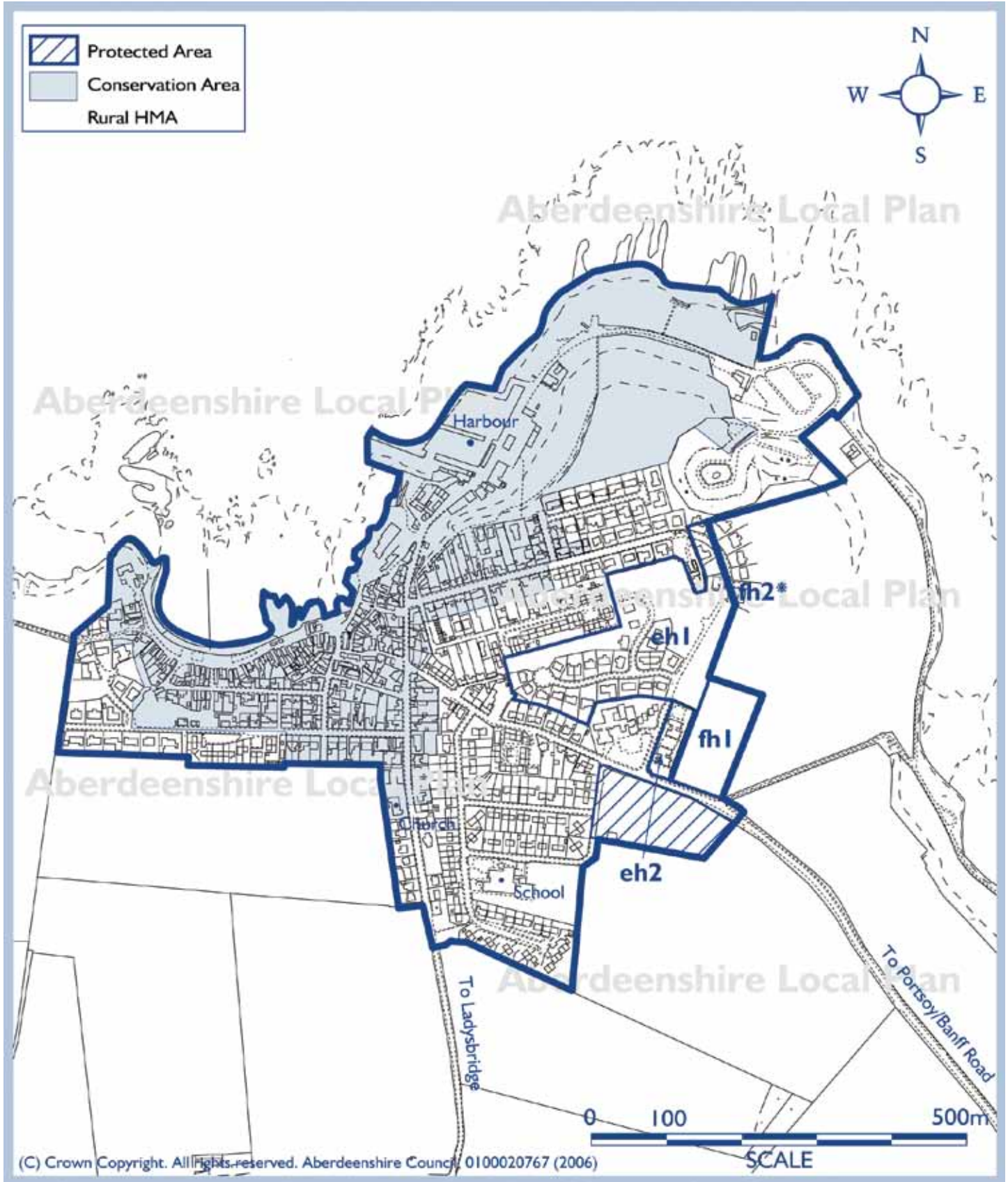




Whitehills Community Action Plan



Whitehills and Parish of Boyndie

Welcome to the latest three year plan for Whitehills & District.

Whitehills and District Community Council area comprises Whitehills village and the Parish of Boyndie to the west and east of the village. An area of around forty square kilometres.

Whitehills was a traditional fishing village with its own vessels and fish market. In recent years there have been significant developments in the local economy and infrastructure.

In 1999 the Harbour Commissioners elected to build a marina. It is now a very active leisure port. Whitehills village retains a quality fresh fish processing factory, post office, shops and library. The holiday caravan park is very busy in the season. Blackpots Playpark is popular with its modern amenities.

The parish area of Boyndie remains primarily agricultural. Diversification of the industry has seen some changes such as self-catering establishments within some of the farming communities.

The four star graded Boyndie Visitor Centre continues to

flourish and further expansion may be necessary by popular demand for its services.

