

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2022 - 2027

AUCHTERARDER AND ABERUTHVEN

INTRODUCTION

This Community Action Plan summarises community views generated from a community views survey which had over 750 responses, engagement with over 40 community groups and priorities voted on at two Community Views Open Days. It also includes information about:

- Auchterarder and Aberuthven – our community now
- Our vision for the future of our community
- Main strategies and priorities – the issues that matter most to the community
- Our plan for priority projects and actions

The plan is our guide for what we - as a community – will try to make happen over the next 5 years.

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BACKGROUND

AUCHTERARDER AND ABERUTHVEN CAP STEERING GROUP

The preparation of the Community Action Plan has been guided by a local steering group which brought together representatives of Auchterarder Community Bus Group, Auchterarder Community Sports and Recreation, Auchterarder & District Community Council, Auchterarder Parish Church, Logos Strathearn Youth Project, The Community School of Auchterarder and its young people, local businesses and interested residents from Aberuthven and Auchterarder.

CONNECTING OUR COMMUNITIES

An underpinning principle, and purpose of the Community Action Plan, is to connect our communities. The whole process has created opportunities for connections to be made among groups, across the communities, with potential partners and with all residents and businesses.



OUR THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART – IT WAS A FANTASTIC RESPONSE AND IDENTIFIES THE PRIORITIES OF THIS COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN.

LOCAL PEOPLE HAVE THEIR SAY

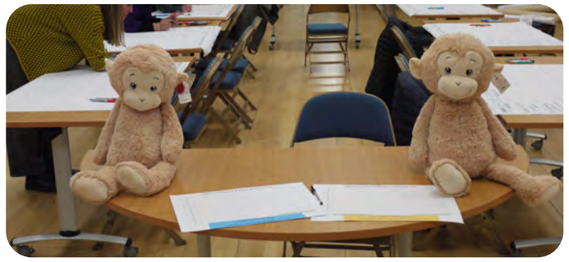
The Community Action Plan was compiled based on the responses gathered through extensive community engagement carried out over a four-month period from November 2021 to February 2022.

The process involved:

- A Community Views Survey, online and delivered to homes across the area
- Stakeholder Interviews, with different groups and individuals representing all aspects of the community
- A Business Survey and a Young Person's Survey
- Compiling a Community Profile, detailing facts and figures about the community
- Two Community Open Days, held on 26th & 27th February 2022.



751 COMMUNITY VIEWS SURVEY FORMS WERE RETURNED
48 STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS WERE HELD, INVOLVING OVER **100** PEOPLE
AROUND 350 PEOPLE ATTENDED THE COMMUNITY OPEN DAYS



AUCHTERARDER AND ABERUTHVEN COMMUNITY PROFILE SUMMARY

We have summarised some of the main facts and figures from the Community Profile below - A report produced to provide a picture of the area as it is now.

A full copy of the profile is available on our web site – www.AandAconnected.co.uk





Location

Located on the southern side of the Strathearn district, Auchterarder and Aberuthven are found amongst some of Scotland's most stunning scenery. Around 14 miles from Perth, 20 miles from Stirling and less than 50 miles from Glasgow and Edinburgh, the area is often described as having the best of both worlds – being rural, yet well connected.

Auchterarder has affectionately been referred to as the "Lang Toon" thanks to it having the longest high street in Scotland.

Population

The most recent estimate of population of the area was 5,691 (Mid-year estimates ONS 2020). Since 2010, the area has experienced a growth in population of around 25% largely due to new housing being built. In comparison, the population of Perth & Kinross Council area as a whole has grown by around 13% in the last 20 years.

Housing & Development

2011 Census statistics shows that Auchterarder has a higher than Scottish/ Regional level of home ownership. The median house prices in 2018 across the five Auchterarder area datazones ranged significantly from £131,000 to £303,000.

There has been significant housing development in the area over the last 10 years. Since the Census in 2011, 603 new houses have been built. Over the next 5 years, the current build programme is set to add another 185 houses.

There is a sheltered housing facility located at Hannover Gardens.



Local Economy and Employment

Weaving was historically the key industry of the area, with the last Mill closing in the 1980's.

Gleneagles is a significant employer in the area, employing more than 1,000 staff. The high street in Auchterarder offers several employment opportunities within the retail and hospitality sector. Health and Social care is also a major source of employment.

