.



Postcode Heat Map¹

Age profile

● Under 11	11
● 11 to 16	6
● 16 to 34	38
● 35 to 54	44
● 55 to 74	66
● 75 and over	12



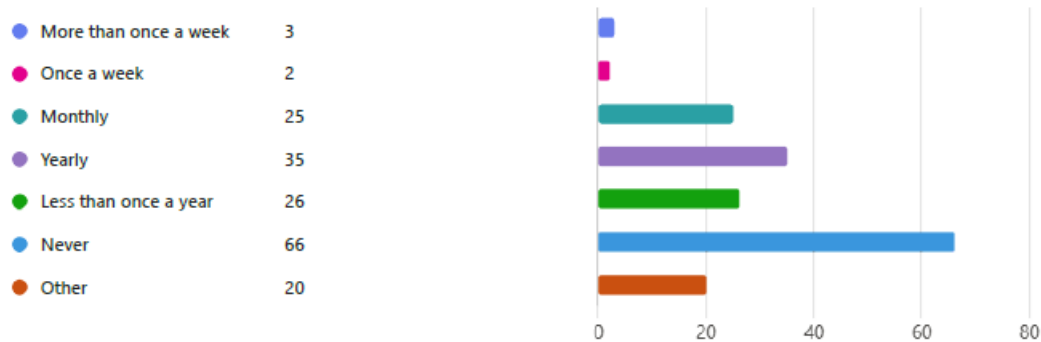
The age of respondents covered the full demographic. 10% of respondents were under 16, 21% 16 to 34, 25% 35 to 54, 37% 55 to 74 and 7% were 75 and over. Compared with the 2022 census, this shows an underrepresentation in the under 16 (13%) and over 75 (12%) age groups and an overrepresentation in the other age groups, except the 55 to 74 age group, which was in line with the proportion of the population (37%).

¹ Source: [Radius From UK Postcode \(freemaptools.com\)](https://freemaptools.com/)



4 Current Hall Support

Respondents were asked how frequently they attended Glenluce Public Hall on average.



Only three percent of respondents currently attend the hall once or more a week. 14% of respondents attend at least once a month, 20% once a year and 37% less than once a year. Of the 20 people (11%), giving 'other' responses, one attends almost monthly, 5 attend every 2-4 months, 8 attend only for specific events, 2 only for voting and 4 were too young or recently moved to the area.

The most common activities currently attended were community or school events (51 mentions), especially the Christmas events, and birthday or private parties (25 mentions). 15 respondents attended meetings in the hall and 12 visited or volunteered at the community shop. Voting, drumming, yoga, tai chi, craft group, vaccination clinic, post office and badminton were all mentioned by fewer than 5 respondents.

People would attend more frequently if there were better transport, more parking, more awareness of what's on (particularly for those without Facebook) and more evening activities. Respondents varied in their perceptions of what was on offer at the hall with some opposing opinions (e.g. nothing on for older people versus everything on offer is aimed at older people). More activities generally would encourage greater participation. Specific additional activities were also suggested and these suggestions have been added to the later relevant questions on activities. One respondent mentioned a more modernised interior. Barriers to attendance included a lack of time to attend activities and cost of attending or of hiring the hall.

