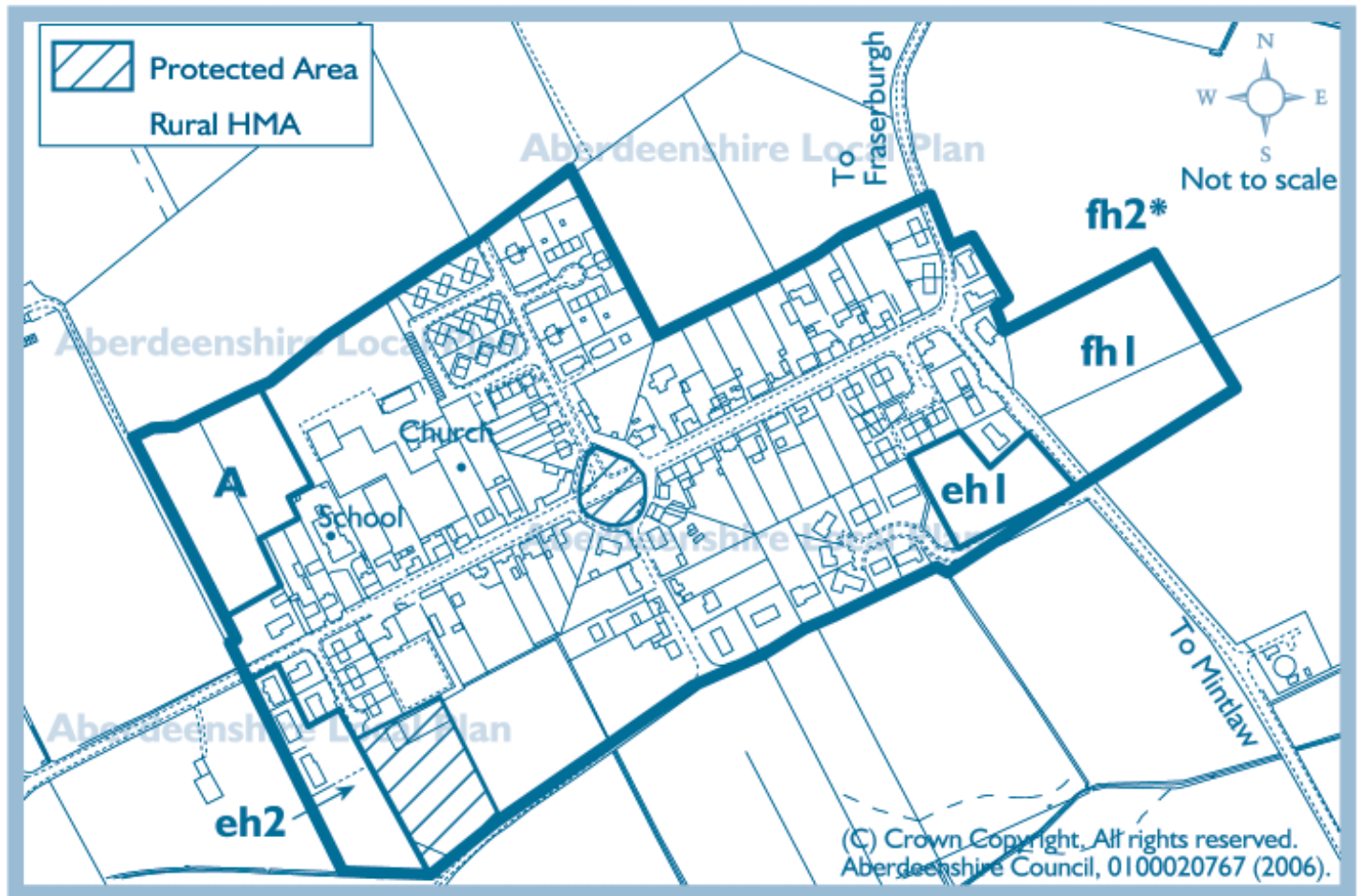


Fetterangus

Community  
Action Plan



*In Fetterangus there are three main opportunities for development*

- *Site eh1 is suitable for around 6 houses*
- *Site eh2 is suitable for around 3 houses*
- *Site A is suitable for around 7 houses*