Aberuthven Business Park and the business centre in Glenruthven Mill have created much welcomed opportunities for local business to set up and grow. The level of self-employment in the area is considerably higher than Scotland as a whole. Growbiz, a community based enterprise support organisation, provide free mentoring and business support in the rural Perth & Kinross area.



Pre-school & Childcare

There are two private nurseries serving the area and a school nursery in a purpose built facility in the Community School's campus. A privately run pre-school play group operates from the Aytoun hall twice a week and there is a community toddler group in the Parish Church Hall one day a week. Several childminders operate in the area. There is no holiday camp provision provided by Perth & Kinross Council in the area – therefore, children currently have to travel to Crieff or Perth.



Education

The Community School of Auchterarder (TCSoA) provides nursery, primary and secondary education within its Campus. The current school roll is 465 primary, and 559 secondary children. Since 2011 there has been a 48% increase in primary children, and a 13% increase in secondary. There is an After School club for up to 50 children – and a programme of after school activities.

Aberuthven Primary School has a current roll of 25 children, with capacity for 45. Ochil Tower School is a Camphill Community independent residential school for young people with additional support needs.

Health & Care

St Margaret's NHS GP Practice based in Auchterarder services the eastern half of Strathearn - an area of over 100sq miles. The Health Centre was rebuilt in 2003 with an anticipated capacity of 10,000 – but the list size is 10,600 and still growing.

St Margaret's Community Hospital is a 14 bed facility. Perth Royal Infirmary provides Accident and Emergency facility, 11 miles away.

There are 2 dental practices, 2 pharmacies, and 3 care homes in the area.

Emergency Services

There is an unmanned Police Station in Auchterarder. Community Police (2 Officers) cover Kinross and Crieff. Traffic Police cover a large area from Kinross to Lochearn. There is a Fire Station located on Sydney Crescent, Auchterarder with a retained crew. The nearest Ambulance depot is Crieff Ambulance Depot.

Community and Recreation

Facilities currently used by the Community include:

- Aberuthven Village Hall
- Aytoun Hall
- Ochil Tower School
- The Guide Hut
- The Parish Church Hall and community space
- The pavilion at Primrose Park

There are over 25 charities and community groups in the area and 40 recreational and sporting groups.

Youth activities include:

- Aberuthven Village Hall Youth Group
- Logos Strathearn Youth Project provide activities for young people
- Auchterarder Parish Church Youth Club
- Sports Clubs

Churches

- Aberuthven Church
- Auchterarder Parish Church
- Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Auchterarder
- St Kessog's Scottish Episcopal Church, Auchterarder
- St Andrew's United Free Church of Auchterarder





Sports & Recreation facilities include:

- Auchterarder Bowling Club
- Auchterarder Golf Club
- Auchterarder Gymnastics Club
- Auchterarder Public (Primrose) Park
- Core Paths network (Aberuthven and Auchterarder)
- The Community School of Auchterarder indoor and outdoor sports facilities



Environment

The Auchterarder Community Sport and Recreation (ACSR) paths network offers more than 50 miles of routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders and is continually being developed and maintained by the volunteers of the ACSR's Core Paths Working Group.

The main Public Park is Auchterarder Public (Primrose) Park and smaller play parks are present within established housing areas, with a limited number in the newer housing developments. Dunlop Park is an area of greenspace within Auchterarder town centre and Aberuthven Park is located next to Ruthven Water.

Auchterarder has an allotment group, with a site located behind St Margaret's Health Centre. Auchterarder Bloom Association created the seating area at Garrie's Corner, in addition to providing and maintaining floral displays throughout the town. Aberuthven Ablaze maintain floral displays in Aberuthven.



Heritage

The lands of Auchterarder have a very ancient history, first mentioned in a charter of Alexander II of Scotland in 1227. Notable historic buildings include the remains of Auchterarder Castle, Gleneagles Castle, St Kattan Chapel & Montrose Mausoleum, Tullibardine Chapel.

Auchterarder Picture House is in the early stages of an extensive restoration; the 1926 Grade B Listed building operated as a cinema until 1962. The current owners plan to restore it back to its former 1920's glory. When the cinema re-opens it is intended that the space will be set up to be used by local arts and culture groups.

Auchterarder and District Heritage Association promotes interest through talks, walks and information.





Roads and Transport

Access to nearby major towns and cities is via the A9. Transport Scotland is reviewing options for the provision of new or upgraded trunk road junctions.

Gleneagles Railway Station is the closest rail link, being sited around 2 miles from Auchterarder town centre.

