

# STRATHERRICK & FOYERS NEWSLETTER

October 2021 Issue Number: 27

COMMUNITY  
ACTION PLAN  
2021 SUMMARY



ORGANISING  
OURSELVES



DEADLINE FOR  
NEW TRUST  
DIRECTORS

SERVICE OF  
REMEMBRANCE,  
GORTHLECK WAR  
MEMORIAL, SUNDAY  
14TH NOVEMBER AT 3PM

and work underway on a  
memorial booklet.

## DEADLINE FOR NEW TRUST DIRECTORS

Remember, remember the 10th of November!  
Yes folks, the 10th of November is the last date for members of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust to put their names forward to serve as a volunteer director for the year ahead.

If you'd like to take a bigger part in steering the Trust and what it does with the community's resources, you have the opportunity to get on board! There are monthly meetings at the Wildside Centre and directors take a hands-on

responsibility for various tasks and projects under the Trust's wings.

Over the years many residents have played their part in getting to the stage where your Trust is an example of sound governance and of local accountability. If you'd like to learn more about the role, please discuss it with any current or past Trust Director - or contact the Trust's manager Tony Foster on 07734 884320.

Kirsty Balfour  
Chair, SFCT



Message from the Chair

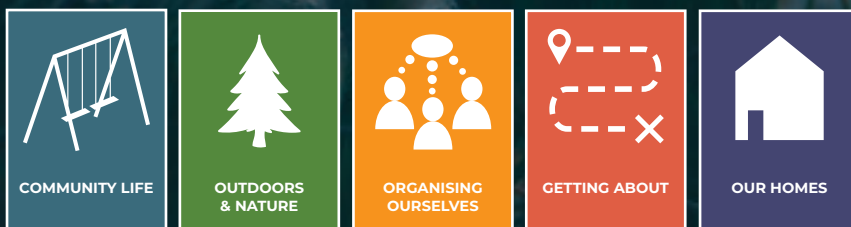
## INTRODUCTION TO THE CAP REPORT

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in developing our Community Action Plan! We are excited to share this summary with you, ahead of the full version, which will be posted to every household very soon. Please take a look, and I hope you feel this summary captures your ideas, recommendations and also reflects our community aspirations for the future. This is your plan and our community members will be key in driving these projects forward. SFCT very much looks forward to supporting all who wish to implement the ideas and turn them into a reality, helping to create a healthy, happy and prosperous community for generations to come.

Kirsty Balfour  
Chair, SFCT

# Community Action Plan 2021 Summary

How we developed the plan during 2020:  
See full plan for more detail



This community action plan was prepared during 2021. It shows how we as a community will fulfil our aspirations and tackle the big challenges that we and the country face.

This plan shows how we will lead the way to solve the challenges that we and the rest of rural Scotland face: good jobs, affordable homes, rural poverty, climate change, an ageing population, cuts to public services and – perhaps hardest to define, but very real for this community – encroaching urbanism.






We want to make it easy to get around without a car, build homes for people who need them most, create local childcare so parents can get back to work, improve access to our hills and lochs, and much more besides.

Improvements won't happen overnight, but we are fortunate to have the resources, commitment and energy to make things happen.

Turn over to find out more.