*Further housing land is shown as Sites fh1(10) and fh2\**

### 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 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 trades people 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

The Settlement Profile for Fetterangus which has been produced by the Community Planning Partnership (CPP) and which can be viewed in full in the Buchan section of the CPP website ([www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk](http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk)) provides a range of statistical information. With regard to population and housing based on 2006 figures, it shows Fetterangus currently has a population of 425 with about

21% age 15yrs or under, 59% in the ages 16 - 59 yrs age bracket and just under 20% over 60 years of age. The majority of the working age population work outwith the village. 70% of the housing is owner-occupied with some 64% of the housing having been built (or reconstructed) within the past thirty years.

### Today’s Facilities

Although Fetterangus has lost all of the shops and some of the services mentioned above, most recently its village shop and Post Office, there is still a good community atmosphere. The recently refurbished pub looks likely to continue to be one of the key focal points for the village in the future. This is also true of the village hall (Chalmers’ Institute) which is a key village asset being the focal point for a number of village activities. A refurbishment programme is underway to ensure that the facilities meet the needs of a 21st century community. Adjacent to the village hall is a recently improved children’s play area with swings and slides which is located opposite the small but very active village primary school. As well as a range of sporting opportunities eg tennis, football etc, two village walks have been introduced around the area. The Gala is an important annual social and fundraising village event. There is a packed programme of sporting events, dances, craft and produce stalls as well as popular Produce

and Gardening competitions. and it raises about £6,000 for the community over the three day event.

The Community Association is key to much of the village activity. The Association is in the process of merging with the Hall Trustees to become a Co Ltd by Guarantee thus ensuring that they have a secure basis for future development.

In 2002/3 the Community 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 PFR review exercise was then carried out in 2008 to ensure that the Community Association was aware of any further community wishes and to seek confirmation of support for ongoing activities. The outcomes from both these exercises have been combined to create a prioritised Action Plan to help the community to focus on and develop future goals.



Entrance to Fetterangus.



Primary School.

The Parish Church.



### Fetterangus: Buchan Community Plan 2008 - 2012

The Buchan Local Community Plan brings together the key actions and projects of a number of public agencies under five headings -Community Wellbeing, Developing our Partnership, Sustainable Environment, Jobs and the Economy and Learning. It also includes actions based

on consultation with the local communities and local community groups The plan can be accessed on [www.ouraberdeenshire.gov.uk/buchan](http://www.ouraberdeenshire.gov.uk/buchan).

The Plan includes actions specifically for Fetterangus and there are several general intentions in some categories which might affect Fetterangus.

#### Specific Actions

Heading/Lead Service	Action/Project (with number in LCP)
Environment P&ES	<b>Burial Grounds E13</b> To identify burial grounds requiring new provision up to 2011 and to develop provision/extensions at Fetterangus (October 2008)
Learning BDP	<b>Halls and Recreational Facilities L8</b> To develop a schedule of works for the upgrading of Council and community halls - Fetterangus Chalmers Institute is one of the named current priorities.

#### General Intentions

Heading/Lead Service	Action/Project
Developing our Partnership Community Planning Partnership	Increasing Community Involvement D3
Learning E&R	Young People L2 Adult Support L3 Halls and Recreational Use L8
Community Wellbeing H & SW Grampian Police BCSG H&SW	Local Housing Strategy C1 Police Local Priorities C10 Community Safety Agreements C13 Joint Health Improvement Plan C28
Sustainable Environment T&I P&ES P&ES & T&I	Local Transport Strategy E2 Household Waste and Recycling E5 Increasing Awareness of Waste Reduction, Reuse and Recycling E6
T&I	Environmental Improvements E12