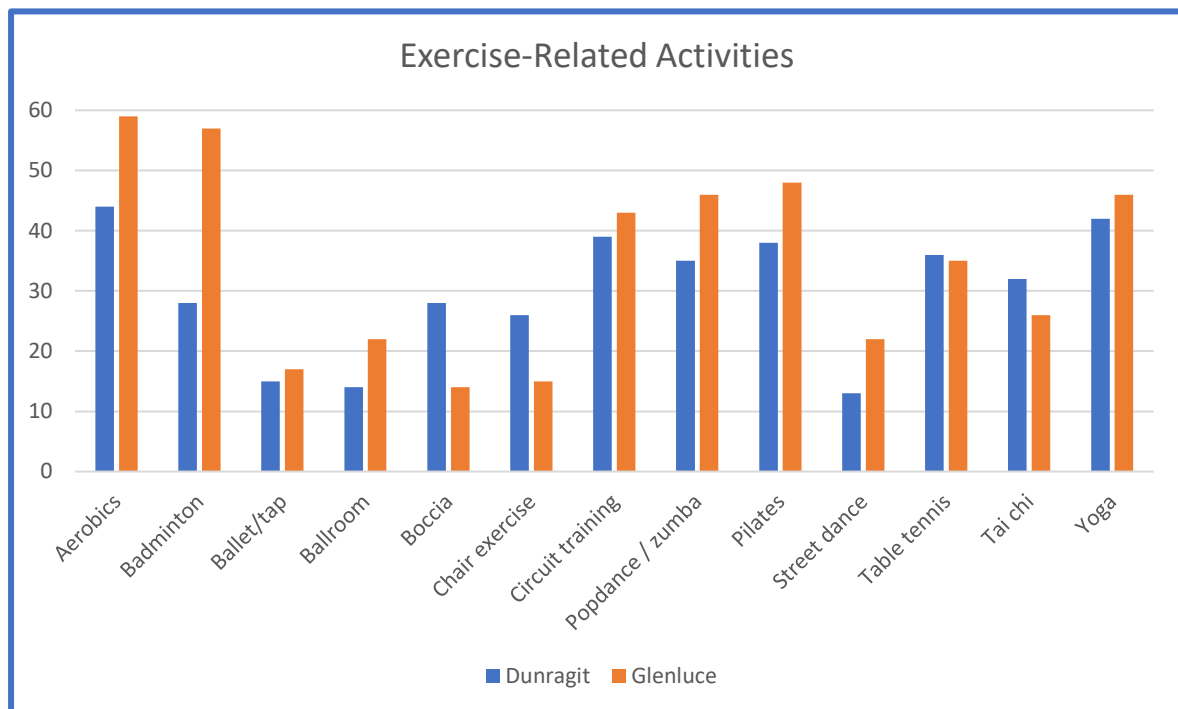


5 Activities

Exercise

Respondents were asked whether they would participate in exercise-related activities at either facility. The 69% of respondents answering yes were then directed to further questions on exercise activities.

For Glenluce Public Hall, all options received sufficient numbers to be worth trialling activities. The most popular option was aerobics (59 respondents), followed closely by badminton (57), pilates (48), yoga (46), popdance/zumba (46) and circuit training (43). There was good support for table tennis (35) and tai chi (32). Dance classes were less popular, street dance (22), ballroom (22) and ballet/tap (17). Gentle exercise was the least popular, chair exercise (15), boccia (14), perhaps because these are already offered at the hall.



For Dunragit Community Hub, the most popular activity was also aerobics (44), closely followed by yoga (42), circuit training (39) and pilates (38). Table tennis (36), popdance/ zumba (35) and tai chi (32) were popular, along with the gentle exercise of boccia (28) and chair exercise (26). Dance lessons were less popular, but not unviable for the space, at ballet/tap (15), ballroom (14) and street dance (13).

Badminton was also desired at Dunragit by 17 respondents, who didn't also express a desire to attend at Glenluce, but unfortunately the hub is not big enough for a badminton court.

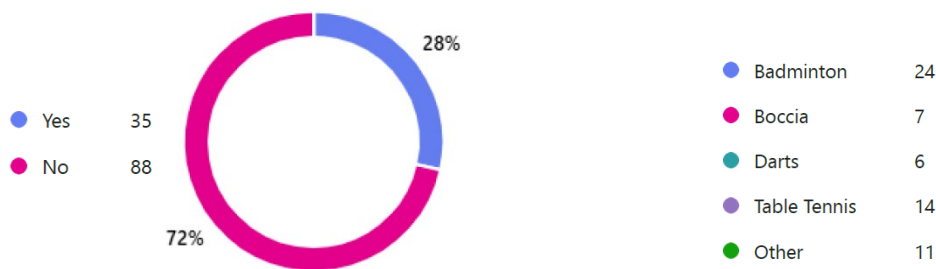
Several activities received levels of interest above the capacity of the hub for the activity, so it is recommended that those activities are offered on a pre-booked basis to avoid disappointment.



When asked what other exercise-based activities would be attended mentions included martial arts, bowling, gym equipment, general fitness, football, netball, gymnastics, walking, gentle exercise, highland dancing, line dancing, weights, spongeball, rugby, spinning and swimming.

Inter-Community Leagues

28% of those interested in exercise-based activities were also interested in taking part in local inter-community sports leagues.



Badminton was most popular with 24 respondents interested in a badminton league, followed by table tennis, with boccia and darts less popular. Netball (4), rugby (3) and dominoes (1) were among the 'other' suggestions.