In 2006, a windfarm was built on the former RAF site in Boyndie, which has a spin-off benefit of a community development fund, linked to the electrical generating capacity of the turbines. More turbines have been added recently.

Significant industries are sited on the Boyndie 'Drome including Grampian Oat Products and a Renewable Wood Pellets Factory

The former Ladysbridge Hospital site is now an ongoing housing development with a range of properties including 'affordable housing'. The first phase of houses is constructed.

This is the third community action plan to be drawn up since 2004.

The Community Council is very pro-active. Numerous community-led projects have been completed and many are ongoing. Recent ones include:

- Formation of Whitehills Youth Group.
- Major improvements to the award winning public toilets.
- Broadband services to parts of Boyndie.
- New planters throughout the village.
- New memorial stones and entrance gates at the cemetery
- Replacement Xmas lights
- Pathway to windfarm



Boyndie Visitor Centre.



Whitehills Marina.



Boyndie Windfarm.



Red Well Carpark.

Whitehills: Banff & Buchan Area Plan 2012-2015

The Area Plan lays out under six headings Aberdeenshire Council's intentions for developments and projects for the forthcoming three years. It is drawn up by the Banff and Buchan Area Management Team and adopted by the Banff and Buchan Area Committee. The actions identified in the Plan

reflect contact and dialogue with local communities, community groups, organisations and individuals as well as community planning partners.

The latest version of the Area Plan lists one action specifically for Whitehills regarding the footpath from Boyne Quarry to Whitehills and includes a number of general intentions which might affect the village.



St Brandon Centre.

Heading/Lead Service	Action/Project
Community Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop the gypsy/traveller Action Plan Promote affordable housing Safer Routes to School Promote well-being and safety
Lifelong Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify, co-ordinate and deliver youth work opportunities Support the provision of school holiday activities Promote cultural and heritage opportunities
Sustainable Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the path east from Boyne Quarry to Whitehills Promote waste awareness and recycling Promote energy efficiency in community facilities (Eg Village Halls)
Developing our Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop opportunities for child care during school holidays



Village in bloom.

Top Six Priorities in Whitehills

The top six priorities to emerge from the consultation are outlined below:

Projects which would involve the community in partnership

Dog Fouling (Theme: Local Environment)

There were two particular locations mentioned in this regard; at the end of Reidhaven Street and, between Redwell and the Caravan Park. It was also noted that dog owners need to be fined or at the very least taken to task, and that there should be more 'poop' bins around the settlement.

Light And Repair The Footpath Between Craigneen Place And West End (Theme: Local Environment)

This suggestion is clearly seen as a very important issue for the people of Whitehills. To achieve this will need the involvement of Aberdeenshire Council working with the Community Council.

Provide A New Kitchen For The Public Hall (Theme: Public Hall)

The most pressing issue for the Community Hall is seen as the provision of a proper kitchen.

Stop Travellers From Taking Over Redwell (Theme: Crime and Community Safety)

This is an important issue for the community and will require the involvement of Aberdeenshire Council and Grampian Police. (Actions have already been started)

Street Lights From The Harbour To Blackpots (Theme: Local Environment)

This issue was the second most popular priority in the previous Action Plan.

Project which will need to be undertaken by the Community

Whitehills To Have Its Own Festival Similar To The Portsoy Boat Festival. (Theme: Community Facilities and Activity)

As with the lights at Blackpots, this suggestion has been raised at previous consultations.



Red Well Carpark.



West End.



Whitehills Marina.



Church Clock.



Red Well.



Whitehills Marina - outer basin.

Other Issues Raised

Many other issues received support, and these are listed below.

Community Facilities and Activity

Projects that would require action by an outside agency

Provide a cash machine/ autoteller in the settlement probably located in the wall or inside the 'Premier' store. [PI]

Projects that could be undertaken by the community independently

- Revive the garden area at the bottom of Seafield Street
- Provide more seats around the settlement in particular:
 - At the east side of Knock Brae.
 - Between Redwell Court and the Cemetery.
 - At the west side of Reidhaven Street
- Convert the area behind Wilson Crescent flats into a childrens play park.
- Invest in more Christmas lights.
- Paint the face and numbers on the Church clock.

Projects which could be undertaken by the community

- More youth projects like the Theatre Modo project.
- Provision of an Internet café.

Jobs and the Economy

As well as the popular suggestion regarding a Festival like that at Portsoy, another suggestion which received support was that there should be a summer playgroup scheme set up for the children of working mums.