The top four priorities to emerge from the review are outlined below

### **Improve Community Facilities (Theme: Community & Leisure)**

The Public Hall, known as the Chalmers Institute is very well-used both on a regular basis and for various fundraising events throughout the year. It is home to a number of local groups including Dancing Class-Monday evening, WRI-Monday evening, Bowling Club-Monday evening plus fundraisers, Active Schools-Tuesday afternoons (blocks of bookings throughout the year), Tai-Chi-Tuesday evening, Youth Club-Tuesday evening, Buchan Girls-Tuesday evening plus fundraisers throughout the year and first aid courses, Senior Citizens-Wednesday afternoons or evenings, Fetterangus Primary School-Fundraisers throughout the year, Buchan Tractor Club-Wednesday evening, Liberal Democrats-Thursday evening, Little Fishies- Friday morning but stopped at present but are enquiring about restarting, Various funeral teas throughout the year, Mintlaw Surgery-flu jabs, Various private parties and functions throughout the year. Regular Community meetings for the Hall and Community Association and their sub committees.

However after many years of constant use it is in need of refurbishment to provide a modern, sustainable facility

accessible to all. The Pfr<sup>®</sup> community consultation in 2002 highlighted this as a key priority with an emphasis on upgrading the central heating, installing double glazing, improving lighting and insulation, redecorating and upgrading the kitchen. It was also felt the hall was not big enough and it would be ideal if an extension could be built and improve the storage facilities. In line with the Scottish Government's focus on using renewable energy the Community Association began to work with SCARF (Save Cash Reduce Fuel) on a study of different types of renewables and how these could be used to improve the hall in a way that was cost-effective and green. To help develop this further three members of the Community Association also made a study visit to Westray in Orkney to learn from them. From these two key actions an innovative, more wide ranging three phase project was planned which was further endorsed at the Pfr<sup>®</sup> update in January 2008. This project is:

**The provision of sustainable income for the benefit and development of the local community in the form of a renewable energy project. (Themes: Community and Leisure, Jobs and the Economy, Environment)**

Following the undertaking of a successful technical feasibility in Phase I, the Community Association established a



*The Chalmers Institute.*



*View towards The Forest of Deer.*



*Bowling Green.*



The Fishie Pub.



The Square.



Countryside around Fetterangus.

separate organisation PUFF Power to drive forward Phase 2 & 3 of this project which includes the installation of a **wind turbine** to the National Grid and a **Resource Centre** in the village hall which will give working examples of different renewable energy sources. The income received from the Wind Turbine will be used to make village improvements including to the hall, as well as providing a Grant Scheme which community groups will be able to apply for. It is anticipated that the Renewable Resource Centre will become a focal point for people interested in sourcing the best type of renewable energy for their personal requirements, thereby putting Fetterangus on the map as a centre for renewable excellence.

To help support these developments the community has requested the creation of a social meeting place in the form of a coffee shop **PUFF Pastry** providing occasional meals and even the development of a sun terrace where children can play whilst their parents relax enjoying the refreshments. A recent survey clearly showed support for this development. In addition this unit could support our events such as funeral teas and birthday parties and save on bring in outside caterers.

### **Footpaths (Themes: Leisure & Recreation, Environment, Health and Wellbeing)**

A further extension to our village footpaths is being explored. We are fortunate that a local farmer is proposing to develop an off road path linking Fetterangus to Mintlaw.

### **Make a focal point of the Square (Themes: Leisure & Recreation, Environment)**

In this focal point of the village there is potential to develop a small but significant area in which the community can relax and watch the world go round. Many have asked for a water feature which should be achievable. The village committee plans to look into this over the winter months with a view to develop it over the summer of 2009.

### Other Issues

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

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

### Local Environment

This theme produced three top priorities (see page 5 - 6).

One of the key focuses was:

#### **Cemetery improvements**

Plans have been agreed to develop the Cemetery, but they are being delayed due to Environmental considerations. However every effort is being made to overcome these so a new extension and facilities can be provided on the community owned land.

Other comments in this category focussed on keeping the village tidy for residents and recycling/waste issues.