In terms of area of travel for inter-community leagues, the responses were:

Travel area	Badminton	Table Tennis	Boccia	Darts
Old Luce	17	9	4	5
Machars	8	3	-	-
Rhins	10	5	1	2
Wigtownshire	15	9	3	3
Galloway	6	2	1	1

Social Activities

At both facilities, the most popular social activities that would be attended were Community gatherings/celebrations (86 respondents for Dunragit, including 80% of Dunragit-based respondents and 89 for Glenluce, including 94% of Glenluce-based respondents) and Community fundraising events (83/76% for DCH, 91/96% for GPH). Live music evenings (75/67%, 85/89%) were the next most popular desired activity, followed by cinema nights/matinées (73/80) and café mornings/afternoons (71/78).

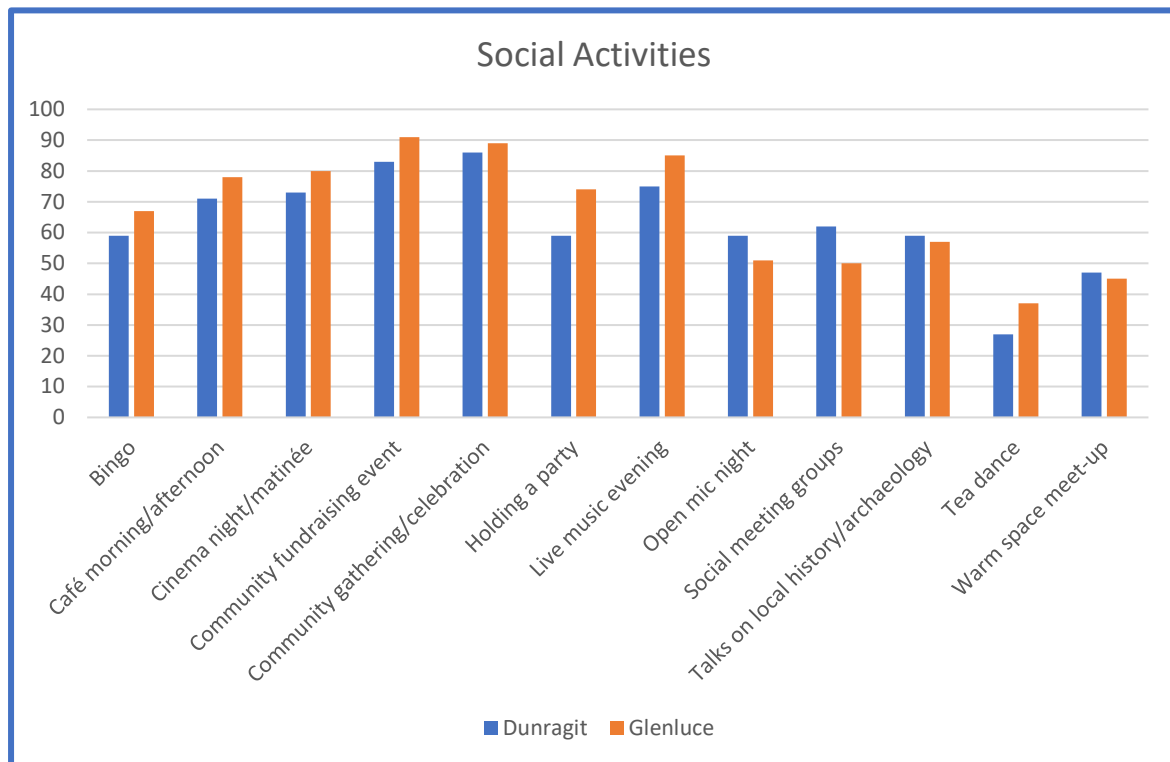
Social meeting groups such as knit 'n' natter (62, 59%) were the next most supported potential activity at Dunragit Community Hub, followed by bingo (59, 55%), open mic nights (59, 55%) and talks on history or archaeology (59, 53%). 47 respondents (44% of Dunragit respondents) were interested in warm space meet-ups and 27 (23%) in tea dances.

Glenluce Public Hall differed slightly, with bingo (67) rated next highest with 71% of Glenluce-based respondents, followed by talks on history or archaeology (57, 57%), open mic nights (51, 50%) and social meeting groups (50, 52%). Warm space meet-ups would be supported by 45 respondents (48% of Glenluce-based respondents) and tea dances by 37 (40%).



59 respondents would hold a party in Dunragit Community Hub (50%) and 74 in Glenluce Public Hall (80%).

