

OUR COMMUNITY OUR FUTURE

ERROGIE – FOYERS – GORTHLECK – INVERFARIGAIG – TORNESS – WHITEBRIDGE

What next for Stratherrick & Foyers?

From aspirations to action

Community event report, October 2026

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Stratherrick & Foyers Community Council

SFCT
Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust

Development Trusts Association Scotland
A Thriving Community-led Network

1 Introduction

This report refers to a community event held towards the end of the process of refreshing the 2021 Stratherrick and Foyers Community Action Plan, which relates to the area covered by Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council and Community Trust.

The 'reCAP' refresh of the Community Action Plan is being facilitated by the Community Trust and the Community Council, and funded by the Development Trusts Association Scotland. This report was prepared by independent facilitator Nick Wright.

To facilitate the local community in turning its aspirations into a plan of action, a community event took place on the evening of Wednesday 14th October in the Wildside Centre, Whitebridge. This followed a community survey and other events earlier in 2026; more details can be seen online at www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/recap

The October event was widely promoted throughout the area. Free transport was available to facilitate participation. It was part of a series of joint events organised by the Community Council and Community Trust.

Approximately 50 people attended the event.

This report contains people's written suggestions from the event (chapter 2) and a summary of topics raised in an open mic session (chapter 3).









2 Comments

The first part of the evening was an opportunity to comment on the emerging actions for the draft Community Action Plan — effectively trialling the content of the draft Plan. Those actions were contained on a series of five display boards, one for each of the themes of the original 2021 Community Action Plan (confirmed as still relevant through the community survey earlier in 2026).

The suggested actions on the five boards were developed from ideas suggested in survey responses and at previous events, discussions with local community organisations, and progress with delivery of the existing 2021 Community Action Plan.

Participants mingled, left written comments on the emerging actions (including adding anything missing), and indicated what they thought should be prioritised with buttons (each person had five buttons to distribute as they wished).

Other materials available included the community survey report, a series of display boards used at events earlier in the year, and the community's existing Community Action Plan and Local Place Plan.







Event display boards
Click on images to see larger versions





2.1 Community life

The image shows the display board prepared in advance of the event.

Participants' written comments are transcribed to the left of the board.

The numbers in red circles refer to the number of buttons given by event participants (see page 4). These should **not** be taken as an indication of relative support from the community as a whole.

Utilise the woodland next to Wildside Centre

Playparks or similar for kids in each village - e.g. bike pump-track, woodland trail, playpark etc - to offer different experiences in each place

Pizza delivery!

Ideally a mixed range of service to include 0-11 ages, e.g. childminders, clubs (after-school and holiday), social events etc

Whitebridge Hotel can definitely help!

Errogie Church once heating issue resolved - use of all local hubs across the area

Several community members/ groups interested or would like to use the church as is, just with heating! Put in heating so useable and let project rest a moment so it can be used