- **Recycling facilities** -
- **Dog Bins** - Since the original PfR® exercise, extra dog bins have been situated at various locations around the village. However dog fouling was still felt to be a problem in the village. Offenders need to be reported to Dog warden.
- **Provision of Litter Bins at Hillie Park**
- **Flower planting and tubs** have been improved and are planted with fresh plants each year and the community want this to continue and develop.

### Traffic & Transport

**General:** Overall the main issues in this category were around

- speeding traffic in the village
- street lighting
- provision of grit boxes
- Improvement to road surfaces and drainage.
- There is strong feeling to reduce the number of overhead cables found along the two main streets on Fetterangus and the community would like the Council to look in to the possibility of doing this.



*Fetterangus Cemetery.*



*Recycling Bins by the Square.*



*Flower Tubs.*



Overhead lines in the Main Street.



Football ground.



Playpark.

## Jobs & the Economy

This theme produced one priority (see page 5).

**General:** Unemployment in the area is low. Neither of the PFR<sup>®</sup> exercises flagged up any major issues under this category. However, it is anticipated that some of the other priorities (eg Renewable Resource Centre, Renewable Grant Form, and PUFF Pastry) would provide future employment.

## Community Facilities and Activities

**General:** The theme produced two top priorities (see page 5)

The majority of work that has been done to date has been focussed on the village hall which has had new windows installed etc. Other key issues which arose in both consultations were:

- Football Club House: The village supports a very strong girls football teams known as Buchan Girls. They are looking to develop a complete facility on the edge of the village to support all aspects of football and training including a club house.
- Public toilets are kept very clean but they need to be upgraded.
- Creation of footpaths and cycle paths - with signage
- Bowling Green - improve facilities

## Health and Wellbeing

**General:** This was not a category that attracted comments at the PFR<sup>®</sup> exercise.



### Housing

#### General:

- There was a need expressed for an allocation of **affordable housing** in any future developments in the village.
- The community indicated that **more land** should be to be allocated within the village for future housing needs.
- Plans have been approved for a total of **76** new houses within the village, some of which are currently being constructed.

### Crime and Community Safety

**General:** Crime and Community Safety did not come out at major issues in this consultation. The only comment that was made was:

- Setting up of a Neighbourhood watch scheme



*New Housing.*



*Fun at Fishie Gala.*



*Fishie Gala.*

Many of the key actions fall in to more than one category. For the purposes of this summary each action will only be mentioned under one category to avoid confusion.

	Independent	Partnership	Outside Agency
1. Community Facilities & Activity		Village Hall improvements PUFF Pastry - community café Provision of a Renewable Energy Grant Scheme. Make a focal point of Village Square Bowling Green to be improved	Upgrading of public toilets
2. Jobs and The Economy		Renewable Resource Centre	
3. Local Environment		Provision of Wind Turbine Provision of further footpaths Provision of recycling facilities Prevention of Dog Fouling - provision of extra bins and signage	Provision of litter bins at Hillie Park Cemetery improvements

4. Housing		Affordable Housing	More land allocated for future development
5. Traffic & Transportation			<p>Improve road surfaces and drainage</p> <p>Address issue of speeding traffic</p> <p>Improve street lighting</p> <p>Provide more Grit boxes</p>
6. Crime & Community Safety		Neighbourhood watch scheme	

### Partner who may help to deliver the above

Aberdeenshire Council services:  
 Education, Learning and Leisure  
 Housing & Social Work  
 Law & Administration  
 Planning & Environmental Services  
 Transportation & Infrastructure

Private Investors

### Other agencies:

Community Safety Partnership  
 Grampian Police  
 Grampian Fire & Rescue Service  
 NHS Grampian  
 Scottish Enterprise Grampian

This booklet is one of a series produced by Local Rural Partnerships together with the community under the banner Making It Real but now called Community Action Plans.

The initiative is sponsored by Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership and Shell, and run by Aberdeenshire Community Economic Development Co-ordinators Forum. The aim is to provide community actions 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 actions 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 and other local  
helpers for organising the  
Planning for Real® and  
subsequent meetings.

### BUCHAN DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

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