Activity	Dunragit Community Hub			Glenluce Public Hall		
	N ^o .	% of all respondents	% of Dunragit respondents	N ^o .	% of all respondents	% of Glenluce respondents
Bingo	59	33%	55%	67	38%	71%
Café morning / afternoon	71	40%	65%	78	44%	82%
Cinema night / matinée	73	41%	65%	80	45%	80%
Community fundraising event	83	47%	76%	91	51%	96%
Community gathering / celebration	86	49%	80%	89	50%	94%
Holding a party	59	33%	50%	74	42%	80%
Live music evening	75	42%	67%	85	48%	89%
Open mic night	59	33%	55%	51	29%	50%
Social meeting groups	62	35%	59%	50	28%	52%
Talks on local history / archaeology	59	33%	53%	57	32%	57%
Tea dance	27	15%	23%	37	21%	40%
Warm space meet-up	47	27%	44%	45	25%	48%





All activities suggested had sufficient support to be viable and, again, support exceeded capacity for many activities in the Dunragit Community Hub.

'Other' suggestions included social groups aimed at those with disabilities, archery, men's shed, dominoes championship, quizzes, board games, charades, book swap, book club, ceilidh, knitting, sewing, family events, beetle drives, fun days, talent shows, fishing-related activities, football, walking football, drama club, horse riding, toy swaps, bird-watching, baking, beauty classes, motorbike chat, homework clubs, first aid, music nights, sound bath, volunteering group, running club, tuck shop, scouts, diet group and other activities covered elsewhere in the survey.

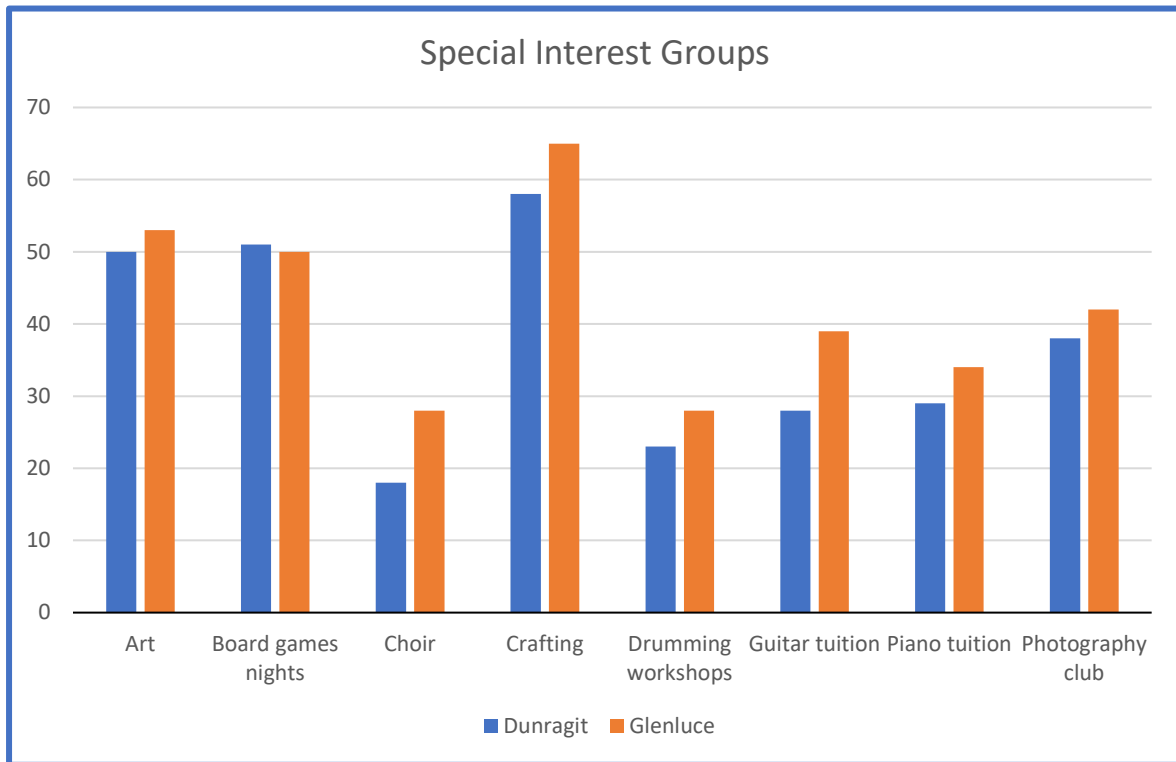
"Dunragit has not had any facilities for years and probably needs a lot of guidance on what to hold in the new hub so someone with experience in that matter would be needed to help the community along the way. I may add I am the longest resident in Dunragit (68 years) not the oldest and I see this hub as a fantastic addition to the community so well done."

