

MILNGAVIE

Milngavie is beautiful not just from a visual high street perspective or as an affluent Glasgow suburb that doubles up as the start of the West Highland Way. Scratch below the surface and there is beauty everywhere.

Milngavie in Bloom community volunteers, who have recently achieved a Gold Award from Keep Scotland Beautiful, are funded by the Milngavie businesses to ensure long-term sustainability.

The umbrella “group of groups” consists of circa 12 local organisations who are working with East Dunbartonshire Council to bring community groups together, to collaborate collectively for Milngavie.

As part of the group, the towns’ business improvement district(BID) is developing the digital asset **Milngavie.co.uk** as a fully inclusive platform, integrated with social media channels, for all community groups, businesses and charities to benefit from. It provides a collective marketing platform to reach local residents and the wider community, to inform people about Milngavie’s thriving high street with innovative businesses and over 90 community groups. The brand provides a clear and simple marketing message to encourage people to visit, with ongoing resources from the BID to keep people informed about what Milngavie’s high street has to offer.

The Milngavie Gift Card has 52 businesses participating. This time next year, as unused gift cards expire, funds will be reallocated to new cards and discreetly made available to the working poor and foodbank users, as a gift from Milngavie to those in need.

For a small place, there are lots of **free events** throughout the year for all to enjoy, including the 50th anniversary of “Milngavie Week” in 2020; Classic Car Show; Food and Drink Festival; Healthy Habits fitness festival; Hallowe’en Parade; Christmas Lights Switch on; and Window Wanderland.

Milngavie is encouraging residents to become more active, introducing a **Walking Festival**, to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the West Highland Way. Ongoing public realm improvements continue to enhance the visual appeal of Milngavie, to position the town as a walking destination for all age groups. The BID is working with Visit Scotland high growth team to maximize this potential.

