

Project: **'Memories of seven Lochs' Communities: A people's history'.**

Respondent: AnnMarie Kirkland

Year of Birth: 1973

Age: 49

Connection to project: Born in Cardowan

Date of Interview: 22/06/2023

Interviewer: Dr Sue Morrison

Recording Agreement: Yes/ No

Information & Consent: Yes/ No

Photographic Images: Yes/ No (Number of:)

Length of Interview: 44.42

Location of Interview: St Joseph's Parish Centre

Recording Equipment: Zoom H4n (internal mics)



Time (from: mins/secs)	Description	Transcribed Extract (from- to: mins/secs)
00.50	<i>Respondent confirms she was born in Cardowan</i>	
	I am a true Cardonian as they would say.	00.52
00.54	<i>Have you lived here all your life?</i>	
	I've had periods of time where I've moved away but I've always come back, came back home, never anywhere else felt quite like home.	00.56-00.59
01.11	<i>What's your earliest memories?</i>	
	Oh probably my earliest memories would be playing with friends that were neighbours in our local playpark in Frankfield Road where I was born and reared.	01.12-01.20
01.21	<i>Where is that in relation to where we are now</i>	
	So where we are, this is literally our old school building, so where we're sitting right now was initially one of the classes. This room that we're in would've been two classes. The lunch hall, the staff room, the office and the Head Teacher's office as well would've been in this building. So the playpark is literally along at the end of this street.	01.22-01.49
01.50	<i>What was the community like when you were young?</i>	
	Everyone knew everyone you know. You could be out playing, you knew that you couldn't be up to no good because there was always somebody who would know who you were, whose child you were and they would go and tell on you. So you were well behaved most of the time, yeah and every body checked in on everybody so it was a very close-knit community. Most of the local families they all worked in the local industries that existed here so if you weren't friends or neighbours, you worked with each other. Your social circles were in the local social club which unfortunately doesn't exist either. So yeah, I had a good childhood here what I remember of growing up, it was good friends and good times.	01.53-02.40
02.41	<i>What were the local industries?</i>	

	<p>We had Cardowan Colliery which was the local pit which is where my Dad worked, seven days a week, and then we had the Black & White Whisky Bond at the end of the road and just a wee bit further along we used to have a bus station, so it was a garage for doing the bus repairs and things like that, so that was there as well.</p> <p>Going back a wee bit further from the stories that you heard growing up, we were surrounded by brickworks and steelworks in the nearby villages and things. Yeah it was quite a hive of industry when we were children.</p>	02.42-03.16
03.17	<i>What was your Dad's job at the pit?</i>	
	My Dad was a Fireman down in Cardowan Colliery.	03.20
03.26	<i>Did he have many incidents to deal with?</i>	
	My Dad was involved in the last explosion that happened in Cardowan and I was in this building, in the playground when it happened, here where we actually are just now	03.27-03.37
03.38	<i>Did you hear it?</i>	
	<p>Yes we were out and all we heard was the alarms going off and at the back of this building was the playground and to the side of it was big metal gates and you could see through those gates and that's where the pit lorries and things would go up and down and the men would go in and out to work, and we were out in the playground and we just sat, we didn't hear a bang that I remember, but from discussions after the fact in later years, neighbours and residents did hear the bang. We might've been too busy playing and not paying attention but what we did hear was the alarms going off, so the first thing we all done was run to the gates to see what was going on and before we knew it, it was just all the Mums running up with their kids and babies because all the men were going on their shift.</p> <p>My Dad had actually just came off shift when the explosion happened and he went back down. He went back down. It's a hard memory because it was a very sore point for a kid nearly eight and their family. When my Dad came back up and the horrors that he saw, he had his piece box, a wee tin box, and he handed it to my Mum and said "Rose, I can never go back down there again" and he didn't that was his last shift. What he saw and experienced, it didn't quite destroy him, but it gave him a fear that he couldn't return to the job that he did do. My Dad was a hard man, you know he was called Big Jack in the community. He always done a lot of things for our community he ran golf outings, he ran Cardowany B.C. for years. It was to try and give the kids and things stuff to do.</p> <p>I never got on with my Dad when I was younger, I really didn't like him very much because he was quite a hard man, hard times at home with his grumpiness but in years gone by now and the older I've got, I realise why he was the way he was and it was being down that dark hole, that dark dingy hole where they were never seeing the light of day. The older I got I kind of got to understand why he was the way he was and forgave him for a lot of things.</p> <p>Yeah that day was quite horrific, hearing that alarm and knowing your Daddy was at work and seeing all the Mums running and the Teachers just came and ushered us away into this building, they didn't comfort us and tell us what was happening, so you were left sitting the rest of the day going what's happening. It shouldn't have been like that. Those kids that were in this building that had family in that pit when that happened, they should have been taken away and they should've been looked after, they should've been nurtured and they weren't, we weren't, so you were left to it with your mind running. I mean, I thought my Dad was dead when that happened that</p>	03.39-07.31

