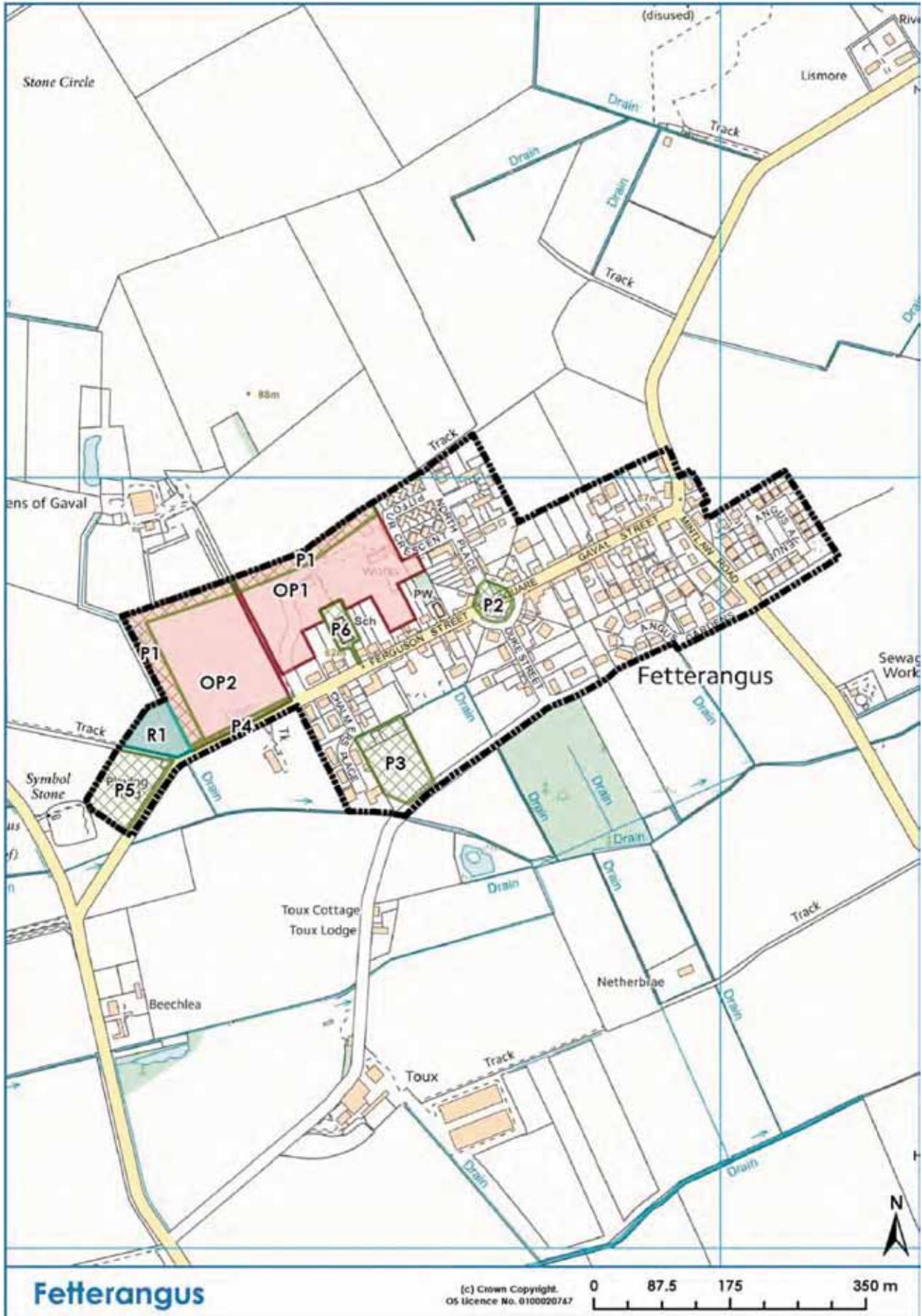


Fetterangus Community Action Plan

November 2015



OPI - land for up to 26 houses (including 6 affordable homes)
OP2 - land for up to 27 houses (including 6 affordable homes)

Introduction

The village of Fetterangus lies some ten miles west of Peterhead in North Aberdeenshire. As a settlement it dates back to pre-history, and the name Fetterangus is said to be derived from the Gaelic *Fo-thir Aonaich* meaning “land before a hill” despite the fact that there is no hill! The village is colloquially known as “Fishie”. Reasons for this abound (including tales of fish wives and harbours) but it would appear that in reality it has some connection with an earlier settlement.