Local Environment

Whilst providing the most popular suggestion and the most support from the community, there were a number of other issues raised for this theme:

Projects which would require action by an outside agency

Projects which would involve the community in partnership

- Tidy up the old buildings on the approach to, and beside the harbour. *[P&ES, T&I]*
- Set up a scheme for recycling or re-using household items. *[P&ES]*
- Improve the sea defences perhaps utilising big rocks supplied by local farmers. *[P&ES, T&I]*
- Tidy or find a new location for the recycling waste bins in the Cutty Car Park. *[P&ES]*

Projects which could be undertaken by the community

- Tidy up the entrance to Whitehills at Inverboyndie bridge.
- Develop a Community Wood at the cross roads where the existing 'three woods' are deteriorating.

Health and Housing

This theme provided just two suggestions

There was substantial support for the suggestion that there needs to be more positive action taken regarding empty or neglected buildings. *[P&ES, PI]*

The community would like to see more affordable housing being provided in the settlement. *[P&ES, H&SW, PI]*



Whitehills entrance display.



Looking west.



Public Toilets.



Low Shore.

Traffic and Transportation

Projects which could be undertaken by the community independently

- Provision of a slipway at the Harbour.
- Trim the bushes on the pathway between Craigneen Place and West End.

Projects which would involve the community in partnership

- Repairs to footpaths: Between Reidhaven Street and B1939. [T&I,P&ES]
- New footpaths required: Along the main road from Whitehills to Ladysbridge. [T&I, P&ES]
- Reduce congestion in Loch Street [T&I]
- Close access to vehicles between the shops & playing field [T&I]
- Improve access along the pathway from Falka Road to the shore and sands of Whitehills. [T&I]

Projects which would require action by an outside agency

- Investigate ways to improve traffic visibility at the corner of Loch Street and Seafield Street. [T&I]
- Repair the back road from from B9139 to West End (The Falka Road). [T&I]



Seafield Street.



West of village.

Crime and Community Safety

As well as providing the third most popular suggestion regarding travellers at Redwell this theme provided the following ideas

Project which will require action from an outside agency

- Zero tolerance of 'boy racers'. [GP]
- Increase police patrols around the settlement. [GP]

Other Themes

As well as the themes detailed above there were two special interest themes about which views were sought at this consultation

Blackpots Play Park

There were 16 suggestions that received support regarding Blackpots the most popular of which was that The Boat be saved.

The second most popular suggestion was that the Committees for Blackpots and the Community Hall should combine to help both projects to flourish and to reduce duplication of effort and encourage cooperation.

It was suggested that there should be some positive promotion of the Pavilion for

wider use and several of the suggestions relate to the Pavilion:

- Use the Pavilion as a gym or sports hall for use on rainy days.
- Use the Pavilion as a venue for youngsters.
- Provide adult fitness machines.
- Provide internet access.
- Provide a Pool Table.
- Small café at the Pavilion for walkers.

Additional or improved facilities at Blackpots:

- Provide a Crazy Golf course.
- Astroturf the football pitch.
- Make a grass slide and provide equipment on the Braes.
- Provide tennis courts at Blackpots.
- Hold an open air concert for young musicians.
- Hold car boot sales to raise funds and raise the profile of Blackpots.
- Revive the Gala and increase the number of stalls at the Gala.

The Public Hall

There were 15 suggestions made regarding the Public Hall and this theme provided the third most popular suggestion for the whole consultation.

Provision of better storage facilities at the Hall was the second most popular suggestion following the one made for Blackpots regarding combining committees.

The other suggestions which received support were:

- Provide new tables and chairs.
- Mark out and equip the Hall as a Badminton Court.
- Provide changing facilities for babies and the disabled.
- Install a new, secure front door.
- Provide a stage, possibly collapsible for use by all ages.
- Upgrade the Hall to permit wider use by for example by Guides, Scouts etc.
- Provide a whiteboard and projector.
- Prepare a list of the equipment which the Hall has which could be used by other organisations within the community.
- Provide new kitchen equipment
- Indoor play equipment for all ages - mats, indoor goals etc.
- Mark out for multi sports activities.
- New crockery pots and pans.
- New curtains and windows.



Bullring.



Redwell.



Planter at the Bullring.