	day and you're just sitting waiting. My older sister, she wasn't at school that day so she ran with my Mum up to the pit, that's how we know about the piece box getting handed over and how he could never go back down because she recalls that and she shared that with us.	
07.35	<i>How old were you when that happened at the pit?</i>	
	I would've been eight at the time, eight or nine. So a very young age to experience that.	07.36-07.38
07.40	<i>How did that affect the community?</i>	
	Well yeah, it was quite a tough time, uhuh, but again the men were back at work before they knew it, you know, the next shift it was a different shaft, that was that, but families were left devastated.. You know one of the men that was badly burned in the explosion and my Dad helped to carry him out, he was a close family friend, his Mum was very friendly with my Mum. So the families were all rallying around trying to support each other.	07.45-08.25
08.26	<i>That would have been just a couple of years before the Miners' Strike?</i>	
	Yes	08.27
08.38	<i>Were you aware of the build-up towards the Miners' Strike?</i>	
	I don't think I was really aware of all these men going to be on strike but when it happened I was aware that my Dad was going to the picket lines and by then my older brother was also a Miner as well so he was going and he was on the picket lines with my Dad and you'd hear words like 'scab' and to me that was what happened when you fell and cut your knee, but you learned that that was some of the men who chose to still go into work and weren't standing on the picket lines. This building that we're in was utilised as a soup kitchen but we were never allowed to come to it. My Mum was too proud. My Dad came. He came down and he helped out and occasionally he came home with tins with no labels on that had come from donations from somewhere or maybe Russian language on it or whatever it was, so you didn't know quite what you were opening up. So I do remember him bringing in tins from what would now be Food Banks and stuff. It was provisions to help families but we were never allowed to have our meals here.	8.42-10.04
10.06	<i>So your brother was striking, your Dad had left by then, income-wise what was it like for your family?</i>	
	Poverty. Struggle, absolute struggle. We didn't ever go without, we always had a meal in our belly, we were dressed in clean clothes, my Mum always kept us good but it was hand me downs it was extended families support, it was neighbours rallying and helping each other through those difficult times but I was always always very aware that we were poor. Even when my Dad was working and bringing in a wage it was poor, my Mum was a nurturer at home looking after five kids, looking after extended family like her Dad, my Dad's Dad, she nursed them all through to death. So you see history repeating itself now. I look back and think you need to break the chain somewhere. Life evolves. Both my Mum and Dad came from very difficult upbringings and again the mining industry, a lot of alcoholism and things like that so when you put two sick pups together you don't exactly get a healthy litter do you? We were brought up on your mince and tatties and your veg. Stodge isn't it? Not the healthiest of diets so we're all quite curvaceous but we're also all quite tall, a bit of the giants. I think we came off the giants and maybe those mines that run underground are the veins that's left behind. I like to think of it like that and see it as something more positive than what it was.	10.22-12.04