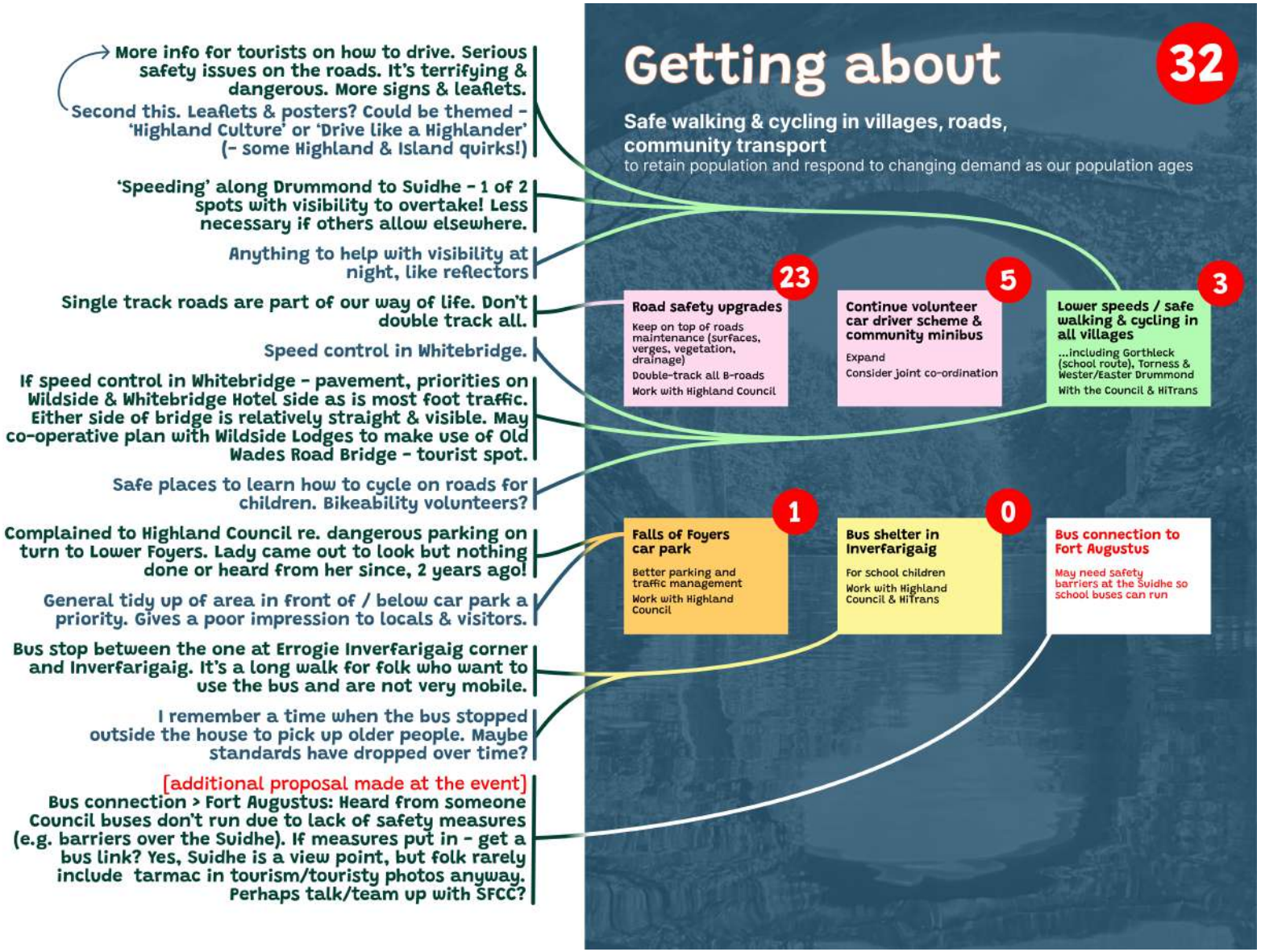


2.2 Getting about