Today’s village was established in 1752 as a “planned village” by the third James Ferguson of Pitfour as a centre for his estate workers and for tradespeople serving the estate. It supported a wide range of shops and services as well as two Churches and the Public Hall which was a place for meetings and entertainment.

Fetterangus Today

Population and Housing

According to the 2011 census figures, the population of Fetterangus has risen to 468. New housing has been built in the village in the last 10 years and the school roll sits at 35. The majority of the working age population continue to work outwith the village.

Today’s Facilities

Although Fetterangus has lost all of the shops and some of

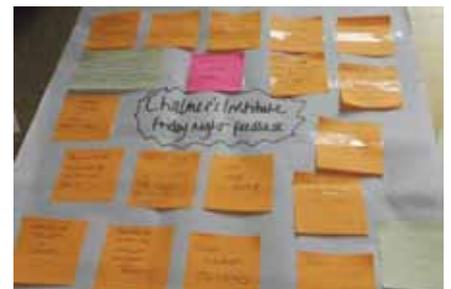
the services mentioned above, there is still a good community spirit. The pub and village hall (Chalmer’s Institute) are the key focal points for social events in the community. Adjacent to the village hall is a children’s play area which is located opposite the small but very active village primary school. As well as a range of sporting opportunities eg tennis, football etc, a network of footpaths has been developed around the village. Fetterangus Church (Church of Scotland) is a Grade C listed Building situated in the centre of the village and shares a Minister with Deer Parish Church, Old Deer.

The Community Association is central to much of the village activity. In 2002/3 the Association, assisted by Buchan Development Partnership carried out a community consultation using the Planning for Real® process. This was given the eye catching title of “PUFF” (planning undertaken for the future of Fetterangus). A further review was held in 2008 and the outcomes used to create a Community Action Plan outlining the key priorities for the residents of Fetterangus.

After the first PFR®, a fact finding visit was organised to Westray to study the community use of renewable energy on the island and to explore how this could be developed in Fetterangus. From this visit the community wind turbine project was born.



Planning for Real® 2015.



Consultation.



Councillor support.



Foundations for the turbine with school pupils.



Cutting the ribbon.



Wind turbine.

Big Lottery funding of £380,443 was secured in 2009 to help the Community Association take forward its “Puff Power” project and Triodos Bank provided a loan. Fetterangus Power Ltd was established as a wholly owned single share company owned by Fetterangus Community Association. A new 800kw turbine was purchased and in March 2013 senior pupils from Fetterangus Primary School cut the first turf on the site. This ambitious project took eight years from initial conception to delivering an expected £75,000 a year income for the community. The money generated will go towards providing and maintaining community assets, reducing fuel poverty and supporting and growing community clubs and organisations.

In 2015 another consultation exercise was held to review the results of previous consultations and to identify the key future priorities for the community. The model of the village, created for the original consultation in 2002 was located, refreshed and used again. Residents were invited to come along to a Friday evening cheese and wine or a soup and sweet event the following day to give their views. Primary schoolchildren from P4-7 classes also came along to participate.

The results of all these sessions were prioritised at a follow up event and as a result, this second Community Action Plan has been produced.

Comments below from community attending the consultation events

What I like about living in Fetterangus ...

“good community spirit”

“great place to bring up families”

“quiet friendly village”

“community spirit, security, location, space and pub”

“the playpark, the school, the football pitch”

What could be better ...

“village shop, play park, hall parking, hall facilities”

“speed limit reduced entering village”

“the public toilets and the playpark”

“village events in hall”

“monthly newsletter - communication about what’s going on”

Fetterangus: Buchan Community Plan 2013-2016

This is the Community Plan for Buchan which sets out the Buchan Community Planning Group's main actions for the next three years. More information about Community Planning in Buchan and Aberdeenshire can be found on www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk

Priorities For Buchan Include:

- **Children and Early Years**
- working with partners to improve the health and wellbeing children and to give them the best possible start in life
- **Local Economy**
- working with partners to make the area a great place to live, work and invest in. This priority tackles issues such as transport, fuel poverty, tourism and events and digital connectivity
- **Employment**
- working with partners to provide a range of employment services and opportunities to those who are furthest from the workplace

- **Health and Physical Activity** - working with partners to improve health and wellbeing.
- **Older People**
- working with partners to identify actions and priorities for older people in Buchan.
- **Community Safety**
- working with partners to deliver community safety priorities which include - road safety, alcohol, domestic violence, drugs, youth disorder/underage drinking, serious/violent crime, vandalism/graffiti, fire safety, neighbour disputes.
- **Our Communities**
- to work with partners to support measures which help make our communities successful, inclusive and resilient.