12.13	<i>What were your favourite playing places?</i>	
	<p>For us it was what would have been Frankfield Playpark and at the back of that there was a big corn field, unfortunately now houses have been developed on it. We still have the playpark on it. That was the view from our house so we were allowed to go there, you'd try and sneak off now again and there was also an old dirt track that ran down what we called 'the back road' which is now identified as Frankfield Loch and is part of what the Seven Lochs are but to us, it was the swamp.</p> <p>You know that's what it was because it had this swirl-wind in the middle of it that dragged all the muck into it for years. Where that went to I don't know. The water course has all been changed, the buildings and what have you, but the cornfield was a great place to play, you know you'd run through the corn, get to the top of the hill and it was tree-lined. You'd climb the trees, you could see for miles. I actually believe it's the most northerly point of North Lanarkshire and the highest viewpoint and its now known as Cardowan Moss. So all of that space we played in was never referred to as the Loch or the Moss, it was the cornfields or the swamp.</p>	12.17-13.37
13.38	<i>Were there any local shops?</i>	
	<p>Yeah. In the community of Cardowan we always had Russells when I was a kid. Mr Russell he had a shop, he had one arm. He had an arm amputated I think it was in the war. You would be quite amazed because you didn't see many things like that when I was younger so you'd be quite amazed when you went into the shop and see Mr Russell, so that was the local newsagents. I don't recall but from my older siblings and what they'd said before we did have a fruit and veg shop and other things, but to my recollection it was always Russells that was there, the other shops were kind of abandoned and the shutters were down on when I grew up, so that was obviously the industries starting to disappear and going away, businesses going away.</p>	13.40-14.17
14.38	<i>What was it like after the strike?</i>	
	<p>Well after the strike, in my memory, it was then the closing down of Cardowan, of the pit and I actually remember my Dad keeping us all off school the day when they were waiting on the news of whether the pit was going to be closing down or going to be saved and across the road was where the Miners' Social Club was and I think there was the head of the N.U.M. called Albert Wheeler and he came to give the miners the decision, so we kids had made wee banners of Save the Pit, like we've had to do in later years to try and save other things in the community, and my Dad was there again helping out, he was always a Union man and things like that so he was helping facilitate the event that was happening that day.</p> <p>When Albert Wheeler came out and told the miners that the pit was closing there was obviously upset and a bit of caffuffle trying to get him out of the building and he got pulled back into the building because there was a bit of a shuffle in the crowd with the miners and I got caught up in it. I actually got caught up in it and I got injured and I actually got injured by Albert Wheeler when he was getting pulled back into the club I was standing to the side and his elbow went right into my face. So there is news footage exists with AnnMarie on the six o'clock news but it was reported different from what it actually was, 'Child Injured as miners go crazy' and it wasn't like that. I think that was my first realisation of false news a wee bit you know, 'that's not the way it happened Dad why are they saying that?' Its like well they've got to get people enticed to listen to their stories, because that's what it was it was just a story, it wasn't the truth, it really wasn't the truth.</p> <p>The loss of that pit was quite a shake to the community, it was the main employment for most of the men, so yeah, a lot of unemployment and what're they going to do</p>	14.39-18.09