Special Interest Groups

At both facilities, the most popular special interest group that would be attended was crafting (58 respondents for Dunragit, including 52% of Dunragit-based respondents and 65 for Glenluce, including 67% of Glenluce-based respondents).

Activity	Dunragit Community Hub			Glenluce Public Hall		
	N ^o .	% of all respondents	% of Dunragit respondents	N ^o .	% of all respondents	% of Glenluce respondents
Art	50	28%	42%	53	30%	55%
Board games nights	51	29%	48%	50	28%	51%
Choir	18	10%	14%	28	16%	32%
Crafting	58	33%	52%	65	37%	67%
Drumming workshops	23	13%	17%	28	16%	29%
Guitar tuition	28	16%	17%	39	22%	43%
Piano tuition	29	16%	20%	34	19%	37%
Photography club	38	21%	29%	42	24%	48%

At Dunragit, the next most popular special interest groups were board games nights (51, including 48% of Dunragit-based respondents) and art (50, 42%). At Glenluce these were reversed with 53 (including 55% of Glenluce-based residents) interested in art groups and 50 (51%) in board games nights. Photography was the next most popular special interest group at both facilities (38 for DCH, 42 for GPH). Piano and guitar tuition followed with piano more popular in Dunragit and guitar more popular in Glenluce. Drumming and choir were the least popular, but still with viable numbers.



Again, interest in activities in the Dunragit Community Hub exceeded capacity in many activities.

Other special interest groups requested were astronomy, bagpipes, violin, beauty, bird-watching, book clubs, movie club, ceramics, brownies, cubs, men's shed, cooking, wine club, reiki, diamond art, DIY, gardening, grower's group, fishing-related activities, flower arranging, life skills, history groups, youth in community group, writer's group, bees, languages, Lego, motor sports, neighbourhood watch, sound bath, meditation, well-being, trains, ukelele, walking group and word search group.

Markets

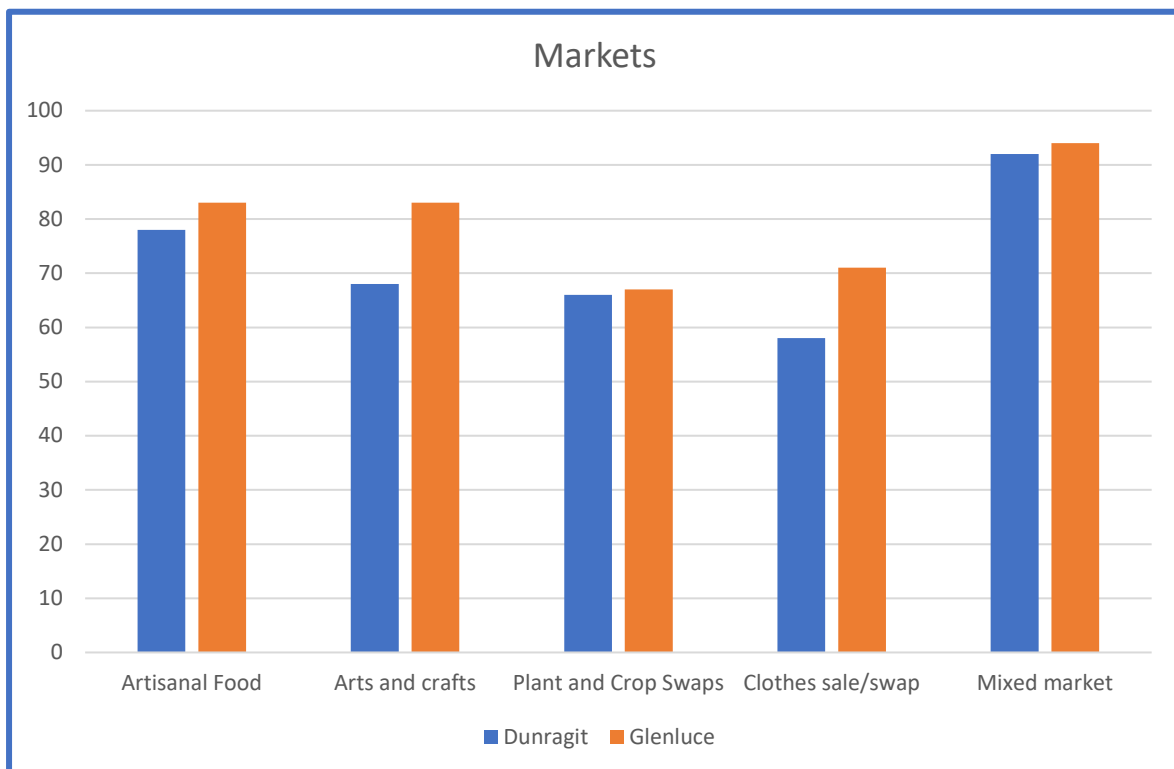
At both facilities, the most popular market choice was a mixed market, supported by 92 respondents in Dunragit and 94 in Glenluce, including 79% and 95% of Dunragit and Glenluce respondents respectively.

