

Crieff Community Action Plan  
Community Futures Event

Summary Report of the Voting and Comments  
September 2012



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## ATTENDANCE

### **314 people signed in**

In addition to signing in, people were able to provide their contact details if they wanted to 'stay in touch' with one of the themes. These lists have been retained by the steering group and will be used to keep people informed and involved.



This Community Event was organised and recorded using the guidelines and templates provided by the Small Town and Rural Development Group as part of their Community Futures Programme.

## THEME 1: TOWN CENTRE

VOTES	PRIORITIES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE
248	Take action on derelict and empty buildings. e.g. Drummond Arms, Old Library, Churches etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action required urgently on derelict properties – they are a potential health/danger of death hazard</li> <li>These great Victorian buildings should attract people to Crieff, not put them off visiting</li> <li>Drummond Arms – become a community/arts centre, made into flats, knocked down and made into garden space, youth hostel</li> <li>Please try to re-open Crieff Community Hall, turn it into a community/youth centre</li> <li>Community Hall is past its sell by date, totally neglected suffers irreparable damage</li> <li>Knock down Strathearn Hotel and turn it into car parking for town</li> <li>Make permanent use of the Old Library</li> </ul>
95	Support and promote local shops e.g. shop fronts in keeping with local architecture Joint promotion of arts and crafts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shop local – if you don't use it you lose it</li> <li>Help promote local shops with good listings/advertising</li> <li>Introduce 'Crieff Crowns' or 'Coo Coins' a local currency to be spent in local stores. If people want to support local business this is a clear way of doing it</li> <li>Planning issues – less takeaways, more control over shop frontages, reduce rates</li> <li>Pity we have allowed Tesco in – bad move</li> </ul>
78	Resolve parking problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make car parking in car parks free – reinforce parking restrictions in High Street</li> <li>Need to encourage trade – make all parking free, remove unsightly yellow lines etc...</li> <li>Copy Dumfries parking system, pay for parking pass which can be reused</li> <li>Need to encourage spontaneous parking to encourage tourists to stop</li> <li>Meter streets and give resident permits</li> </ul>
65	Improve 'non motorised' access in and around town centre e.g. pedestrian area, bike friendly, covered market area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pedestrian area is a must</li> <li>Cycle park required</li> <li>Cycle path would be fantastic</li> <li>Cycleway from Crieff to Comrie along the old railway line</li> <li>Bike friendly routes to school</li> <li>Need to improve footpaths on High Street</li> </ul>
50	Resolve Traffic problems e.g. reduce heavy lorry traffic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By pass essential –NOW- not in 50 years</li> <li>Designated times for delivery lorries to park outside shops</li> <li>High Street is really dangerous, pavements too narrow and tractors and other heavy vehicles go much too fast</li> <li>Need to sort out unloading/parking on High street. Often High Street becomes one way due to irresponsible parking</li> <li>Make Comrie Street one way going east</li> </ul>
37	Town Centre enhancement e.g. street furniture, info boards, benches etc all upgraded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amazing how a few hanging baskets and a lick of paint can make a town look pretty and a nice place to stop.</li> <li>Keep weeds under control</li> <li>Good window dressers required</li> <li>Public art – interactive</li> </ul>
12	Anti social behaviour in town centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community support for law enforcement</li> <li>Rehab services for addicted community members</li> <li>Litter control</li> </ul>

## THEME 2: TRANSPORT & SERVICES

VOTES	PRIORITIES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE
134	Retain Crieff Cottage Hospital services and wards and improve on NHS 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crieff Hospital is vital to this town</li> <li>• With an ageing population the Community Hospital is a godsend for older people and their relatives for visiting</li> <li>• We need to keep our local hospital for the sanity of carers who look after families</li> <li>• I have objected to moving staff to Perth and closing clinics at Crieff</li> <li>• Good to have paediatric 24 hour service – it's an invaluable service</li> </ul>
73	Improve public transport e.g. to Campus, PRI, Dunblane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve bus service to Dunblane and Stirling</li> <li>• Services need to be integrated with train timetable at Dunblane and Gleneagles</li> <li>• Need more trains stopping at Gleneagles and use as Park and Ride</li> <li>• Local bus required through to late evening, including to and from the Campus</li> <li>• Have current local bus timetables readily available.</li> <li>• Better bus service from Perth in the evenings between 9pm and 11pm</li> <li>• Extend Ring of Breadalbane Explorer period of operation</li> </ul>
69	Improve Broadband. Open air broadband, 3G/4G even Edge?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is very important for businesses in the town and homeworkers</li> <li>• 3G is a must in this day surely – pressure on O2 and vodaphone required</li> <li>• Free wi-fi around town centre</li> <li>• DAB radio – improve signal</li> </ul>
23	Develop Learning Centre programme to offer more classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extend more Perth Learning College evening classes to our Learning Centre</li> <li>• Gaelic for all</li> <li>• More exposure – better workshops in High School classes for pupils who may want to develop new skills</li> </ul>