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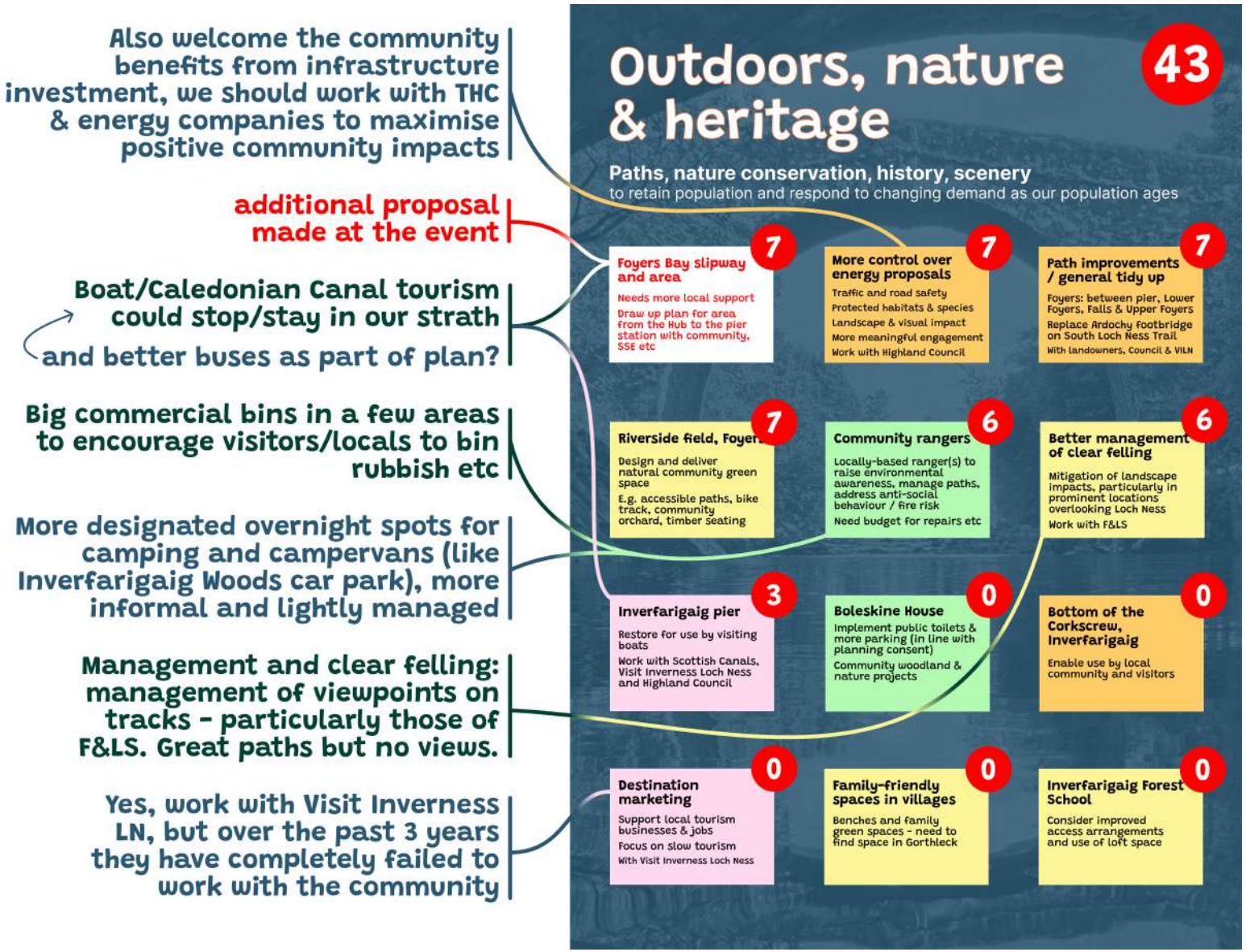


