

B. Cardenden

Four settlement-scale Green and Blue networks were identified in Cardenden:

CDDGN01: River Ore Green and Blue network

CDDGN02: Den Burn Green and Blue network

CDDGN03: Kirk Burn & Kinglassie link Green and Blue network

CDDGN04: Keir's Brae Green and Blue network

A short description summarising their key features, functions and opportunities is provided on the following pages.



Green and blue networks in Cardenden. © Crown copyright and database rights 2024. Ordnance Survey 100023385

CDDGN01: River Ore Green and Blue network

The River Ore Green and Blue network follows the course of the Ore River, forming an important strategic element running east-west through the centre of Cardenden, and includes a number of associated greenspaces and habitat assets.

Key Features:

- Part of the River Ore; subsidiaries include the Den Burn. Water quality issues – protect and enhance riparian corridor and SEPA have noted actions to improve water quality. Action has been taken to address legacy pollution from mining but the ecological recovery is not yet achieved. Protect Wallsgreen Park as part of the flood plain.
- Recreational path network along west section of the river – signage and gates could be improved. No access along east section of the river.
- The River Ore is currently visually and physically a hidden asset – poor connectivity with town centre, yet south end of Main Street crosses river; potential to improve access in association with any development.
- Includes woodland assets at Jamphlars but greenspace quality could be improved through further investment
- Greenspace assets include Oreside and Wallsgreen Parks but investment is required to enhance their quality and improve access to the River Ore. The existing pipeline along the western section restricts access potential
- Orebank Marsh local nature site – quality issues, but potential to enhance through improved management
- Significant habitat corridor – protect and enhance assets.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Opportunity to improve access and connections to Jamphlar, received WIAT money previously but requires further enhancement including better signage and gates for example.
- Wallsgreen Park potential to enhance quality through investment, and local community aspiration to improve it.
- The core path routes through Jamphlars could be extended to connect to Loch Ore Meadows.
- Significant potential to enhance quality and functionality, particularly along the eastern section of the Ore. The Ore Bank nature site, and Oreside greenspace both require investment and management to enhance quality; potential to provide better access connections to the Ore and link to the town centre.
- Potential to provide an on-road cycleway to Lochgelly.

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing green and blue network assets.
 - The green and blue network priorities below relate to proposals in FifePlan (2017), these will be reviewed at the Proposed Plan stage of Fife's LDP2.
1. LDP proposal CDD 004 (Cardenden Road West) – priorities in developing this site should be to:
 - Establish a high quality landscape frontage, through appropriate planting and boundary solutions, which reflects the strong rural character of the approach to Cardenden from the east along the B981, and incorporates access provision to connect to the town
 - Consider the site in association with Proposal CDD 007, to deliver a high quality access link which connects to the Oreside greenspace and beyond as an alternative route to Bowhill town centre.
 - Establish a high quality development edge with the Den Burn, River Ore and Brandies Burn, which delivers landscape and habitat enhancements, alongside access and high quality SUDS provision.

- Deliver a landscape and habitat edge along the railway line.
2. LDP proposal CDD 007 (Cardenden Road) – priorities in developing this site should be to:
- Maintain connectivity and enhance setting of the existing core path route which runs between the B981 and Oreside.
 - Consider the site in association with Proposal CDD 004, to deliver a high quality access link which connects to the Oreside greenspace and beyond as an alternative route to Bowhill town centre.
 - Establish a high quality development edge with the Den Burn and River Ore, which delivers landscape and habitat enhancements, alongside access and high quality SUDS provision.
 - Maintain and enhance the existing landscape frontage along the B981 which helps to contain the site visually, and reflects the wider rural character and sense of arrival on approach to Cardenden from the east.

CDDGN02: Den Burn Green and Blue network

The Den Burn Green and Blue network forms an important north-south strategic connection following the course of the Den Burn and incorporating its woodland assets.

Key Features:

- Existing good recreational path network (part of the Kirkcaldy to Dunfermline core path route) and on-street connection to town and rail station – could be made more welcoming – signage and quality of public realm could be improved.
- Existing on-street links and cycle route along Main Road and Station Road, connects to the rail station and town centre. Potential to improve though signage.
- Den Burn – protect and seek to enhance the riparian corridor. SEPA identify action to address the modifications to bed, banks and shores of Den Burn to be addressed by 2027. Some localised flooding issues to garden ground associated with the Den Burn – hidden, culverted watercourse in parts.
- A hidden asset because of the area's steep-sided valley topography. Some antisocial behaviour in part due to poor natural surveillance and limited use of the area
- Protect and enhance woodland as important habitat assets; includes Forestry and Land Scotland owned and maintained woodland assets.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Potential to provide surfaced active travel route to Kirkcaldy through Den and along the north side of the A92 and link to upgraded section at Lochgelly in the west– but poor natural surveillance of route
- South Dundonald - south of Cardenden – Forestry and Land Scotland owned farm – might provide potential to improve wider connections, and create circular path routes.
- Carden Tower – potential to develop interpretation material.