Activity	Dunragit Community Hub			Glenluce Public Hall		
	N ^o .	% of all respondents	% of Dunragit respondents	N ^o .	% of all respondents	% of Glenluce respondents
Artisanal food	78	44%	65%	83	47%	82%
Arts and crafts	68	38%	55%	83	47%	87%
Plant and crop swaps	66	37%	60%	67	38%	67%
Clothes sale/swap	58	33%	48%	71	40%	73%
Mixed market	92	52%	79%	94	53%	95%



In Dunragit, the next most popular markets amongst respondents were artisanal food markets (78 respondents, including 65% of Dunragit-based respondents), arts and crafts, plant and crop swaps and clothes sale/swap.

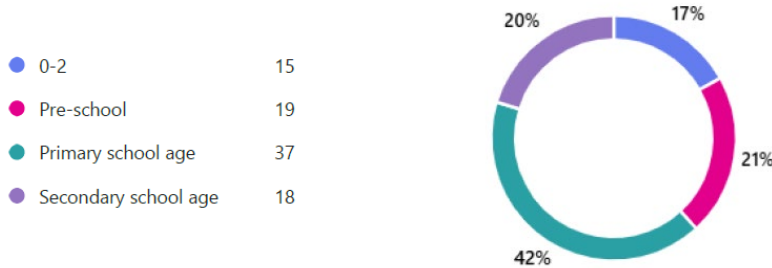
Arts and crafts markets were the next most popular in Glenluce, with 83 respondents interested in attending and 87% of respondents from Glenluce, artisanal food markets would attract the same number of respondents across the Old Luce area, with 82% of Glenluce respondents interested in attending. Clothes sales / swap was more popular than plant and crop swaps for Glenluce Public Hall.



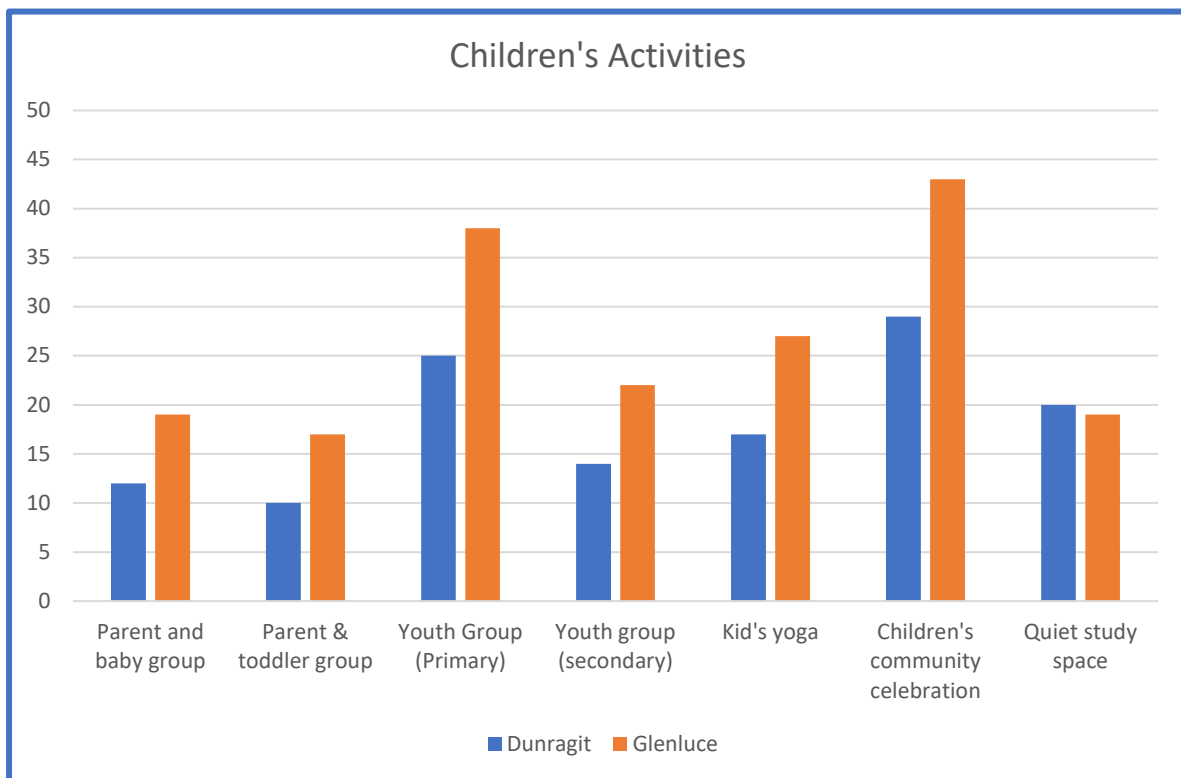
Other markets suggested by respondents included bee or honey markets, book exchanges, bring and buy, cake sales, car boot, crafters' swap, festive markets, food bank, hobby markets, music markets, return-to-school market, skills swaps, table top sales, tool swaps, toy exchanges, trade stalls, vegan-inclusive markets.

