

#WeAreOakleyandComrie

Oakley and Comrie
Community Action Plan
2019-2022



Oakley & Comrie – Celebrating Success

In 2012, with support from Coalfields Regeneration Trust, members of the Oakley and Comrie community came together and formed a steering group which worked together to create a 5 year Community Action Plan.

This was done through an extensive process of community engagement carried out by the community for the community. Five years on, a lot has been achieved from the original plan, some priorities are still being worked on and some new priorities have been identified. This revised community action plan was produced, again with support from the Coalfields Regeneration Trust, in partnership with Oakley and Comrie Community Futures Group and Fife Council.

Based on a partnership approach, and under the banner of #WeAreOakleyandComrie this new community action plan will also act as the Fife Council's latest Neighbourhood Plan for Oakley and Comrie

The benefits of this partnership approach are:

- It builds on the strengths of the area but importantly, to raise awareness of the problems and difficulties affecting the lives of people and families in the area.
- It brings together local people and service providers to agree on projects and activities. This will improve the services delivered and the opportunities available for all.
- It informs the decision-makers in Fife of the priorities and actions needed in Oakley and Comrie as identified by local people.
- It influences the spend of decision-makers in Fife, to financially support the priorities, projects and activities identified in the Community Action Plan for Oakley and Comrie.
- It builds on the strong community spirit in the area and the development work already undertaken in the past five years by Oakley and Comrie Community Futures.

How Did We Develop This Community Action Plan?

- By hosting community focus groups at the Oakley Community Club. Facilitated discussions reviewed the various themes from the community

action plan and identified what actions had been completed, which are still in progress and what's new.

- By engaging with local young people including hosting a creative workshop to explore the key issues for young people at this time.
- Using Survey Monkey to reach out to the local community via social media platforms giving people an opportunity to rate progress and make comment on current issues.
- We provided a draft Community Action Plan for consultation at a 2 day community event at the Oakley Campus.

Building on the original Coalfields Oakley and Comrie Community Action Plan 2013 - 2018 and based on the results of the recent community engagement carried out, we have established our priorities. The community will work in partnership with Fife Council and other community planning partners. Our focus will be on these priorities helping to improve the lives of everyone living and working in Oakley and Comrie.

#WeAreOakleyandComrie is our neighbourhood plan. It highlights the priorities we need to work on and what we want to achieve.

We are placing our priorities under the four key themes in Fife's Community Plan so we can work in partnership to help improve services and funding opportunities:

- Opportunities for All.
- Thriving Places.
- Inclusive Growth & Jobs.
- Community Led Services.



Theme 1: Opportunities for All

These are the priorities the community has identified and will work towards achieving in partnership with Fife Council, public agencies and other supporters.

Develop and Support Youth Activities

- Promote and protect the existing youth groups.
- Work with Fife Council to identify gaps in youth provision.
- Secure funding for equipment for youth groups and activities.



Promote local opportunities

- Promote information sharing networks.
- Develop a platform for on-going community conversations.
- Ensure public notice boards are well sited across the community and fit for purpose.



Tackle food poverty

- Support and develop local initiatives eg Community Pantry, Community Café, Cooking on a Budget Classes and the Family Support Worker based in Oakley Campus.



Theme 2: Thriving Places

Promote and improve sports and recreation facilities and opportunities

- Explore opportunities for improving the Comrie Centre.
- Develop an increased range of sports and recreation activities.
- Support the Community Sports Hub Steering Group.
- Set up a website to promote activities and encourage involvement in sports.
- Support the development of a skate park/ BMX facility.

Safety for all in the Community

- Work with partners to explore ways to create a safer community especially for young people.

Develop green and growing spaces

- Work with partners to carry out a mapping exercise to identify what exists and needs to be developed including play spaces and growing spaces.
- Bring together young and old to share growing space and learning opportunities.

Traffic and parking

- Work with Fife Council to find solutions to traffic congestion and local parking issues.

Promote Safe Travel

- Support the implementation of the school Travel Plan including Walk to School Month and Bikeability Week.

Housing for the elderly

- Make representation to Fife Council Local Development Plan consultations to ensure the needs of the community are reflected accurately.

Research and promote local heritage

- Continue to support the 'We are Oakley and Comrie' school project on researching and documenting the local heritage of Oakley and Comrie.
- Use the local library to promote and develop local heritage projects.
- Promote activities and encourage more involvement eg set up a website.

Tackle Addiction and Anti-Social Behaviour

- Support and Develop the West Fife Villages Community Hub (based at Valleyfield Community Centre) for signposting to opportunities available to those in need of help.

Improve paths and access

- Work with Fife Council and partners to explore and develop linking access routes between communities.



Theme 3: Inclusive Growth and Jobs

Promote local business opportunities

- Encourage all local businesses to support and advertise using the local noticeboard and other media.

Local Jobs and Training opportunities

- Ensure that opportunities for adults/young people are promoted locally.
- Find out how other communities have set up projects to train and employ young people including Social Enterprise business models.

Reduce in-work poverty

- Promote existing initiatives including, low cost travel, Out of School Club, Community Creche, Walking Bus and Breakfast Club.
- Promote the West Fife Villages Community Hub, (based in Valleyfield Community Centre), Community Pantry, Community Café as well as Skills Training and development opportunities.



Theme 4: Community Led Services

Improve access to local services tailored to support the most vulnerable working age members of the community

- Support a Community Bank/Credit Union.

Promote Recycling

- Encourage community led recycling initiatives for all ages through education on the global need to Reduce, Re-use and Recycle.
- Promote and support local initiatives eg Plastics Free Dunfermline, Oakley Campus Rag Bag collection (supports school funds).

Support and develop floral displays and gardens

- Develop involvement in floral enhancements throughout the villages eg Grandparent Gardening Week at Oakley Campus before Easter break.



Our Vision for the Future of Oakley and Comrie

- *A busy thriving place with great services and facilities.*
- *A caring and cared for community that works together to provide a safe, happy and welcoming environment.*
- *A healthy community with good connections to the surrounding countryside, making the most of our environment and our heritage.*



#WeAreOakleyandComrie

We need your help

Local people have the power to design local services, to influence and take decisions and it can all start by getting more involved in community life. Here are some of the ways you can join in.

- Join the Oakley and Comrie Community Futures Group.
- Keep up to date with local initiatives and get involved.
- Get involved in Local Campaigns & Conversations.
- Follow us #WeAreOakleyandComrie

Get to know your Councillors

www.fifedirect.org.uk/councillors

For info: Contact Oakley Community Centre on 01383 602344 and ask for Hazel Jow

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Design: Michael Ricketts

Print: Armstrong Printers (Alloa) Ltd

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust

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A Charity Registered in Scotland No SCO39277