	<p>now. They didn't come and re-train them. They didn't get the opportunities. I remember my Dad trying to get work and it just wasn't happening, obviously with experience in the explosion he didn't want to go back down. I think he was still employed by the pit doing other jobs, he just didn't go back down. He was still a Miner until it closed but he just didn't go back down underground.</p> <p>By the time the pit closed the new school had been built, I'd just been going into primary seven so we were the last primary sevens in this old school and the first primary sevens in the new school and I remember them bringing us out to see them exploding the remaining big chimneys that was there so we got to watch the chimneys coming down and things like that. There is some images still exist of the last of the chimneys coming down and they'd cleared most of the ground.</p>	
18.10	<i>How did you feel watching the chimneys coming down?</i>	
	<p>It was quite exciting because we hadn't seen anything like that but then when you went home and you saw the sadness of the loss of what was a life's work for people. Hard times, and I'd seen my Dad trying to get work and it just wasn't happening. Not turning to crime, but they'd go and collect scrap and I think some of the stuff left at the pit was took by some of the local men to just keep their families alive.</p>	18.12-18.47
18.48	<i>How did Cardowan change after that?</i>	
	<p>I think it started to disconnect a wee bit. There wasn't that same united people. There was other families like the man who was badly burned, his extended family lived here in the community and obviously what happened to him, they chose to move away to Fife. There was offers of work in Fife and my Mum didn't want to go and my Dad didn't want to go because by that time my oldest brother he had a family and they had grand-kids coming along then and it was like well we don't want to go they're settled here and the rest of the family as well, and I think it was the Daily Record it was in and it said 'O'Rourke's leave, Quinns stay' that was my Mum's dear friend Mary, she was the Mum and the man was who had been burned in the last explosion, so they chose to move away to Fife. So there was a few families like that who moved away, and when that started happening, to us it was strangers moving in. It wasn't people that you knew getting moved into what the social housing was, it was people from outwith the community, and Cardowan was the kind of place that if you wanted a house you had to wait until somebody passed, you know, somebody had to pass before you could get a house here. It's still pretty much the same, but it was strangers who started moving in.</p> <p>You didn't know everyone. I can remember you could walk and you knew every family that lived in every house and probably round most of the community and you would know everyone. Now I could maybe tell you fifty or sixty of the houses in comparison to knowing most of them when I was a child.</p> <p>So yes it dramatically changed, obviously there was never a lot of money and as the youngest of five, I got the hand-me-downs of the hand-me-downs. I also remember two of my siblings finding a bag on what was the old back road, the dirt track, and I can remember there was a pair of Adidas trainers and they were white with black stripes on and they happened to be my size and they got given to me and I wore these things to school one day not knowing that the siblings had told their friends about it and their younger siblings were in my class so I got ridiculed at school for having trainers found down on the back road hidden in the dump 'Ah you've got dump trainers on', I went 'Oh these trainers might be dump trainers but they're Adidas' because you were programmed to think that a label was something important.</p>	18.54-22.09
22.20	<i>How did you become a community activist?</i>	

Well it kind of happened because my sister lives to what is the last accessible green space in our community, its at the top of Cardowan Road and it's just always been known as the fields in Cardowan. We now refer to it as the Cardowan Community Meadow because its actually a really nice place to be, its a beautiful open space, its got lovely wild flowers that grow in it, its got beautiful woodlands at the bottom, and there was a wee notice, a very small notice put in The Kirkintilloch Herald News, and it was about a proposal for the land to be developed, and someone caught sight of it and spoke about it in the community and before we knew it, word was getting passed round that this land was going to be built on. So my sister has suffered greatly with mental health issues and things due to childhood abuse, so that space has really been needed in her life and the neighbours that live beside her, so it's really been a safe space for her to spend time with the grandchildren. Its been a space where she's used to walk and just have a wee bit of alone time to deal with her issues and things she's experienced in life.

22.21-30.12

When I heard about this it was like as a family we started discussing this 'oh this is terrible this can't happen' because we know how much it means to the community and how much it utilised by many families for many different reasons, so we need to start trying to find out how we need how we go about seeing what information we can get and all the rest of it, and we did and we found out the developers were having a consultation with regards to this development and so we decided that we were going to attend and find out all the information and all the rest of it, which we did and we kind of let our views be known that as a community we didn't want it. They treated us really illy, they weren't nice to us at all, they asked us if we were a cult because of the way we were expressing ourself about how this land was important to the community and different things and they produced a form to us. It was a consultation form for you to put your views and all the rest of it and we asked them there and then 'how on this form do I record an absolute residing No to your development, I do not want it?' to be told 'There isn't, there isn't a way of doing it you just have to answer the questions that's there', because we all know now after the knowledge what we've gained over this journey has been because they want to collaborate it to whatever way they see fit and they only produce it in a certain way to support their proposal, but we had a wee trick in our bag and we had come across a document that stopped them from doing that. So when we attended that consultation, in our possession we had little slips that were autographed with first name only of four hundred and sixty-eight living souls in this community and we then demanded that their consultation forms, we had four hundred and sixty-eight of them and we wanted to put them to each one of these forms and the statement basically said 'Stop the fraud and we will be forming Cardowan Community Meadow and it will give us the right to investigate fraudulent land deals in this community and future deals in this community', and that wee document is actually recorded in the Reporter's Decision when you go in and look at all the notes and everything else that's with it, it's there and it's been recorded within that process. So yeah we gave them a real hard time, so as a community we just gathered, there was probably about half a dozen of us and there was a few extended community members that came along, doing leaflet drops, sharing information with the rest of the residents in the community. I think we've chapped every door in this community a dozen times or more for different reasons and before we knew it we had absolute support from the community that it meant as much to everyone here that lived here as it did to the handful of people that we had been speaking with. So I think it was one of the most objected to proposals