In addition to public bus services, there is a Town Bus managed by a community organisation – Auchterarder Community Bus Group (ACBUG) – to provide connections to the town centre and health centre.

ACSR secured funding for a 'Community Cycling Project' providing 6 'free to use' community eBikes, available at a local bike shop.



COMMUNITY VIEWS SURVEY LIKES & DISLIKES

751 responses received from residents via our Community Views Survey. Here is what people said they 'like' about the community now... and what they 'didn't like'.

WHAT PEOPLE LIKE

Lots of off-road routes to run and cycle with local paths improving all the time.

I love the community spirit round here, neighbours helping out when times are tough!

Size - big enough but nice and small so friendly feel.

The recreational path system is extensive and well maintained.

Its location, being very central and on the A9 which gives ready access to almost anywhere in Scotland within a relatively short time

The fact that we're close to Perth and Stirling but still have that feeling of being in the heart of the countryside.

Auchterarder is a thriving and vibrant small town. It has a great range of independent shops and businesses.

The sense of community you get. Everyone is always willing to pull together

Big enough to have facilities but small enough to retain a community feel. Well-kept and looked after. Safe and friendly.

Safe environment for kids to grow up

Focal points of the Aytoun Hall (Auchterarder) and village hall (Aberuthven) for activities.

Strong community feel with plenty of community-based groups, classes, and activities to suit most tastes and needs

The location of the town being close to rural areas and cities

Library and good quality school provision from nursery up to Secondary

A good little supermarket, library, local shops. Two butchers and the fruit and veg shop.

The surrounding countryside is lovely and walking routes around town are excellent

It has a recycling centre.

An excellent community spirit with church groups and other societies sharing the available facilities for events

% of responses

- 48% Community Spirit
- 46% Environment and outdoor recreation
- 44% Local Shops and other Amenities
- 34% Location
- 31% Character of the area: rural, peaceful, safe
- 21% Access to Services
- 10% Community Facilities, Organisations and Activities

WHAT PEOPLE DON'T LIKE

I know of many people who would use the train more if there was a good bus service to and from the station to run alongside train schedules

Bus links to the train station, the bus stops running very early and crossing the motorway after a drink in the city is not ideal

The green space reduced, magnificent old trees cut down and loss of wildlife, all of which are part of Auchterarder's beauty and appeal. STOP BUILDING!

Cars speeding through the village needs to be addressed and the volume of traffic needs to be reduced

In Auchterarder the infrastructure cannot cope with the volume of traffic. The High Street is congested to the point of being dangerous

The graffiti in the oak walk is especially disappointing and really spoils a special walk for us.

High St - so busy and cars go so fast - means I am not comfortable letting my children walk to school

A moratorium on house building - at least until the two-way Shinafoot junction is provided and other infrastructure catches up

Although the Co-op is available, I would like to see a larger supermarket on the outskirts of the town.

No bank, limited parking, no town centre/square

There is very little for kids & teenagers to do other than hang around the parks. There's no swimming pool, youth club, community sports centre etc

Very poor sports facilities - sorry, good facilities but just not open to the public

The expansion of the town has meant a loss of green space, increases pressure on the school and an increase in traffic with noise and pollution

Main Street could be more attractive; perhaps more tree planting would give some greenery

Considering the size of Auchterarder there is few community events

No community square/plaza/ focal point. As a result, a lack of seasonal events

The continual expansion and house building changing the character of the town.

Evening economy is poor - pubs are disappointing and not really suitable for couples

The amount of smashed glass particularly at the bottom on Ruthven street/under the underpass, and in the alley between Ochil Tower School and Glencairn house

As a cyclist, the route to Gleneagles train station, the potholes en route and the strange train times when you get there. I've tried to make it work but feel forced into the car

Antisocial behaviour is not addressed properly by the police

% of responses

- Roads, Pavements, Traffic and Parking 71%
- Community Facilities / Activities and Events 45%
- Town Centre 35%
- Housing Developments 29%
- Community Safety and Antisocial Behaviour 21%
- Transport and Access to Transport 11%

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF AUCHTERARDER & ABERUTHVEN

These five statements have been prepared to summarise the main aspirations for the future as expressed by local people and organisations through the Community Action Plan process.

Keeping the feel of a small rural town...with balanced housing development, great local services and facilities:

"Green spaces are developed and enhanced rather than cut down and built upon."