Children

36% of respondents had children in their household. These respondents were branched to further questions about children's activities. Of the 64 respondents with children in the household, 15 had children aged 0-2, 19 had pre-school children, 37 had primary-school-aged children and 18 had secondary-school-aged children in the household.



When asked about participation in children’s activities, the number of respondents who would attend a parent and baby group were 12 for Dunragit Community Hub and 19 for Glenluce Public Hall. Of these, 4 for Dunragit and 11 for Glenluce currently had children aged 0-2, 26% and 73% of such respondents respectively. A parent and toddler group would be attended by 5 respondents with pre-school and younger children (23%) in Dunragit and 12 (54%) in Glenluce, though 10 for Dunragit and 17 for Glenluce expressed interest amongst those with children overall.



97% of respondents with primary-school-aged children in the household were interested in a primary youth group. 18 respondents in Dunragit and 26 in Glenluce, with 8 of these interested in both.

69% of respondents with secondary-school-aged children in the household were interested in a secondary youth group, though responses were low in this category, giving 6 respondents in Dunragit and 7 in Glenluce (note 4 of these selected both, so the total if combined would be 9).



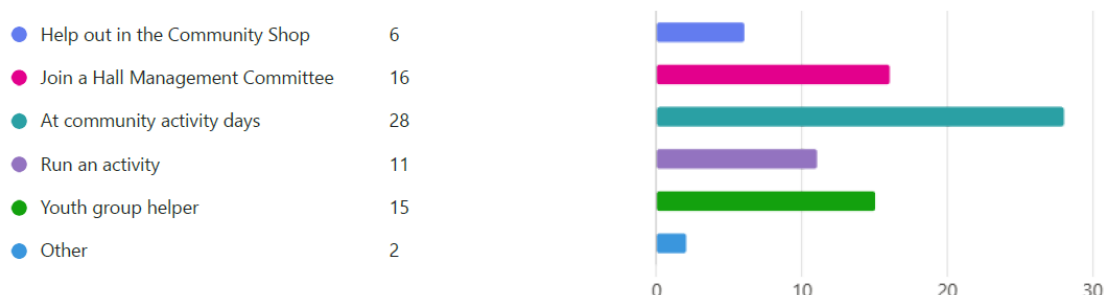
Activity	Dunragit Community Hub			Glenluce Public Hall		
	N ^o .	% of all respondents w/ children	% of Dunragit respondents	N ^o .	% of all respondents w/ children	% of Glenluce respondents
Parent and baby group	12	19%	28%	19	30%	41%
Parent & toddler group	10	16%	28%	17	27%	37%
Youth Group (Primary)	25	39%	83%	38	59%	78%
Youth group (secondary)	14	22%	33%	22	34%	46%
Kid's yoga	17	27%	56%	27	42%	61%
Children's community celebration (e.g. Easter, Halloween, Christmas)	29	45%	94%	43	67%	90%
Quiet study space	20	31%	72%	19	30%	46%

56% of respondents from households with children in Dunragit were interested in kid's yoga at Dunragit and similarly 61% for Glenluce. Over 90% of respondents with children in the appropriate community were interested in festive children's community celebrations. Quiet study space was more popular in Dunragit (77% of Dunragit-based respondents with school-aged children) than in Glenluce (48%).

76% of parents / guardians would hold a birthday party for their child in the hub or the hall.