	<p>in North Lanarkshire in a very very long time because we made sure that each and every resident that wanted to make representation were able to because a lot of our community didn't know how to sign into a planning process, how to make an objection and all the rest of it but we found out how to do it and we made it easier and for them. A lot of people were using social media Facebook and things like that, so we established a page, we made that information available to people there where they could just copy and paste the information, we explained how to do it and if they weren't able to do it that way, we went and handed copies to them and let them sign it that way and present it and we delivered them to North Lanarkshire Council. We made sure that it was put into the hands of the appropriate person so they couldn't say 'oh we didn't receive, we didn't get'. We recorded it, we photographed every single one. We did a lot of lot of groundwork to make sure that the people of this community's voices were actually heard in the process, and it was refused and I believe we played a really big part in that. Some other organisations will say 'No it was designated greenbelt anyway, it would've been refused', but there;s other designated greenbelt that hasn't been refused and there's now houses built on that land, so I believe the document that we put into the process and the way we approached it as a community certainly played a big part and it also stated in the Reporter's report about it that due to the number of objections received for this proposal was why it was denied, and the news actually came through on my Dad's birthday. There was these wee taps on the shoulder and things that come and go right, but you're doing what you're meant to do. So yeah we're fighting hard. Since the pit days has gone and the industries been stripped out, Cardowan has went downhill, really downhill. Since they started selling off the Council properties and all that, some fences getting higher, it made a divide within the community, circumstances that have happened, religion and all sorts of things, it's divided people. It's quite sad to see but then the old community is still there in the form of those hereditary families that still exist in the community, those that remember what has been and gone and are now living in what is the here and now and we're still experiencing neglect, poverty and all sorts of issues here in our community. It's become more and more than saving that bit of land, it's now about saving people's lives, those that are still here and stuck in that poverty and all sorts of different issues.</p>	
30.15	<i>What does Cardowan need now?</i>	
	<p>Oh it needs a lot. I have made numerous requests to what our authorities are for an emergency response to this community because of what we've experienced here. There's horrors, there's absolute horrors and neglect in this community in the hands of the authorities and when lock-down happened, the services all stopped for these people that had care packages and all that and nothing came over the bridge. Nothing came over the bridge and I think we were two or three days into lock-down and we were out and we were chapping every door, seeing who needed what. We'd pensioners falling into our arms because nobody had seen them, their carers hadn't turned up, they didn't know what was happening, all they were seeing was all this horror on the TV. We told them 'turn it off', we tried to tell them to turn it off. We went and we hugged them. We hugged them the poor pensioners, because they needed that human contact. We made sure that they were staying alive, we made sure that there was funding, phoning all sorts of different organisations because at that point we were not quite constituted as yet so we couldn't apply for funding on our own. We did have support from another organisation, The Northern Corridor Community Volunteers, they managed to access some funding, it was obviously</p>	30.16-43.46