"A town of good proportions in respect of housing/ business/leisure so people can still achieve country living without Auchterarder being reduced to a commuter town."

"I hope it doesn't become yet another town/village with hundreds of houses and not much else"

A connected and caring community with a strong community spirit:

"A place cared for and caring for local people."

"More community-orientated activities and a neighbourly spirit amongst locals."

"A community that really comes together for events and people get involved."

A welcoming community that promotes health and wellbeing... with excellent recreational and cultural opportunities for all:

"I would like Auchterarder to offer local residents a range of leisure options"

"A town where all ages can find something to do that enhances their life and health"

"Well integrated and purposeful facilities for all ages to improve and maintain healthy lifestyles"



Economically and environmentally sustainable and self-sufficient:

"A self-contained town with better walking/cycling routes to replace car travel"

"I would like to cycle locally and be able to safely secure my electric pedal cycle (if I had one) in a convenient place in the High Street whilst I shopped locally."

"A place that promotes, encourages and supports sustainable practice in businesses and organisations"

A vibrant and attractive town centre to serve both locals and visitors:

"Auchterarder High Street is a genuinely pleasant place to be for both residents and visitors with a continued great range of shops and bars and eateries that can use the larger pedestrianised areas."

"A thriving high street for people, not congested with vehicles"

"A clean, safe and vibrant High Street which presents itself as one of the best Scottish towns"

Auchterarder and Aberuthven will be well connected, but not joined up!:

"That Auchterarder and Aberuthven will not merge together and there is still a green belt between them!"

"For them to remain separate! Aberuthven is a lovely village of its own and with continued building they will end up joined together!"







MAIN STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES

These are the main strategies and priorities to address the issues that matter most to the community. We will work towards achieving these in partnership with public agencies and other supporters.



THEME 1: A HEALTHY AND CONNECTED COMMUNITY

This is a very active community, with many groups and organisations and an excellent community school with great facilities. However, it is also a rapidly growing community and concerns were voiced through the Community Views Surveys, and by stakeholders, that there are insufficient facilities readily available for sport, youth and community recreation for the new population.

Making best use of existing facilities is a priority, whilst also planning for any future needs for sport and recreational facilities. There was a strong feeling in the survey that a local swimming pool should still be on the agenda, despite previous efforts being unsuccessful.

In our growing community, a central point of information would be useful to promote all that is going on while having more community events will support a healthier, better connected and a more cohesive community.

Main priorities:

- Sports and recreation facilities
- Youth facilities and activities
- Community events
- Community facilities

THEME 2: TRAFFIC, PARKING AND TRANSPORT

Auchterarder is known affectionately as the "Lang Toon" and, as one survey response commented, "it's getting longer!" A significant amount of growth in population has occurred. This has resulted in more people using their cars to come into the town centre to access shops and other services. Initiatives such as the Town Bus, the eBike scheme, and the development of a network of paths all try to encourage more active travel routes and minimise car use in the town. However, there is still a way to go and more could be done to reduce reliance on the car and make our community safer, cleaner and healthier. Safe vehicular access to the A9 in both directions and improved local bus, pedestrian and cycle access to Gleneagles Railway Station were also highlighted as key priorities to ensure we stay connected to the wider road and rail networks.

Main priorities:

- Make roads and pavements safer
- Improve parking arrangements in Auchterarder
- Look to improve access to, and across, the A9
- Enhance public transport to meet local needs

THEME 3: HERITAGE, ARTS AND CULTURE

Promoting and celebrating the area's rich history and heritage was raised as being increasingly important, as the towns are growing. We want to move forward, but do not want to lose sight of our heritage and roots.

The Auchterarder and District Heritage Association do great work in researching, interpreting and presenting this history. This will continue to be supported and linked with other themes in particular a healthy and connected community, through the development of heritage trails.

The recent acquisition, and proposed redevelopment, of the old picture house as a community arts venue has been met with great enthusiasm and encouragement from the community. Developing new arts and cultural activities is also crucial, to provide a wider offering for entertainment and learning for all ages.

Main priorities:

- Share, develop and promote our heritage and history
- Support the community arts venue
- Encourage more arts and cultural activities

THEME 4: ENVIRONMENT AND A GREENER COMMUNITY

One of the things people said they liked most about living in this semi-rural area is the access to wonderful countryside for recreation. The existing, and expanding, network of walking and cycling routes is much appreciated and maintaining this is a high priority. Ensuring that the wooded areas and green spaces are not eroded as the town develops is also a priority, along with opportunities for promoting community growing, and more recycling and reuse initiatives. Together with the ambition for more active travel solutions, these actions will lead to a greener and more sustainable community.

