

PRESS RELEASE: 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025

## Rhu and Shandon Community Consultation

The views of local residents in Rhu and Shandon are being sought to shape the future of the area through a survey running throughout February and a community event on 6-8 March.

The views will be used as part of the Local Place Plan which will outline the priorities and aspirations of the community, directly influencing decisions on development, conservation and local services. The consultation is also supporting plans for the future of Ardenconnel Wood in Rhu.

The community engagement exercise is designed to reflect what matters most to residents. Whether it's preserving the character of the villages, improving facilities, or addressing environmental challenges, the input of residents will help identify what needs to change and what should remain. Alongside gathering specific LPP information on land use, Rhu and Shandon are running a much broader community survey. Part of the survey relates directly to the community buy out of Ardenconnel Wood and the formation of Rhu and Shandon Community Trust.

Rhu and Shandon Community Council is working in partnership with the newly formed Rhu and Shandon Community Trust to undertake the survey. The results and Local Place Plan will be presented to the community in June 2025 and the LPP presented to Argyll and Bute Council for inclusion in the next Local Development Plan.

The survey is on line and can be accessed here:

[surveymonkey.com/r/Rhu-Shandon](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Rhu-Shandon)

or [bit.ly/Rhu-Shandon](https://bit.ly/Rhu-Shandon)



Paper copies are also available to collect and return at: The Brae Shop, The Rhu Inn, Café Rhu, Rhu and Shandon Community Hall and Rhu and Shandon Parish Church.

The project can be contacted at: [rhushandontrust@gmail.com](mailto:rhushandontrust@gmail.com)

On Thursday 6, Friday 7 and Saturday 8 March a drop in community consultation event will be held at Rhu and Shandon Parish Church Hall. Residents are invited to come along between 3pm – 8pm on Thursday and Friday, and 10-5 on Saturday to make their views known. In addition to interactive posters on all the topics covered in the Local Place Plan / Ardenconnel Wood survey there will also be posters from other groups such as Glenarn and Rhu Hall seeking community views and ideas.

Fiona Baker, Chair of the Ardenconnel Wood / Rhu and Shandon Community Trust steering groups and member of Rhu and Shandon Community Council said, 'This is the first time there has been a big community consultation in Rhu and Shandon so we would like to know what people think about all the issues that concern residents. Everything really - speeding and road safety, flooding, marine litter, what kind of housing development we need, forestry, playgroup provision etc. Whilst we have identified themes, we really want to hear whatever local residents think about where we live, what we are happy with and what needs improved. In addition to creating a Local Place Plan, residents' views will help the Community Council, Rhu and Shandon Community Trust and the Ardenconnel Wood project to try and represent and deliver on the real concerns and issues identified by residents.'