Communities such as Fetterangus have an important role to play in helping to address these priorities through the provision and development of facilities, activities and services in the village.



Fun activities.



Involving young people.



Basketball court.



Bowling green.



Car parking at football matches.



Damp in hall.

The top four priorities to emerge from the consultation are outlined below.

Lack of shop/convenience store

This was an issue raised by all ages. Fetterangus is only a short journey from Mintlaw - a much larger settlement which supports several convenience stores and food outlets. The viability of a shop in Fetterangus is therefore a challenge. However there are other alternatives to be explored - eg an initiative at the Hall with CFINE or a community run outlet. One of the shops in Mintlaw provides a free delivery service for orders over £20.00 and this could be promoted locally.

Improve recreational facilities

There was a need identified to improve the recreational facilities in the village. These include the playing fields, covered tennis court, pavilion and play areas. Plans to extend the cemetery adjacent to the playing fields are at an advanced stage and there is an opportunity to develop facilities in conjunction with this work. A group are already formed and working on plans for a pavilion and all weather surface which would be available for community and school use as well as being a much needed home base for the local Buchan Girls and Ladies Football Club.

Improvements to the Chalmer's Institute

There were many comments around improving the interior of the Hall. In recent years, work has been carried out externally to improve the building but internally a major refurbishment is needed to meet the current needs of the community. At the prioritisation it was decided to look at the activities and ideas for the hall and to ask architects to come up with their ideas on how the hall space could be altered and improved to accommodate a range of uses.

A working group has been formed and is working with the community to develop hall improvements.

Environmental improvements - particularly The Square

The community clearly value the appearance of the village and Fetterangus has featured in the top three in the Buchan in Bloom competition in recent years. There was a need identified to revamp the Square area in particular. Aberdeenshire Council (Landscape Services) offered to help with plans and general advice on potential layout of this area.

Many other suggestions received support and these are listed on pages 7 - 9.

A summarised Action Plan can be found on pages 10 - 11.

Community/Leisure

- **Community Café** - this is to be incorporated into the hall improvement project
- **Cashpoint** - at the prioritisation event this was discussed - the pub does cashback but this is not ideal for everyone - an alternative suggestion was to use a taxi service to access the three cashpoints in Mintlaw.
- **General activities for all ages/interests** - there were many ideas for activities and clubs - eg after school club, day centre for older people, exercise classes, photography, pool/snooker, arts and crafts, computer classes, regular soup and sweets, activities for over 50s etc. These ideas will be taken into account when considering the hall refurbishment. Other solutions included using community transport to take people to events/activities out with the village.
- **Improved play areas for all age groups** - Aberdeenshire Council are currently reviewing their

Strategy which aims to rationalise areas to create single, better areas for all ages. Sites need to be identified and well thought out - it would be beneficial to get a working group including children and parents to plan and progress this.

- **Skatepark** - There were requests for a skatepark to be built in the village. Community Learning and Development have done some initial work with young people from the village on this but they will need support from the Community Association to progress this.
- **Footpath required between village and cemetery/playing fields** - this is planned to be completed shortly.
- **School** - the community clearly value and support the Primary School and would like to ensure it remains open for future generations.

Other issues which were raised included - subsidising small groups to use the hall, helping with Church bills to keep it open, new noticeboards, starting a community newsletter, community minibuss and



Fetterangus sign.



Beside cemetery.



Hall kitchen.



Signage.



Post box.



Parking in the village.

community use of photocopier/ printer.

Traffic/Transport

- **Speeding Traffic** - Many people at the consultation raised the issue of speeding traffic - particularly at the entrances to the village. At the prioritisation event, it was agreed that this would be investigated further by Aberdeenshire Council - particularly the position of the speed limit signs.
- **Paved area around post box** - the area around the post box is inaccessible for wheelchairs
- **Positioning of bus shelters** - these need reviewed - in particular there is no bus shelter on the side of the road where the Academy pupils wait for the school bus but there is on the other side where they get off the bus to walk home.
- **Bus services** - the 67 service enters the village but the community would like the 68 to detour round into the village too. This could be brought up by a representation from the

community attending a local bus forum meeting.

- **Car parking issues** - there is a lack of parking within the village, particularly when there are events in the Hall and Park. This is to be looked at alongside the hall and recreation projects mentioned previously.