The themes within the Community Action Plan are all interwoven, especially so with the Environment and a Greener Community. Actions from this section, ensuring access to the greenspaces and paths within and around our community will result in higher levels of health and wellbeing and increasing opportunities for active travel may result in less congestion in the town centre, too.

Main priorities:

- Extend and connect the network of walking and cycling routes
- Improve and expand community greenspaces and woodland areas
- Develop sustainable communities initiatives
- Promote Active Travel





THEME 5: LOCAL SERVICES AND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

A 25% growth in the population over the last decade has inevitably changed the town and the area. Whilst welcoming the new population to the area and the benefits that brings to the local economy and vibrancy of the community, there are strong concerns voiced that services and infrastructure are now stretched to near capacity. Significant housing growth is planned over the next 12 years, with another 185 houses to be built in the next 5 years alone. The community has indicated it wants to be able to cope with this and hopes that a pause can be put on development to allow action to be taken to bring infrastructure and service provision into line with the developing population.

Working in partnership with Perth & Kinross Council and other service providers will be crucial to implement this strategy successfully.

Main priorities:

- Pause housing development until infrastructure plans are in place
- Ensure adequate education and childcare services
- Explore greater police presence/CCTV
- Improve local banking facilities

THEME 6: TOWN CENTRE AND LOCAL ECONOMY

The "Lang Toon" of Auchterarder is reputed to have the longest high street in Scotland. The lack of a physical focus and a central gathering point in the town centre has been identified. This could be created through pedestrianisation and the addition of seating and planting. Parking, year-round toilet facilities, and safe crossing places were also deemed important to improve the town centre.

As a town centre, Auchterarder offers a strong range of independent shops and eateries much appreciated by locals. Aberuthven compliments Auchterarder in offering a range of business units, a valued village pub and local shop.

It is important to support and promote these, to keep the local economy viable and to attract visitors. However, many people in the survey also commented that an additional supermarket would provide choice and affordability - while others were keen for more variety in the night-time economy.

Main priorities:

- Develop Auchterarder town centre infrastructure
- Promote, develop and support local business
- Increase choice of shopping and entertainment opportunities

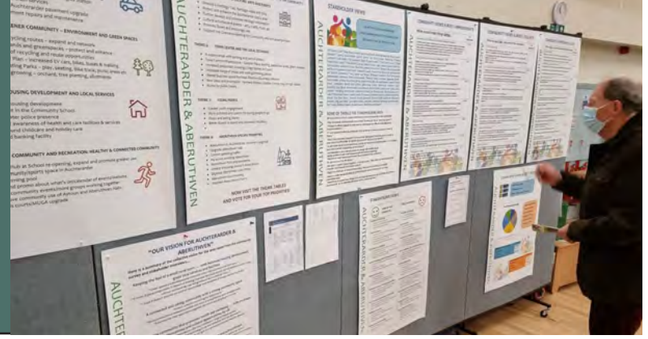






ACTION – TAKING THE FIRST STEPS

This section outlines the plan for priority projects and actions to be started over the next 12 -18 months, noting who will take the lead, and who will be involved, to make it happen.



THEME 1: A HEALTHY AND CONNECTED COMMUNITY

PRIORITY 1 - Sports and Recreation Facilities

- Re-open the Sports Hub within the community school
- Auchterarder Public (Primrose) Park Upgrade – upgrade play facilities and add a Pump Track and Mountain Bike area
- Upgrade and promote use of the existing facilities i.e. Multi use games area courts at TCSoA
- Confirmation of the development of the area set aside behind TCSoA as a dedicated sports and recreation area.
- Maintain the long term vision of a swimming pool
- Sports groups to work together to share plans and secure funds

Action by: Auchterarder & District Community Sports Hub (A&DCSHub), Auchterarder Community Sports and Recreation (ACSR), Live Active Leisure (LAL) Community Sports Hub Coordinator, Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) Community Greenspace, The Community School of Auchterarder (TCSoA) and local Active Schools Coordinator

PRIORITY 2 - Youth Facilities and Activities

- Promote existing youth facilities and activities
- Look at setting up a 'safe space' for young people
- Formalise Volunteering Awards
- Strengthen partnerships between the school and the community