emergency response Covid funding and they were able to start giving a share of it down to here and they were delivering like bread, milk, sort of dairy products. We started doing that once a week and then we started getting fresh fruit. I think we had about £70 in small donations that people had given when we had some consultations evenings in here and we took that £70 that very first week and we went straight to the fruit market ourselves and we bought in bulk what we could. We brought it and we divvied it up and we gave it to those people we knew whose services had been withdrawn, people that we knew didn't have extended family in the community. So I think in the first week we started off with maybe about 70 different houses that we tended to and by the end of the pandemic we were servicing probably upwards of 250 houses in the community and that was on a weekly basis. Tuesday we were out with the milk, bread, eggs and things. That was going to residents that were over 65 years of age. So that wasn't as many as the 250, but the fruit deliveries we done in the end up we delivered on a Wednesday. This hall was filled with mums. I think the oldest one was an ex-miner, old Gerry Wegg, one of the last miners in this community, I think Gerry's 83 and the youngest in here was 6. I think there were 20 odd in here at once and that fruit we ended up getting it delivered from the fruit market. The big fruit van would pull up out the front, we'd be all out, bring all the boxes in, we'd divvy it all up into bags. We had great support from the local Co-op as well, they would give us bags and things like that. A Wednesday was like an enlightened day in here, the kids were all out, we were all out with the cars and all that, the extended family were coming. One of our family ran her van into the ground and we were delivering out into the whole community. Anything that was left out, excess, we would give to the local community, given to anyone that we were aware of. We had access to other groups doing like food bank provisions so we didn't have this space continuously until we spoke to the Church and we told them how important it was that we have a port of call that people in the community could turn to and they knew that we were there permanently over the pandemic.

Then the first summer was approaching and we thought, look at these kids, there isn't anything happening what can we do, and the rules were a wee bit different so we were able to put on outdoor activities for the kids and we first of all started off with what, the land that we had fought so hard to stop the houses being built that was utilised, it was where the kids played, it was where they go adventures on their own, so we thought let's put on some structured events that we can now record and there can be a record to show how much this land is utilised in this community, so that was really nice. Then we had arts and crafts and stuff in here for the kids and we had sporting activities over at the school grounds.

So yes, we've had quite a journey. Quite a journey here in what's went on. I think if you speak to some of our volunteers and some of the ladies would say the pandemic in some ways was a wee bit of a blessing because it brought the community and the people back together. It made us all appreciate what mother nature has actually given us because we couldn't go elsewhere so we started to appreciate what we actually had round about us. So that was nice. We also had my daughter, she's a wee singer and we had her out in the streets during the week as well. She was out with her mic and her music and pensioners were out at their doors so that they weren't isolated in their homes watching what they feared on their TVs. So we tried to bring a wee bit of something to everyone and numerous messages we put out there to anyone that needed support or help just to get in contact with us, you know, we'd put flyers up in the local shop and things like that.

We tried to make sure that everybody was alright and doing okay because this is home, it's our home, so we want to make sure that it stays our home and we want to make sure that it doesn't change any more than it has done now. We're losing what was the character of the village. As much as I adore and love the new neighbours in the extended new estates that have come up, the old pit ground is now a mass space of houses, I think there is upwards of 1,500-2,000 houses up there and recently as a community organisation we have managed to purchase some of it. We have managed to achieve the old pit-head where the mine shafts were, the mine shafts where the men used to go up and down to work every day. That bit of land wasn't fit for purpose to build houses on but what it was fit for purpose surprisingly enough was a playpark. So it's a playpark where the new estate kids go to, my kids have been to it. When they come out of school it's a nice new playpark where they can enjoy playing and we've been able to purchase that and we take ownership on the 21st August this year and there is also other bits and bobs within that sporadic bit of land here and there. So that is fantastic to see that we are bringing a wee bit of it back home. I know that we'll still have to fight and try to get funding for improvements and all the rest of it but we'll do it because the authorities are not doing it in this area. They've neglected this place for a long long time.

