



Banff

**Community
Action Plan**

Recent and current projects:

<p>Aberdeenshire Council and other agencies Banff Renaissance Project</p> <p>Tourism</p>	<p>To revive and restore to economic use identified buildings or sites within the historic core of Banff.</p> <p>Identified as an economic driver with Duff House Country Gallery the principal focus. Town guide published and website (www.banff-macduff.com) developed. Improvements to signage and erection of community information boards planned.</p>
<p>Agencies In Partnership with Community Historic harbour of Banff being converted into a Marina, to be an economic driver for the town.</p> <p>Large scale sports centre at Princess Royal Park</p> <p>Rebuild Chalmers Hospital</p> <p>Historic walking route</p> <p>Water safety awareness projects and encouraging the creation of neighbourhood watch groups.</p>	<p>Promoted by Banff Harbour Users Group and developed by Aberdeenshire Council, Scottish Enterprise Grampian through Building Buchanan New Beginning Initiative and East of Scotland European Partnership</p> <p>Princess Royal Sports & Community Trust have drawn up plans and secured funding</p> <p>Encouraged by the Save Chalmers Hospital group, NHS Grampian has completed plans for rebuilding the hospital.</p> <p>Sponsored by the Aberdeenshire Towns Partnership and developed with the co-operation of the Banff Preservation & Heritage Society.</p> <p>Community Safety Group</p>
<p>Community groups independently Floral arrangements throughout the town and environmental landscape strategy commissioned</p> <p>Beach clean</p> <p>Banff & Macduff Christmas Lights Association</p> <p>Skateboarding rink</p> <p>Banffshire Show</p> <p>Deveron Music Festival</p>	<p>Community Council</p> <p>Community Council</p> <p>Provision of festive lights</p> <p>Developed and funds raised by Board 2 Xtremes</p> <p>Organised by the Banffshire Show committee</p> <p>Arranged and organised by the Deveron Music Festival Committee.</p>



Duff House Country Gallery.



Skate park.

Photo: Board 2 Xtremes

Four Top Priorities in Banff

The priorities outlined in this document are those identified by members of the public during extensive Planning for Real consultations in Banff in summer 2005 and take account of actions taken since then.

The top four to emerge were:

Projects which would involve the community in partnership

Dog mess (Theme : Local Environment)

This is far and away the biggest environmental issue for members of the public. Solutions proposed include applying the Dog Fouling (Scotland) Act 2003 effectively, which would depend on Aberdeenshire Council employing many more dog wardens; creating dog free zones; and providing more poop bins and signage; educating irresponsible dog owners and encouraging members of the public to report those who do not clean up after their dogs. [EH, CSG, general public]

Projects which would require action by an outside agency

Sports facilities (Theme : Community Facilities & Activity)

There is a general demand for more sports facilities, including

tennis courts and an outdoor fitness trail at Duff House, and also for more use to be made of the Astroturf at the Primary School. Which facilities will eventually be provided depends of course on the outcome of the 'Tesco issue'. [T&I, E&R]

Traffic flow (Theme : Traffic & Transportation)

A large number of people called for measures, including traffic lights and roundabouts, to address perceived problems of traffic flow at junctions with the 'new road', but the local authority is constrained by national criteria. There was also support for a new bridge across the Deveron. [T&I]

Slow traffic down (Theme : Traffic & Transportation)

Measures are wanted to slow traffic down in a wide variety of locations – both main streets and side streets - and there is support for 20 mph zones in residential areas. Aberdeenshire Council has already installed traffic calming bumps in Boyndie Street and miniroundabouts in Sandyhill and is considering other locations. [T&I, bus companies, emergency services]



Proposed Better Life Centre, Banff, for Piincess Royal Sports & Community Trust.

Photo: Piincess Royal Sports & Community Trust



Banff Bridge.

Jobs & The Economy

People made very few comments on this theme, suggesting that they leave this to the various agencies currently involved in economic development in the area and cannot contribute themselves. [BMESSG,ATP]

Local Environment

This theme produced the third largest number of comments and one of the top priorities (see page 5). Others were:

Projects which would involve the community in partnership

Litter at Banff Academy

There has been a long term problem with litter dropped outside the school at morning interval and lunchtime. This suggests there is a need for the school and parents to educate the pupils responsible not to drop litter. [E&R, parents]

Gulls

Noise and pollution caused by gulls are seen as a problem especially in Chalmers Hospital area and also at the Primary School. [P&ES]

Derelict buildings and streets

A number of locations are identified as needing to be done up: Bridge Street, Carmelite Street, Low Street, Strait Path, Deveronside next to the Ship Inn, and the former Crown Motors site. Action is needed by Aberdeenshire Council and the Banff & Macduff Strategy Group and Aberdeenshire Towns Partnership both to progress the Renaissance Project and to encourage owners of private properties to do them up. [P&ES, BMESSG,ATP, private individuals]



Banff Harbour.



Low Street, looking up Strait Path.

Crime & Community Safety

This theme came fourth in order of number of comments.

Projects which would involve the community in partnership

Police foot patrols

As in all communities there is a wish to see more foot patrols, which can involve the Community Beat Officer and Special Constables. *[GP, CSP]*

Drug dealing

A hard line by police on searching and charging is wanted, but their intelligence based approach depends on information provided by the public either through the Crimestoppers system or direct. *[GP, general public]*

Projects which would require action by an outside agency

Drug taking

A short term strategy is wanted to educate young people, delivered by the Positive Lifestyles partnership. A rehab facility should be provided in the longer term. *[E&R, GP]*

Noise and rowdiness at night

There is concern at disruption, mainly late at night at weekends, at two locations where steps have already been taken to deal with the problem. *[GP, L&A]*

Improved lighting

This was thought to be needed in a few locations in the town and could be addressed using sensor-operated lights on properties or brighter street lighting as appropriate. *[H&SW, T&I, GP]*



St Mary's Kirkyard.



Plainstones, Low Street.

6. Traffic & Transportation		Stop inappropriate parking outside Primary School [T&I, GP, CSP, E&R, parents]	Traffic flow [T&I] Slow traffic down [T&I] Cycle lanes [T&I, cycling organisations]
7. Crime & Community Safety		Police foot patrols [GP, CSP] Drug dealing [GP, general public]	Drug taking [E&R, GP] Noise and rowdiness at night [GP, L&A, licensees & staff] Improved lighting [H&SW, T&I, GP]

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

Others:

BMCC Banff & Macduff Community Council

BMDBA Banff, Macduff & District Business Association

Other agencies:

ATP

Aberdeenshire Towns Partnership

BMESSG

Banff & Macduff Economic Strategy Steering Group

CSP

Community Safety Partnership

GP

Grampian Police

NHS

NHS Grampian