Action by: LEAD: Logos
In partnership with: Aberuthven Primary, Aberuthven Village Hall, ACSR Sport & Recreation Working Group, Auchterarder Parish Church (APC), local Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYPs), PKC Community Outreach Worker, PKC Social Prescriber, Parents Supporting Parents, Strathearn and Strathallan Local Action Partnership (SESA) and TCSoA

PRIORITY 3 - Community Events

- Involve other organisations and businesses in the local running festival, to make it a larger community event
- Bring together a group to organise a gala style event
- Develop and promote other community events, including using the TCSoA campus

Action by: LEAD: Community Connector
In partnership with a new Community Gala or Events Committee, ACSR, APC, Five Star Active, TCSoA and TCSoA Parent Council

PRIORITY 4 Community Facilities

- Increase use of the Aytoun Hall and offer more community access
- Improve Aberuthven Village Hall – facilities and storage
- Investigate upgrading TCSoA to a 'Community Campus'
- Initiate feasibility study for the community purchase of Stewart Milne Building for Group Hub, Mens' Shed, Small Business Office Space, Youth Centre etc
- Promote community facilities & spaces through new community website

Action by Aberuthven Village Hall Group, ACSR, APC, Friends of Aytoun Hall, Live Active Leisure, Perth & Kinross Council, SESA – and a potential new Community Assets Group/SCIO

THEME 2: ROADS, TRAFFIC & TRANSPORT

PRIORITY 1 - Make roads and pavements safer

- Establish a Traffic and Public Transport Working Group to address traffic management in both Auchterarder and Aberuthven, with the aim to reduce both congestion and speeding
- Investigate new/upgraded wider, suitably surfaced, footpath/pavement between Aberuthven and Auchterarder
- Review the case for additional pedestrian crossing points on the High Street and Feus in Auchterarder
- Investigate the potential for new cycle route(s), including a link from the west of the town with TCSoA

Action by: LEAD: New Traffic and Public Transport Working Group
In partnership with: Auchterarder & District Community Council, Auchterarder Community Sports and Recreation (ACSR) Core Paths Working Group, Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) Traffic and Road Safety Team(s), Police Scotland and TCSoA

PRIORITY 2 - Improve parking arrangements in Auchterarder

- Create Auchterarder town centre parking plan covering management of existing facilities and identification of additional parking opportunities within the town
- Investigate potential for long-term parking areas outwith Auchterarder town centre, including park and ride options

Action by: LEAD: New Traffic and Public Transport Working Group
In partnership with: Auchterarder & District Community Council, Auchterarder retailers, High Street residents and PKC Traffic Team

PRIORITY 3 - Look to improve access to, and across, the A9

- In partnership with Auchterarder & District Community Council provide a Community Forum for on-going liaison with Scottish Government and Transport Scotland about the location and facilities at future grade separated junction(s) on A9
- Look to improve pedestrian / cycling facilities over the A9

Action by: LEAD: New Traffic and Public Transport Working Group
Auchterarder & District Community Council, ACSR Core Paths Working Group, Community Connector, Scottish Government and Transport Scotland

PRIORITY 4 - Enhance public transport to meet local needs

- Review coverage of local bus services, including gaps in timetables, better co-ordination, and future role of the Town Bus
- Address improved bus-rail co-ordination at Gleneagles Station
- Produce a public transport guide for Auchterarder and Aberuthven covering bus, rail and express coach service and ensure it is promoted widely
- Liaise with Tactran and Strathallan Community Rail Partnership (CRP) to consider improvements to train provision and address rail fare anomalies at Gleneagles Railway Station

Action by: LEAD: New Traffic and Public Transport Working Group
In partnership with: Auchterarder Community Bus Group (ACBUG), Docherty's Midland Coaches, PKC Public Transport Team, SESA, Strathallan CRP and Tactran (Regional Transportation Partnership)



THEME 3: HERITAGE, ARTS AND CULTURE

PRIORITY 1 - Share, develop and promote our heritage and history

- Create digitally supported heritage trails – one within Auchterarder and another longer trail including Aberuthven
- Develop and promote heritage walks and talks
- Share information about the Friends of Aytoun Hall (FOAH) tapestry and promote access to the Aytoun Hall for viewing the heritage boards

Action by: LEAD: Auchterarder and District Local History Association
In partnership with ACSR Core Paths Working Group, FOAH and Strathearn Heritage Trust