2.3 Outdoors, nature and heritage

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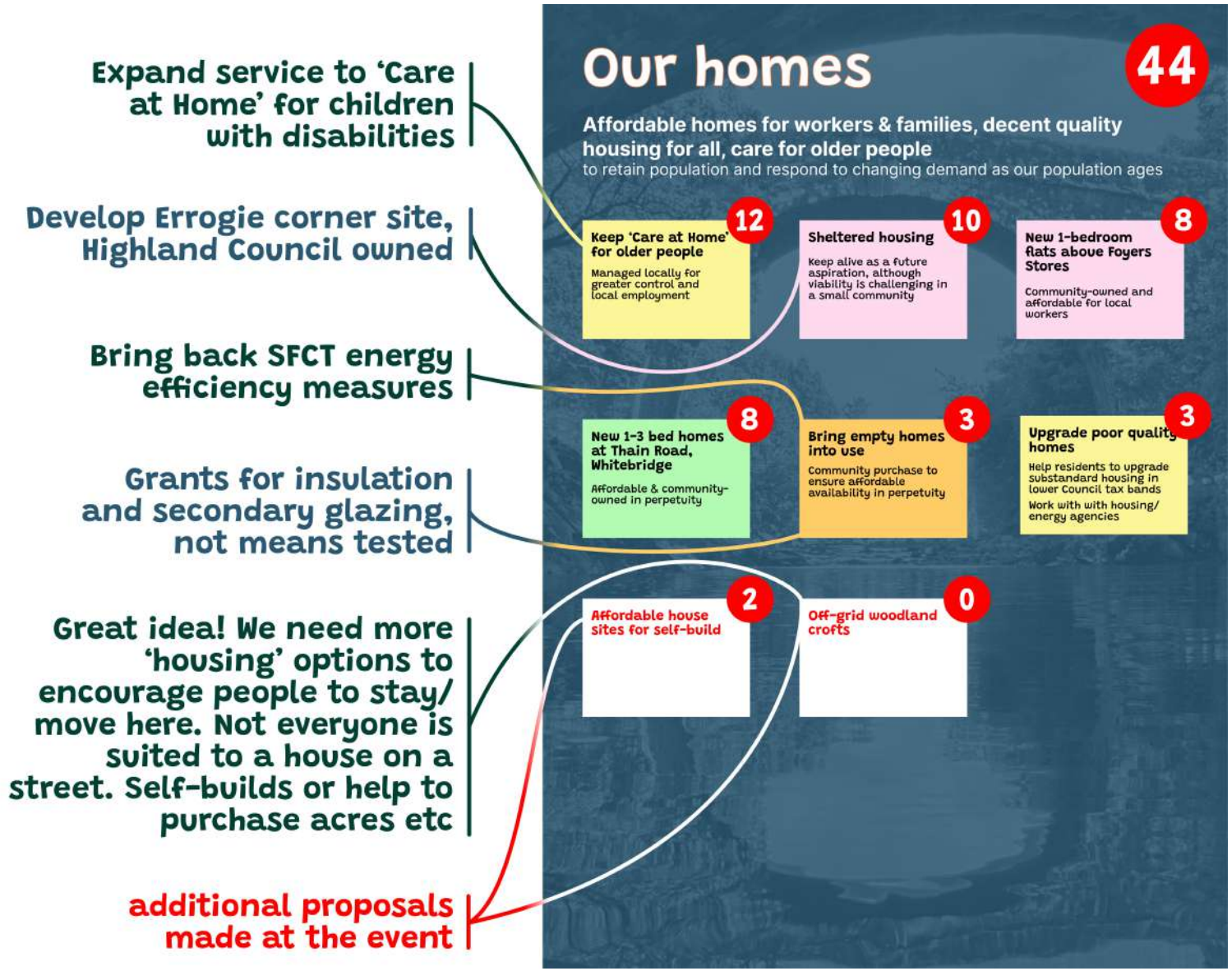