**OUR COMMUNITY OUR FUTURE**

ERROGIE - FOYERS - GORTHLECK - INVERFARIGAIG - TORNESS - WHITEBRIDGE

 <p>Community Life</p>	<p><b>RETAIN POST OFFICE &amp; SHOP</b> Retain shop and PO in the community</p> <p><b>AFTER-SCHOOL / NURSERY CARE</b> Local nursery and wrap-around out-of-school care</p> <p><b>LOCAL COMMUNITY HUBS</b> Community hubs in each main settlements, home to a wide range of complementary activities</p> <p><b>FOYERS SPORTS &amp; LEISURE FACILITIES</b> Local sports facilities for residents and visitors (Riverside Field and slipway)</p> <p><b>THE FUTURE OF OUR SCHOOLS</b> Start community discussion with local authority to retain and enhance local education</p>
 <p>Outdoors &amp; Nature</p>	<p><b>PLAYPARKS</b> Modern play areas in each village</p> <p><b>PATHS AND PLACES</b> Network of signposted walking routes with good surfaces and facilities</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY WOODLAND</b> For nature conservation, learning and community activity</p> <p><b>COMMUNITY RANGERS</b> Dedicated year-round ranger squad for maintenance and education</p>
 <p>Organising Ourselves</p>	<p><b>HELP PEOPLE INTO WORK</b> More local jobs, apprenticeships and work experience</p> <p><b>SUPPORT VOLUNTEERING AND GROUPS</b> Enable volunteers to enhance their skills and satisfaction, retain and enhance volunteer capacity</p> <p><b>IMPROVE COMMUNICATIONS</b> Co-ordinated printed and online community information accessible to all</p> <p><b>PLANNING AND PUBLIC SERVICES</b> Work with public sector to ensure their plans and services reflect community aspirations</p>
 <p>Getting Around</p>	<p><b>COMMUNITY TRANSPORT</b> Attractive low-carbon affordable alternative to the car, especially for those without car access</p> <p><b>SAFER ROAD NETWORK</b> Improve road safety, especially for pedestrians and cyclists</p> <p><b>SAFE WALKING AND CYCLING TO SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY HUBS</b> Make it safe for people to walk and cycle to schools and community hubs</p>
 <p>Our Homes</p>	<p><b>AFFORDABLE COMMUNITY -OWNED HOMES</b> Retain shop and PO in the community</p> <p><b>SPECIALIST ACCOMMODATION: ELDERLY   CARE   RESPITE</b> Locally available care and respite services and accommodation</p> <p><b>ZERO-CARBON HOMES FOR ALL</b> Advice and grants to ensure homes are warm, well maintained, low-carbon and not lying empty</p> <p><b>AFFORDABLE BROADBAND FOR ALL</b> Access to affordable high speed broadband for every household</p>

# THE NEXT STEPS...

In the full plan, every one of the action areas from the table above is described and assessed in more detail. We've tried to make it clear to anyone reading, be it the people of our community or potential funders, exactly what we want from each area, and how it will contribute to our overall goal of making ours one of the best, most forward thinking communities in Scotland.

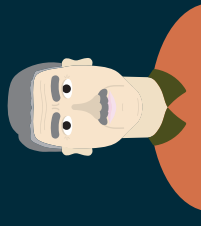
To show how the action areas will contribute to our individual aspirations, we've used some personas - characters who represent a wide demographic of local residents, to see how each area will benefit them.

Each action is also assessed based on how well it fits with our three overarching objectives (see front cover): Nurture our environment, Develop our community, and Sustain our economy - as well as its contribution to national priorities such as Zero Carbon and Health & Wellbeing. Showing how we're meeting these national priorities will go a long way to helping us secure outside funding!

As well as all this you'll also see some familiar things like quotes from the community consultation and ideas from the Ideas Bank. Check it out in the full plan - you might just see a quote from yourself!

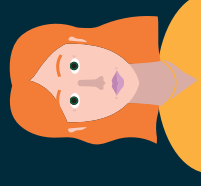
*"a community should be more than a collection of houses"*

## Contribution to individual aspirations:



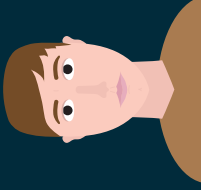
**Jim** 68

There aren't as many jobs on the land as there used to be, and we need to have work locally for people to be able to stay here and live a decent life.



**Claire** 34

More choice of jobs is definitely what the community needs - not just for me personally, but for my friends and my kids.