PRIORITY 2 - Support the Community Arts Venue

- Support renovation and reopening of Auchterarder Picture House
- Explore the potential of using the Picture House as a 'heritage hub'

Action by: LEAD: Auchterarder Picture House
In partnership with Auchterarder Creative Arts Academy and Strathearn Heritage Trust

PRIORITY 3 - Encourage more arts and cultural activities

- Promote the work of the Auchterarder Creative Arts Academy
- Support and Promote the Auchterarder Adult Education Association and other local art, culture, photography and craft activities
- Support music within the community e.g. school music events, school musicians visiting care homes, Auchterarder & District Rotary Club Young Musicians

Action by Auchterarder Adult Education Association, Auchterarder Creative Arts Academy, APC, Auchterarder & District Rotary Club and TCSoA Music Department







THEME 4: ENVIRONMENT AND A GREENER COMMUNITY

PRIORITY 1 - Extend and connect network of walking and cycling routes

- Expansion of paths network to create a circular loop – Ruthven Water, Mill Lade/ Lundies walk, Castleton
- Increase community engagement with Auchterarder Community Sports and Recreation (ACSR) Core Paths Working Group path tidy activities
- Explore opportunities for cycle paths on roads

Action by: LEAD: ACSR Core Paths Working Group
In partnership with Aberuthven Paths Group, Paths for All, Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) Community Greenspace Ranger and SUSTRANS

PRIORITY 2 - Improve and expand community greenspaces and woodland areas

- Enhance existing greenspaces: explore opportunities for native tree planting projects / forest garden and recreation in land north of Kincardine Park, Castlemains and other areas.
- Develop community greenspace within Auchterarder town centre e.g. benches and planting in Dunlop park, (town centre) pocket gardens created at heritage and information points
- Support Auchterarder In Bloom and Aberuthven Ablaze with developing links to the schools
- Explore whether Section 75 funding can be used to invest in a park/wetland in the Castleton area

Action by: LEAD: ACSR Greenspaces Working Group
In partnership with Aberuthven Ablaze, Auchterarder & District Rotary Club, Auchterarder In Bloom and PKC Community Greenspaces

PRIORITY 3 - Develop sustainable communities initiatives

- Expand recycling opportunities and support retention of the Community Recycling Facility
- Promote the sharing of growing resource – ie Aberuthven Hall herb garden, allotment surplus stock, Fresh Friday
- Create partnerships between school eco committees and local Community Groups
- Promote community cycling projects and eBike use within, and around, Auchterarder and Aberuthven

Action by: LEAD: ACSR
In partnership with Auchterarder Allotment Association, Auchterarder Parish Church (APC) community garden, PKC and The Community School of Auchterarder (TCSoA)

PRIORITY 4 - Promote Active Travel

- Work with TCSoA to encourage families to decrease car use to and from the school. Explore the possibility of extra crossing points, safe cycle routes and campus air monitoring survey
- Link to PKC to explore "20 minute neighbourhood" initiatives
- "Active Travel" promotion via information on networks, paths, etc
- Linking fully accessible bridge over A9 to core path network
- Link into Traffic & Public Transport working group to keep active travel in consideration

Action by: LEAD: ACSR Core Paths Group
In partnership with PKC, TCSoA, TCSoA Parent Council and Traffic and Public Transport Working Group





THEME 5: LOCAL SERVICES AND HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

PRIORITY 1 - Pause housing development until infrastructure plans are in place

- Facilitate Auchterarder & District Community Council and Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) meeting to discuss plans for infrastructure – business/retail Space, Kincardine Park site, roads, school

Action by: LEAD: A&D Community Council
In partnership with Local Councillors and MSPs

PRIORITY 2 - Ensure adequate education and childcare services

- Research demand for local school pupil holiday programme provision – including sharing existing options and identifying gaps in provision
- Explore further wraparound care options within Aberuthven
- Discuss primary capacity with TSCoA

Action by: LEAD: TSCoA Parent Council
In partnership with Aberuthven Primary, Auchterarder Community Sports and Recreation (ACSR), Auchterarder Parish Church (APC), PKC Education department and TCSoA

PRIORITY 3 - Explore greater Police presence / CCTV

- CCTV project implementation
- Encourage Police to be more proactive with Auchterarder & District Community Council
- Liaise with new Community Officer to discuss community concerns

Action by: LEAD: Auchterarder & District Community Council
In partnership with Police Community Officer