We've managed to achieve community garden space, again it was another neglected bit of ground. It actually still had what the old authority's signage was up on it which used to be under Strathkelvin District Council, so the sign was still up from Strathkelvin District Council, so for over 25 years this land has been left, neglected. It's a small back green that's behind a row of houses in the community and it was overgrown, the paths were overgrown with moss, you couldn't see it. I think the council we have, North Lanarkshire, they came along and they cut the wee square bits of grass but they've never made any effort to clear the pathways and things like that and we noticed during the pandemic that some of those residents were out and trying to walk the space and we thought this is not safe for them, so that was our ignition of going, well these people lived here all their days, they've paid their taxes, they've paid their rent, they've paid their council tax and that bit of land is not getting looked after for them. We tried to address the local authorities about it but nothing was happening, so we took it upon ourselves and we went and we done it, we just claimed it, we took it, we cleared it, we made the paths accessible, we done repairs. I never thought I'd ever know the ratio of sand to water and cement, be able to do crazy paving and things like that you know I've got a lot of mobility issues myself, I've got quite a few diagnosis's that I manage myself, I have really bad reactions to medication so I need to kind of holistically manage what my diagnosis's are so we've had quite a bit of extended family support so we've been able to achieve these things. I'll call on my son and my daughter and the other volunteers they'll call on their grown up kids to come along and help, so again it's those hereditary families and we are now passing on what the next bit of the journey is of what Cardowan is for us. Not for everyone, because everyone ages with different organisations, but we are now carrying forward what we've tried to fight and save and at this point we have and we hope that land that we will also inevitably be able to purchase and bring into community ownership and we hope to be able to that in partnership with the Seven Lochs because it is within the Seven Lochs boundary and initially in the original plans there was supposed to be a gateway and there was supposed to be a viewing platform. So there's lots of things been promised to this Cardowan that have never transpired. It's like the new houses got built, they put bus stops up, we were promised that the bus service would

	<p>come back in, there's never been a public bus service come into this community in 30 years. We're battling that, we've had meetings with SPT. We've kind of pushed them on the issue of coming up here into the community and coming through what is the new estate and all these bus stops that were built and never been utilised. So we're fighting every corner of injustice that's been served to this community and trying to make things better, on really quite a big scale.</p> <p>This is the only accessible building in the community and a lot of the time it's hired out by other groups, keep fit classes, dance classes, things like that. We really need some sort of community centre where there are activities and things that are affordable to everyone. There has to be an inclusive space somewhere in this community and that's what we're really trying to achieve and we will get there, I know we will. It won't happen overnight, it's not happened overnight and we're quite impatient as well, so we've been cracking the whip at a lot of people and moaning at a lot of people because we're also still on our own health journeys, trying to overcome our own traumas and the authorities, the services, have all the information because we've had numerous meetings with them all, we've relayed everything we've experienced and they're still not coming forward and doing much about it which is really quite sad when you're supposed to put your trust in authorities and what have you, and it's just not happening. So today at 4pm there's actually a Council meeting in the Civic Centre and when we're finished here today myself and a couple of the other volunteers have decided that we're going there today. We will be in the public viewing gallery and we will be silent, we will not cause a disturbance but when I leave here I'm going to make some posters and we will stand silently in that viewing gallery and hope those that we've been trying to get to, the Gold Command as they like identify their selves, at the top of North Lanarkshire Council, see us in that wee gallery and they give us that meeting to discuss about the emergency situation in this community that exists and is being neglected from the services that they provide. It's really sad, it's really sad.</p>	
43.52	<i>What are your hopes for the future of Cardowan?</i>	
	<p>Prosperity. Prosperity, that's it. A bit of peace, a bit of peace. That's it, nothing less, nothing more, just a bit of prosperity for the community. Every organisation in an industry that's been here has made plenty off it. As I like to say this community has been robbed and pillaged and nothing's ever been put back into it. Nothing. When your local elected officials can stand and say that they know the area is neglected, that says it all doesn't it? Well do something about it, you're elected by the people to do so, so do it, but some of them don't and that's the sad state of affairs.</p>	44.02-44.44
44.45	<i>Thank you very much AnnMarie</i>	
	You're welcome Sue.	44.51
		
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