**Ryan** 16

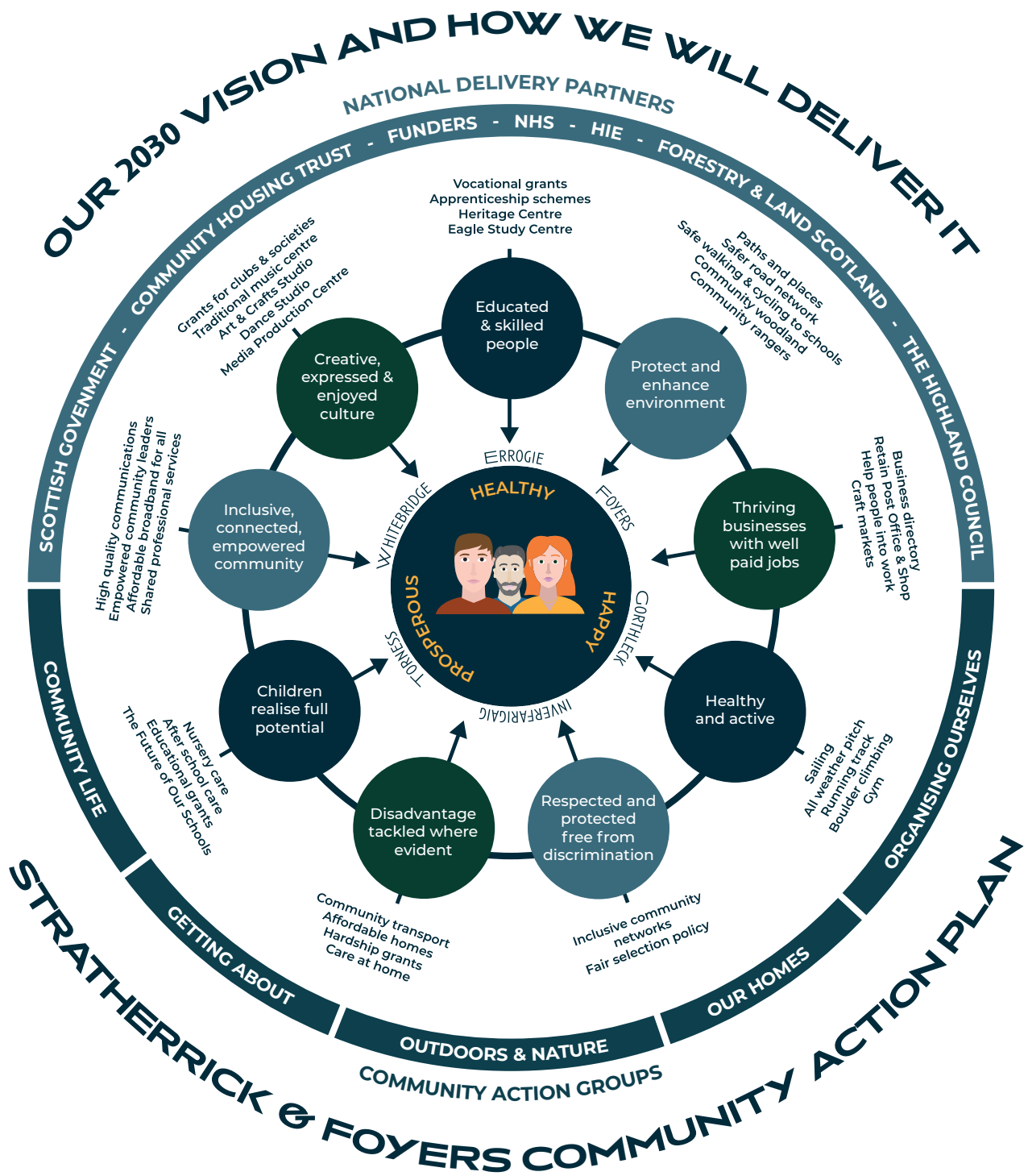
I don't really know where I'd get a job here. A bit of local work experience might help.

## Contribution to vision and objectives:

<b>Nurture our environment</b>	Excellent fit
<b>Develop our community</b>	Very good fit
<b>Sustain our economy</b>	Good fit

## Contribution to national priorities:

<b>Fair, Equal, Diverse</b>	Excellent fit
<b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b>	Excellent fit
<b>Community</b>	Very good fit
<b>Zero Carbon</b>	Excellent fit
<b>Inclusive Growth</b>	Excellent fit
<b>Education &amp; Culture</b>	Good fit



## SEE THE FULL PLAN!



Check out the full Community Action Plan online at [www.communityfuture.net](http://www.communityfuture.net) or [www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk](http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk) or see a hard copy in the **Wildside Centre**.

Contact Stratherrick and Foyers Community Trust if you'd like to find out more or get involved:

@ admin@sfctrust.org.uk

07464 394276

# TRUST MANAGER'S REPORT

## BOARD REPORT

The minutes of October's meeting have been ratified and we can share the exciting world of the Stratherrick and Foyers Trust Board to the world!

## AGM & INSURANCE

We've been plugging the Trust AGM for a while. It's on 24th November, you know. At this meeting the Board ratified the accounts until end of June 2021. Other matters arising was confirming who is covered by insurance at the Wildside and what groups need to provide their own. We can advise on who to go to if that is the case.