Environmental Issues

- **More floral displays/ planting/seating around the village** - this included the entrances to the village, Angus Avenue and Angus gardens
- **Development of Duke Street Woods** - there were a variety of suggestions for developing this space - the majority of which were about creating an environmental space with paths and planting. It was suggested that this area was gifted to the School so this needs to be clarified first.
- **Development of area behind Church** - there were various suggestions for uses for this space from environmental to workspace. This area is currently privately owned.
- **Cemetery** - plans to extend the cemetery are at an advanced stage. There was a call for seating and a cold

water tap to be included and a place to scatter/bury ashes.

- **Dog Fouling** - areas where this was identified as a problem include - airfield, hall, cemetery, square, football park, Gavel road - It was agreed the Community Association should contact the Dog Warden to work with them to help improve the problem.
- **Allotments/food growing/ community composting** - this could be looked at as part of the potential development of Duke Street Woods (once the ownership issue is clarified). Further feasibility work would be required to establish the real demand for this.
- **Tidy up** - specific areas around the village were identified as needing tidied up - eg the entrance to Angus Gardens, overgrown shrubs at the bowling green/tennis

courts, football park, field behind Angus Gardens.

Work and Training

There were very few comments under this theme - issues around provision of community workspace, faster broadband and the provision of training courses locally were brought up.

Health

Similarly, Health attracted very few comments. Issues around the local provision of a GP Surgery and associated health services were brought up.

Housing

Since the last community consultation, new housing has been built in the village. There were one or two comments on this topic and these were around the provision of housing for young people (starter homes), family housing and sheltered housing. In the new Local Development Plan (see page 2), land has been allocated for over 50 new housing including 12 affordable homes. There were also comments around renovating and promoting the use of the garage blocks behind the Church.



Dog bins.



Play area.



New housing.

	Independent	Partnership	External Agency
Community Facilities & Activities	Community Noticeboard and newsletter	Hall Refurbishment Community Cafe After School Activities General Activities for all ages/interests Shop/vending/mobile shop Improved play areas Improved recreational facilities Skatepark	Keep the School Cashpoint
Local Environment	More floral planters/seating and environmental areas Tidy up - Angus Gardens	Improvements to the Square - benches/planting etc Development of Duke Street Woods area into greenspace/community parkland for community use Development of area behind Church Tidy up football park/cemetery Tidy up behind hall/tennis courts	Cemetery - provide bench and tap

	Independent	Partnership	External Agency
Traffic and Transportation		<p>Dog Fouling- various places in the village and at airfield</p> <p>Allotments/food growing/ composting</p> <p>Footpath between village and playing field</p> <p>Car parking issues in village</p>	<p>Speeding Traffic at entrances to the village</p> <p>Paved area around postbox</p> <p>Bus Shelters in village - particularly Mintlaw road and the school children have one on the side they get off at - whereas it would be more useful to have the shelter on the side where they wait in the morning</p> <p>Bus services - 67 Ellon bus comes in but the 68 Fraserburgh/ Strichen/Aberdeen does not</p>

Partners who may help to deliver the above

Aberdeenshire Council Services:-
Education and Children's Services
Health and Social Care
Infrastructure Services
Business Services

Private Investors

Businesses based on or working from the site

Other Agencies:-

Buchan Community Safety Partnership

Police Scotland

Grampian Fire and Rescue Service

NHS Grampian

This booklet is one of a series produced by Local Rural Partnerships together with the community under the banner Making It Real.

The initiative is sponsored by Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership and run by Aberdeenshire Community Economic Development Co-ordinators Forum. The aim is to provide community action plans in an attractive, easy to read, professionally printed format.

For most communities, the content of each community

plan is based on the results of Planning for Real® exercises carried out by the communities themselves, together with any other available reports. This process ensures that the plans are truly community-led.

This information can now guide the community and Community Planning Partners in drawing up detailed action plans to implement the top priorities as well as addressing the other issues which have been identified. For each priority or issue this will involve agreeing who should be involved, what

resources will be needed and target dates for completion. It is hoped that this process will be driven by representatives of the community with support - moral, technical and financial - from the relevant partners.

It is important that this booklet is seen by all concerned as an account of the community's views at the time of the latest consultation, and that it will have to be regularly reviewed and updated. As some projects are completed, other issues will arise and take their place in future versions of the community plan.

Thanks are due to Fetterangus
Community Association
for assisting with the
Planning For Real® review and
prioritisation event.

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