	Independent	Partnership	Outside Agency
1. Community Facilities and Activity	<p>Whitehills to have its own version of the Portsoy Boat Festival.</p> <p>Revive the garden area at bottom of Seafield Street.</p> <p>Provide more public seats/benches in particular: At the east side of Knock Brae, between Redwell and the Cemetery, at the west side of Reidhaven Street, on the Banff Road between the village and the Cemetery.</p> <p>Convert the area behind the Wilson Crescent Flats into a children's playpark.</p> <p>Provide better Christmas lights.</p> <p>Repaint the numbers on the Church clock.</p>		<p>Provision of a Cash machine or Auto Teller probably located in or near the 'Premier' store. [PI]</p>
2. Jobs and The Economy	<p>Set up a summer playgroup scheme for the children of working mums.</p>		
3. Local Environment	<p>Tidy up the entrance to the village at Inverboyndie bridge.</p> <p>Develop a community wood at the cross roads.</p>	<p>Dog fouling is a particular issue in Reidhaven Street and between the Redwell and the Caravan Park. [P&ES, GP]</p> <p>Readdress the Council Policy regarding the provision poop bins around the Village. [P&ES]</p> <p>Tidy up the old buildings on the approach to and in the harbour area. [P&ES, T&I]</p> <p>Set up a scheme for recycling or re-using household items. [P&ES]</p> <p>Improve sea defences perhaps utilising large rocks supplied by local farmers. [P&ES, T&I, Local Farmers]</p> <p>Tidy or find a new location for the recycling waste bins in the Curty Park. [P&ES]</p>	<p>Street lights between Craigneen Place, West End and at Blackpots. [T&I]</p>
4. Health and Housing		<p>Positive action required regarding empty and derelict buildings. [P&ES, PI]</p> <p>Provision of more affordable housing. [P&ES, H&SW, PI]</p>	
5. Traffic and Transportation	<p>Provision of a slipway at the harbour.</p> <p>Trim the bushes along the Craigneen Place to West End footpath.</p>	<p>Footpaths to be repaired going to the Links and between Reidhaven Street and B9139. [T&I, P&ES]</p> <p>New footpaths requested along the main road from the village to Ladysbridge.</p>	<p>Reduce congestion in Loch Street. [T&I]</p> <p>Repair the back road from the Old Portsoy Road to West End. [T&I]</p> <p>Improve access along the pathway from Falka Road to the beach and Low Shore. [T&I]</p> <p>Investigate ways to improve visibility at the corner of Loch Street and Seafield Street. [T&I]</p>
6. Crime and Community Safety	<p>More projects like the Theatre Modo Project.</p> <p>Provision of an Internet Café.</p>	<p>Stop Travellers from taking over Redwell [P&ES, GP]</p>	<p>Zero tolerance of 'boy racers'. [GP]</p> <p>Increase police patrols around the village.</p>
7. Blackpots Playpark	<p>"Save The Boat"</p> <p>Combine the Blackpots and Public Hall committees.</p> <p>Use the Pavilion:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a gym or sports hall. • As a venue for youngsters. • As an adult fitness venue. • As an Internet Café. • As a small café for walkers. <p>Provide a Crazy Golf Course.</p> <p>Astroturf the football pitch.</p> <p>Make a grass slide and provide play equipment at the Braes.</p> <p>Provide Tennis Courts.</p> <p>Hold an open air concert for young musicians.</p> <p>Hold Car Boot Sales.</p> <p>Revive the Gala and increase the number of stalls at the Gala.</p>		

<p>8. The Public Hall</p>	<p>Equip the hall with a new kitchen. Combine the Blackpots and Public Hall committees. Provide new tables and chairs. Mark out and equip the Hall as a Sports Hall Provide changing facilities for the disabled and babies. Fit a new secure front door. Equip the Hall with a Stage, possibly collapsible. Upgrade the Hall for 'sleepovers' by Eg Scouts, Guides etc. Obtain a whiteboard and projector. List the Halls facilities for use by other Community Groups. Provide new crockery, pots and pans. Provide indoor play equipment for all ages. Install new windows and curtains.</p>		
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Partner codes

Aberdeenshire Council services:

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E&R Education & Recreation
 H&SW Housing & Social Work
 L&A Law & Administration
 P&ES Planning & Environmental Services
 T&I Transportation & Infrastructure

Other agencies:

CS Communities Scotland
 CSP Community Safety Partnership
 GP Grampian Police
 GFR Grampian Fire & Rescue Service
 NHS NHS Grampian
 SEG Scottish Enterprise Grampian

External agencies:

BT British Telecom
 FR Falck Renewables
 PI Private Investors

This booklet is one of a series produced by Local Rural Partnerships under the banner Making It Real for a number of communities in Aberdeenshire.

The initiative is sponsored by Aberdeenshire Community Planning Partnership and run by Aberdeenshire Local Rural Partnerships. The aim is to provide community action plans in an attractive, easy to read, professionally printed format.

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.

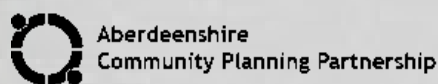
It is important that this booklet is seen by all concerned as an account of the community's views at the time of the latest consultation, and that it will have to be regularly reviewed and updated. As some projects are completed, other issues will arise and take their place in future versions of the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

We recommend that this Plan has a maximum life of three years.

Thanks are due to Whitehills & District Community Council for organising a meeting at which the previous community plan was updated, and for providing background information on the community.

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