2.4 Our homes

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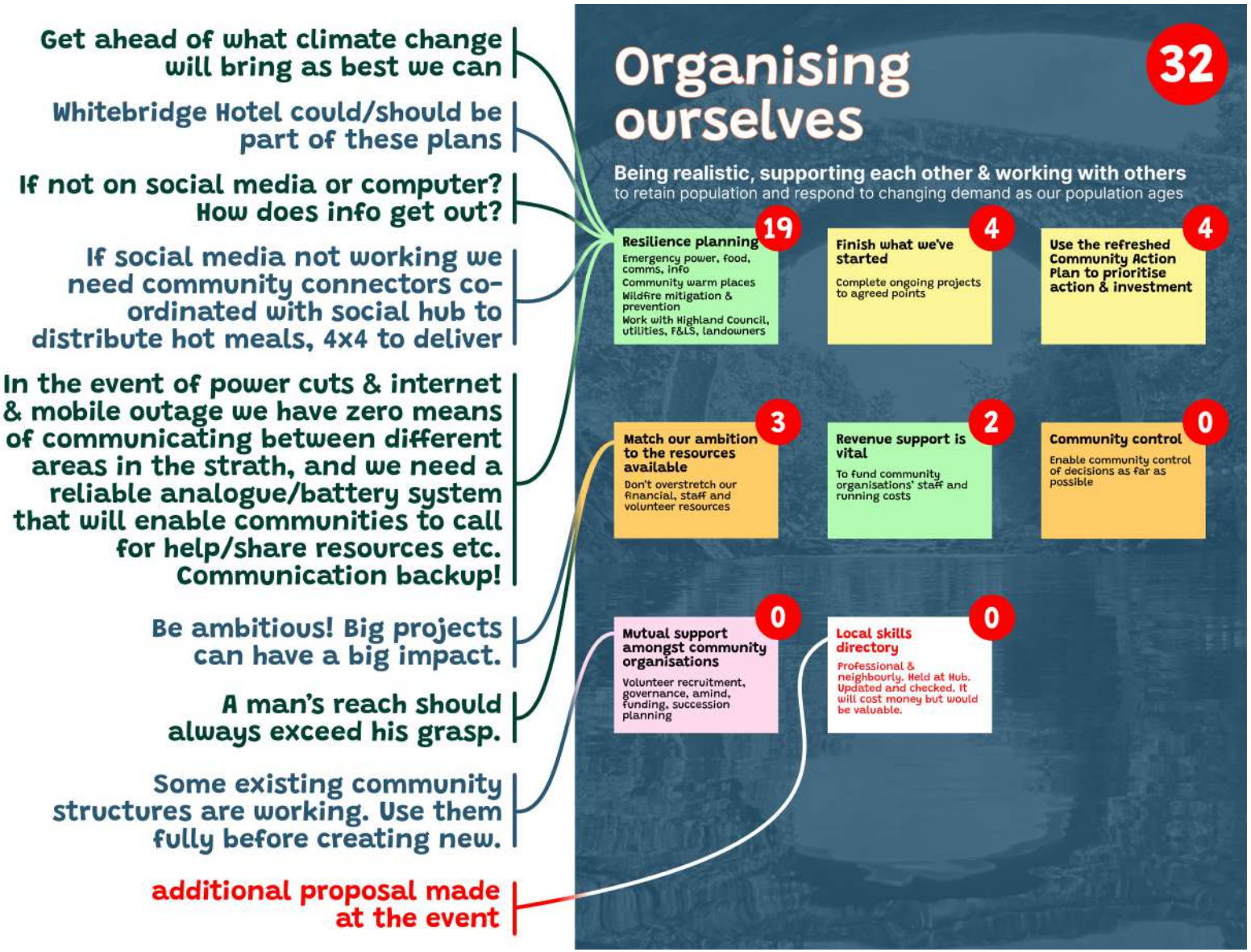


2.5 Organising ourselves

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3 Discussion

In the “open mic” discussion at the end of the event, the following topics were raised by participants:

- How do we get more local people interested in this work?
- Road safety at the bottomf the hill by Foyers Stores.
- The cost of oil heating has doubled since last year. We need a stronger voice for those affected, for example through the Community Council. Would it be possible to generate community-owned power, like a wind turbine?
- Capacity to deliver the plan: who will deliver it?
- Need to rely less on volunteers (which is causing volunteer fatigue), and employ more staff.
- Resilience planning (especially for wildfires) is an important new area since the 2021 Community Action Plan. It needs a national response.
- Plan should be seen as a 5-year plan, with quick wins, long-term aspirations, and flexibility to respond to changing circumstances.
- There should be regular progress updates and meetings of the organisations involved in delivering the plan.
- Keep the community updated on quick wins in particular.


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