## FINANCE

Carlene Vincent gave us our Finance report with the watchful eye of Frank Ellam. Frank stands down as Finance Director at the next AGM and we will be sad to see him thoroughly enjoy his well earned retirement from the Board.

## GRANTS

Several Student Grants were awarded, as was a memorial booklet on those fallen who are listed on the war memorial. The grant of £60,517 for Boleskine Community Care and the conditions of grant were approved by the Board too. All grants over

£25,000 have to be discussed with our funders, SSE, and we made the case for this to be approved in full. Grants too were considered for the Stratherrick Community Hall and the Community Council and discussions are ongoing.

## COMMUNICATION

Our new Communications Strategy was presented to the Board. Much of this was put in place by the work of Jillian Barclay, who is standing down at the next AGM. A vote of thanks was given, as well as noting a 35% engagement rate on the Community Action Plan was in part down to the communication tools that have been developed by Jillian and Gareth over the last twelve months. Board Directors (and members of the community) are advised to check our weekly Project Updates on the website every Thursday.

## WILDSIDE CENTRE

The Wildside Team have been going great guns too. Following feedback at the Spring Fair they have changed the priorities on the landscaping project to include a pathway and improved access around the Wildside. A tender document has since been issued and awarded. Petanque Courts, ridge tiles, crockery and waste bins also got a mention. Later on we talked Winter Wonderland planning and hope for a good event for all the family in December. We also have our first wedding coming up, which is nice!

## FOYERS TOILETS

A memorandum of understanding has been drawn up between the Trust and the Community Council on the development of Foyers Toilets, the plans for which will be reviewed as costs have escalated for materials.

## SMOKE ALARMS

The Board were informed about the Scottish Government Smoke Alarm legislation, work to support people who may have difficulty raising the £300 required and a letter asking if the Trust would purchase the alarms for the whole community at a cost of £75,000. SSE would not support any of the proposals other than agreeing to promote how you can get alarms if you meet a certain criteria and work to see if we can arrange come low cost deals for the community. The funds were not in the budget and something else would have to go if the proposal had been approved. Information will go out the community and can be found in this newsletter.

The meeting was so long we had to adjourn and arrange a second briefing on the Community Action Plan and next steps if people could make it. Most of the actions from that will be made to the community shortly, but expect the Community Action Plan document through your door soon!

Tony Foster  
Trust Manager



STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST

# AGM

7.30PM, WEDNESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER  
AT THE WILDSIDE CENTRE, WHITEBRIDGE AND ON ZOOM

Further details to follow –  
keep an eye on the Stratherrick & Foyers Community Trust website and Facebook page

## JOIN THE TRUST

If you would like to become a member of the Trust then please click the link.

<https://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk/join-the-trust/>

## HIRE THE WILDSIDE CENTRE FOR YOUR SPECIAL EVENTS & GROUP MEETINGS

### 2 EVENT ROOMS

Each can hold up to 84 people, one with kitchen access

### 1 MEETING/TRAINING ROOM

For up to 29 people



### CONTACT

[admin@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:admin@sfctrust.org.uk)

STRATHERRICK & FOYERS COMMUNITY TRUST

# WINTER Wonderland

AT THE WILDSIDE CENTRE, WHITEBRIDGE

**Friday 10th Dec 2021 4-8PM**  
**Saturday 11th Dec 2021 12-6PM**

**EVENTS INCLUDE:**  
**CHRISTMAS MARKET**  
**SANTA'S GROTTO**  
**CAROL SINGING**  
**REFRESHMENTS**  
**SPECTACULAR LIGHT SHOW**

**BOOKINGS REQUIRED FOR SANTA'S GROTTO**

**TO BOOK GO TO:**  
[www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk](http://www.stratherrickcommunity.org.uk), click on 'Santa's Grotto Bookings' on the homepage and select your chosen day & time

**FOR LATEST INFO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE OR CONTACT: [pc@sfctrust.org.uk](mailto:pc@sfctrust.org.uk)**

## MANY THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS... AND PHOTOGRAPHER

This newsletter is made possible by community benefit funding from SSE Renewables, Greencoat and Green Highland Allt Luaidhe (228) Limited.

Thanks also to Russell for his fab photos.