PRIORITY 4 - Improve local banking facilities

- Share information about current provisions on new community website and digital noticeboards
- Explore offering with mobile banking facilities

Action by: LEAD: Auchterarder & District Community Council

THEME 6: TOWN CENTRE AND LOCAL ECONOMY

PRIORITY 1 - Develop Auchterarder town centre infrastructure

- Review town centre enhancement proposals from Charette Report (2015) – physical enhancement of High Street and Dunlop Park
- Explore creation of a forum for High Street business owners to discuss developments
- Enhance information signage

Action by: LEAD: Auchterarder & District Community Council and Auchterarder Community Sports and Recreation (ACSR)
In partnership with Auchterarder in Bloom, Community Connector, Perth & Kinross Council and Traffic and Public Transport Working Group

PRIORITY 2 - Promote develop and support local business

- Work with local businesses to create a Business Network / Directory, if appropriate
- Work with Growbiz to promote the support available to rural businesses
- Promote Auchterarder and Aberuthven as a destination for independent shops to attract similar businesses to the area
- Develop tourist facilities and information
- Explore recognition/award schemes for Independent High Streets
- Explore small business hub

Action by: LEAD: Local businesses
In partnership with Community Connector, Growbiz and Strathallan Local Area Partnership

PRIORITY 3 - Increase choice of shopping and entertainment opportunities

- Share survey information with the current business owners in the town and explore their plans for development
- Explore feasibility of larger supermarket
- Promote, expand, and support community entertainment

Action by: LEAD: Local businesses
In partnership with Auchterarder Creative Arts Academy, Community connector and website



MAKING IT HAPPEN

This Community Action Plan is for the whole community, and it is hoped that the whole community will get involved in making it happen. The Steering Group are grateful to everyone for the terrific response throughout the consultation process and intend to build on this positivity by creating more opportunities for people to feel empowered to be a part of seeing their suggestions and ideas develop.

We believe it can happen by strengthening communication and connection - within our community, with Perth and Kinross Council, with rural support organisations and with other communities empowered by their Community Action Plan journey.

To take forward some of the ambitions, we believe it would be helpful to set up some new community groups e.g. a Business Network, a Community Assets Group, and a Traffic and Public Transport Working Group. In addition to this, funding has been secured to maintain the role of Community Connector to support specific priorities and to facilitate communications and connections across the community.





Working Together

- We will build upon the success of the Community Open Days by developing a forum for community groups to meet regularly.
- A working group of stakeholders from each theme will meet periodically to discuss progress within each theme.
- Our community website will form a virtual hub, where people can learn about local volunteering groups and connect to contribute their ideas, skills and time.
- Our Community Council will keep the 6 themes on their monthly agenda, with groups invited to provide updates, discuss plans and request support.
- We will strengthen our partnerships with Perth & Kinross Council (PKC) – engage with "Perth & Kinross Offer" which is a 5 year plan which sets out how PKC will work alongside communities to support and empower people to make the positive changes identified locally. The principles of the offer: Bold Vision, Think Yes, Collaboration and Kindness align well with the values of our CAP.

Keeping the Plan under review

The plan, plus regular updates from the individual groups, will be available on the community web site: www.AandAConnected.co.uk

An annual Community Action Plan event will be held to celebrate the successes of the plan and report back to the community on how the plan is progressing.

HANDS UP FOR OUR COMMUNITY! GET IN TOUCH AND GET INVOLVED

If you are interested in getting involved in any of the projects or groups mentioned in the Community Action Plan, please get in touch at aanda.cap@gmail.com.

Auchterarder and Aberuthven Community Action Plan



AUCHTERARDER & ABERUTHVEN COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2022 - 2027

This Community Action Plan sets out the priorities for Auchterarder & Aberuthven over the next 5 years as determined by the community through a process of extensive community engagement carried out over 4 months from November 2021 to February 2022.

The Community Action Plan contains
- A summary of our Community Profile
- Our main likes and dislikes as identified in our Community Views Survey
- Our Vision for the future of the area
- The main Themes and Priorities for action
- Information on how to stay in touch and get involved.

The Community Action Plan is for the whole community and is jointly owned by all the organisations and individuals that took part in its preparation. We will all be working together to ensure its implementation over the next 5 years.

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all the Community Action Plan Steering Group members and other volunteers who contributed their time and effort to this process.

The work was supported by our local Community Connector – Ang Laurie – who did an amazing job of involving so many voices from the community.

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