## THEME 3: TOURISM – MARKETING & PROMOTION

VOTES	PRIORITIES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE
95	Develop strong identity and brand – and use to promote town in a co-ordinated way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build on existing strengths to get tourists to spend time here – historical hub, drovers, arts and crafts, book town</li> <li>• Crieff – Gateway to Highland Perthshire and Highlands</li> <li>• Promote as a walking/cycling hub</li> <li>• Coo toun – genuine heritage about Crieff could be rolled out as a strong Crieff identity</li> <li>• A centralised events co-ordinator who brings all Strathearn events together</li> <li>• Cohesive connection of events/marketing/branding etc</li> <li>• More happening on the High St on Sundays – there is nothing for tourists to do</li> </ul>
37	Develop and promote a programme of events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need a prominent central community diary for people and groups to know what's on</li> <li>• With so much local talent the town could become a place where people could stay for weekend breaks and take part in particular themed events</li> <li>• Annual festival separate from the Crieff Gathering</li> <li>• Recent exhibition Celebrate Crieff was excellent should become a regular</li> </ul>
24	Improve signage to Crieff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crieff ought to be signposted when leaving A9 from south (not Crianlarach)</li> </ul>
22	Improve visitor information e.g. website, noticeboard. Improve location of Tourist Information Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tourist Information and Visitor Centre – very confusing to newcomers</li> <li>• Is it easy for visitors to know that MacRosty Park is there?</li> <li>• Crieff relies on revenue from tourism</li> <li>• Therefore keep the surrounding area clear of wind turbines</li> </ul>

## THEME 4: COMMUNITY & RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

VOTES	PRIORITIES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE
137	Community Arts/Music/Drama venue(s) in Town Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use existing redundant buildings for a useful community purpose</li> <li>• Community Arts Centre in the Drummond similar to White Church and Aytoun Hall</li> <li>• Plus theatre for films, drama, singing etc... with flexible space for workshops, family ceilidhs etc –like Birnam – draw people to the town</li> <li>• Art House cinema – with a glass of wine</li> <li>• And at a sensible cost for hire/use</li> <li>• Knock down the Drummond Arms and rebuild as a purpose designed building – it's cheaper!</li> </ul>
65	Improve and develop outdoor sports pitches and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More usable sports pitches needed to support efforts of Crieff Juniors Football club</li> <li>• Develop a hub, review best option for facility</li> <li>• More grass pitches to develop football. Needs to be a building near the campus</li> <li>• Braidhaugh pitches get severe flooding every year. Drainage seems to be a big problem</li> <li>• Market Park improvements – perimeter path, improve pavilion</li> <li>• Floodlights</li> <li>• Reduce cost of hire of pitches etc. Support coaches and sportsmen to encourage children with sport</li> </ul>
52	Improve access and use of the campus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is no more a 'Community Campus' than fly, it does not encourage local activities as it charges too much and parking when school is in is pathetic</li> <li>• Turn rugby pitch at front into car park – parking is insufficient</li> <li>• Teachers and pupils should have their own car park further away from main building</li> <li>• Blood transfusion day – inadequate parking- so loss of donors</li> <li>• Public transport to the library is poor</li> <li>• Reduce cost of hire of facilities so it becomes less prohibitive for local dance classes etc</li> <li>• We would like to play tennis as a family but currently quite expensive</li> <li>• Place is too sterile</li> <li>• Great facilities totally underutilised due to expense, poor condition of sports pitches</li> <li>• Move the public entrance to the side</li> <li>• We need to have a U turn in the way campus is run/ perceived in community to allow community to feel that it is a community centre as well as school. Communication is KEY because it is already used by many individuals and group.</li> </ul>
31	Better information about local groups and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A website for Crieff with links to all organisations/businesses</li> <li>• One website for Crieff and groups. Community diary, monthly 'What's on in Crieff'</li> <li>• Important that newcomers can find out what is going on.</li> <li>• Too much tourist information for those visiting and not enough for local residents</li> <li>• Open air theatre nights, use Pitlochry as a model through summer months , even seasonal events Valentines etc...</li> </ul>

## THEME 5: ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE

VOTES	PRIORITIES	WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE
130	Develop cycle routes and make Crieff a bike friendly town	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycle lane around the town and schools</li> <li>• Route from town centre and Community Campus to MacRosty Park</li> <li>• Crieff to Muthill pavement cycle way</li> <li>• Crieff to Comrie is essential. It should not be blocked</li> <li>• Crieff – Perth cycle route along the old Roman road</li> <li>• Develop routes for ordinary bikes near Comrie Croft</li> <li>• Make it safe for children to cycle to school</li> <li>• Safety cycle classes for kids</li> <li>• Bike shop</li> </ul>
124	Develop local paths network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve paths and connections on the Core Path network to give better off road connectivity between Strathearn communities for walkers, cyclists and horse riders</li> <li>• Trail Perth to Lochearnhead a priority must. Fitness, tourism</li> <li>• Circular routes with a signpost to promote walking.</li> <li>• Pram friendly routes</li> <li>• Distinguish between walkers paths and horse tracks e.g. The Spoke Road!</li> <li>• Link more paths together for longer routes</li> <li>• Improved signage/access to route maps</li> </ul>
34	Support drovers Tryst and Outdoor events and help develop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop arts programme as part of Drover's Tryst continuing walking theme?</li> <li>• A 'new' West Highland Way finishing in Crieff. This could bring 1000s in every year encouraging both walkers and cyclists, benefiting all of community, retailers, food + drink venues and accommodation providers. Genuine heritage behind the story</li> </ul>
33	Make more of local heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celebrate Crieff was a great success and gives a platform to build on</li> <li>• It would be great to have a town heritage trail highlighting buildings of interest</li> </ul>

## TOP 10 VOTING

Top 10 votes shown by theme

### TOWN CENTRE

- Take action on derelict buildings 248
- Support and promote local shops 95

### TRANSPORT & SERVICES

- Retain Crieff Cottage Hospital wards and services and improve NHS 24 134
- Improve public transport 73

### TOURISM – MARKETING & PROMOTION

- Develop identity and brand 95
- Develop and promote programme of events 37

### COMMUNITY & RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

- Community Arts/Music/Drama venue(s) 137
- Improve and develop outdoor sports pitches 65

### ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE

- Develop cycle routes 130
- Develop local paths network 124