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing Green and Blue network assets.
- The green and blue network priorities below relate to proposals in FifePlan (2017), these will be reviewed at the Proposed Plan stage of Fife's LDP2.

1. LDP proposal CDD 003 (Dundonald South) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - Establish a high quality landscape edge with the existing core path and establish new connections to this route from within the development; potential to enhance and expand the woodland habitat network through appropriate planting proposals along this edge
 - Provide a access link which connects Dundonald (Moorside football pitch) to the Dunfermline-Kirkcaldy core path
2. LDP proposal CDD 002 (Cardenden South) – priorities in developing this area should be to:
 - Protect and enhance the Den Burn riparian corridor with appropriate set back and boundary solutions
 - Establish a high quality landscape edge with the existing core path and establish new connections to this route from within the development; potential to enhance and expand the woodland habitat network through appropriate planting proposals along this edge

CDDGN03: Kirk Burn & Kinglassie link Green and Blue network

Following the course of the Kirk Burn, the Kirk Burn Green and Blue network provides an important east-west Green and Blue network, encompassing much of the northern landscape setting to Cardenden.

Key Features:

- Informal access on Auchterderran Golf Course and good links to Loch Ore Meadows using existing core path along Muirtonhill Road. Also demand for equestrian routes in the area. The Fife Pilgrims Way passes through this area, includes an alternative route through Westfield.
- Kirk Burn starts up by Westfield but diverted for open cast workings; within this area part is culverted under the B921 where it meets Woodend Road; part is culverted through Balgreggie Park and within the adjacent agricultural field to the east. The exact location is not clear.
- Jamphlars Pond – inaccessible and privately owned.
- Balgreggie Park needs improved.
- Contributes to landscape setting and some habitat value with potential to enhance.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Aspiration to provide an off-road cycleway between Cardenden and Kinglassie.
- Core path leading north along Torres Loan from Kinglassie Road, along the existing shelter belt still needs to be developed.
- Community aspiration for an off-road cycleway to Lochgelly.

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing Green and Blue network assets.
 - The green and blue network priorities below relate to proposals in FifePlan (2017), these will be reviewed at the Proposed Plan stage of Fife's LDP2.
1. LDP proposal CDD 006 (Woodend Road) priorities in developing the site should be to:

- Deliver a high quality pedestrian link running north-south through the site which connects to the golf course and park to the south.
 - Enhance the landscape and biodiversity function of the watercourse to the east of the site.
2. LDP proposal CDD 009 (Auchterderran Centre) priorities in developing the site should be to:
- Establish a high quality development edge to the existing core path along the western and southern boundaries of the site; and establish new connections to this route from within the development.
 - Establish a high quality development edge to the greenspace north of the site; and establish new connections to this greenspace from within the development.

CDDGN04: Keir's Brae Green and Blue network

An important Green and Blue network resource encompassing Keir's Brae, which forms an important part of Cardenden's landscape setting to the south east.

Key Features:

- Existing path network and part of the Dunfermline-Kirkcaldy route; potential to upgrade route to cycleway quality.
- Keir's Brae greenspace – currently has poor functionality (space at east of village, amongst modern housing development).
- Brandies Burn (subsidiary to the Ore) currently culverted under Keir's Brae greenspace and along Cluny Park Road (adjacent to B981).
- New Carden Plantation contributes to the woodland habitat network and Ancient Woodland Inventory.
- Cardenden Road provides a high quality gateway to town, with a strong rural character
- Contributes to landscape setting.

Opportunities for Enhancement:

- Active travel opportunity to create a route between Kirkcaldy and Cardenden. Route to be determined. Potential to upgrade existing core paths along the edge of Keir's Brae, and leading south from the Manse to provide off-road cycle links to Chapel to the south.
- Keir's Brae greenspace needs investment to improve quality and multi-functionality.
- Potential to enhance and expand the woodland network through appropriate boundary treatment along the east eastern edge of Kier's Brae greenspace.
- Enhance link to the Den Burn Green and Blue network.

Development Plan Priorities:

- Protect existing Green and Blue network assets.
 - The green and blue network priorities below relate to proposals in FifePlan (2017), these will be reviewed at the Proposed Plan stage of Fife's LDP2.
1. LDP proposal CDD 005 (Cardenden Road East) – priorities in developing the site should be to:
- Protect and retain existing mature hedgerow trees and incorporate as part of a high quality edge to the development. Retain the sense of arrival and reflect the strong rural character of the approach to Cardenden from the east along the B981 through

appropriate new planting and boundary solutions. There is the potential to provide new footpath on the development side to provide an off-road connection to the town centre and rail station.

- Establish a high quality landscape edge with a strong rural character along northern and eastern boundaries of the site, which incorporates access and habitat provision and enhances the landscape setting of the development. Potential to enhance the woodland habitat network through appropriate planting proposals.
- Provide a safe point to cross the B981 to enable easy access to Keir's Brae greenspace and to connect the development with the existing core path to Chapel. The exact nature and details of the crossing to be addressed at planning application stage.