6 Volunteering

84% of parents/guardians (46 respondents) would volunteer with organising and/or helping at activities at which their child is attending.



37 respondents were willing to volunteer at Glenluce Public Hall, 32 from Glenluce (39% of Glenluce-based respondents) and 4 from the wider Old Luce area. 6 people would help out in the community shop, 16 would join a hall management committee, 28 would volunteer at community activity days, 11 would run an activity and 15 would volunteer as a youth group helper.



Respondents were provided opportunity to comment generally on both facilities. Most comments were around lack of awareness of events, parking in Glenluce and wanting to see more available for children in the area. There was criticism of a recent community council decision around Halloween parties in Glenluce. A lack of awareness that there are three separate community bodies in the area, Old Luce Community Council, Old Luce Development Trust and Old Luce Community Fund and of the different functions of these bodies came through in the comments.

8 Wider Community Events

Most of the responses to the question on wider community events were repetition of responses to previous questions. New ideas were, greater use of the village square, community clean ups, events across all community areas and not just in Glenluce and Dunragit centres, easter egg hunts, family events, first aid classes, drop in clinics, fun days, sports day, cubs, brownies and rainbows, fish and chip van, repair hub, pottery classes, outreach performances/presentations/workshops by national art organisations, e.g. RAMSD, Scottish Opera, help for disabled people, firework display, art exhibition, pop up events and stalls, treasure hunt, community walks, holiday activities for children and teenagers, barbecues, street parties, summer fête, open gardens for charity, tennis, and a festive ice rink.

9 Key Actions

Action	Deadline
Establish a Management Committee for the Dunragit Hub	March 2025
Establish a wider volunteer group at Dunragit Community Hub	June 2025
Establish a Management Committee for Glenluce Public Hall and determine the different responsibilities of the Management Committee and Friends of the Hall groups	September 2025
Contact those who expressed interest in volunteering at Glenluce Public Hall to inform them of volunteering opportunities	December 2025
Seek funding to appoint an Activities and Facilities Manager post to work with the Management Committees and volunteers to take forward the various activities with sufficient interest and address issues raised by the survey.	December 2025



Appendix I: Survey Questions

Dunragit Community Consultation

The survey will take approximately 4 minutes to complete.

1. Name (optional)

Enter your answer

2. Post code

Enter your answer

3. Are you a resident of Dunragit *

Yes

No

Branching: Yes, go to question 5; No, go to question 4

4. What is your interest in Dunragit?

Enter your answer

5. What age bracket are you in? *

Under 16

16 to 34

35 to 54

55 to 74

75 and over



6. Do you support a Community Hub being provided in Dunragit? *

Yes

No

Branching: Yes, go to question 8; No, go to question 7

7. What are your reasons for not supporting a community hub in Dunragit?

Enter your answer

8. What activities would you participate in at the Community Hub? *

Exercise classes

Community fundraising event (eg quiz night)

Interest groups, such as craft, art or photography

Bingo

Social meeting groups, such as knit and natter

Farmers' market

Holding a party

Talks on Dunragit history and archaeology

Warm space meet ups

Community gathering / celebration

Tea dance

Other

Use of quiet study space

9. Are there children in your household? *

No

Yes

Branching: No, go to question 14; Yes, go to question 10



10. What age are the children? *

- Pre-school age
- Primary school age
- Secondary school age

11. What children's activities would you (if under 16) or your children participate in at the Community Hub? *

- Parent and baby group
- Parent and toddler group
- Youth group (primary)
- Youth group (secondary)
- Kid's Yoga
- Children's community celebration (eg Easter, Halloween, Christmas)
- Quiet study space
- Other

12. If a parent/guardian, would you be willing to volunteer with organising and/or helping at children's activities that your child is attending? *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable



13. If a parent/guardian, would you have a birthday party at the hub for your child? *

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

14. What would you be willing to pay to hire the hub per hour? *

Enter your answer

15. What would a community hub in Dunragit mean to you?

Enter your answer

16. Would you be willing to volunteer with the running of the hub? *

- No
- Yes, taking bookings
- Yes, opening/closing the hub
- Yes, cleaning rota
- Yes, at community activity days
- Yes, youth group helper
- Other

17. Do you have any other comments about a community hub in Dunragit?

Enter your answer



OLD LUCE
DEVELOPMENT TRUST

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Public Hall, 22 Main Street, Glenluce DG8 0PR
01581 300767
Registered Company SC538942



the community-led regeneration network

DTAS Member SE225



Old Luce Development Trust (OLDT) is a registered charity,
SC049400, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator