



Fossoway & District Community Action Plan COMMUNITY PROFILE & STAKEHOLDER VIEWS

October 2024



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

CONTENTS

	pages
1. Location	3
2. Population	5
3. Housing	8
4. Economy	10
5. Education	14
6. Health and Care	16
7. Community facilities, groups and activities	18
8. Environment and Heritage	22
9. Transport and Active Travel	27
10. Traffic and roads	30

Note on sources of Information and views

This report summarises useful facts and figures about the area as well as the views of a range of stakeholders that have an interest in the future of the community. It has been prepared as part of the community engagement process that will inform the first Fossoway & District Community Action Plan for 2025 – 2030.

The preparation of the Community Action Plan has been commissioned by the Fossoway Community Development Trust and funded by Perth and Kinross Council Community Led Local Development Fund. The process has been managed by a local Community Action Planning Steering Group.

The process also includes a Community Views Survey and an Open Day to be held in November 2024 at the Crook of Devon Village Hall.

Profile Information

The desk research draws on area statistics that are available for 'datazones' across Scotland. The 'best fit' ones for Fossoway and District Community Council area are:

- SO1011833 – which includes Blairingone, Powmill, and Rumbling Bridge
- SO101843 - which includes Crook of Devon, Drum, Carnbo and Fossoway

We have been able to use information from the Scottish 2022 Census, from the Scottish Indicators of Multiple Deprivation, Scottish Government Agricultural Census, Perth and Kinross Core Path Plans and other factual information from the Stakeholder Conversations.

Stakeholder Conversations

This report also includes information and views provided through a series of *Stakeholder Conversations*. A list of key people and organisations to invite to the Conversations was prepared by the Steering Group. Meetings & conversations were carried out by STAR Development Group.

Participants included representatives from: Fossoway Community Development Trust, Fossoway and District Community Council, Crook and Drum Growing Together, Penney's Woodland, Crook of Devon Village Hall, Carnbo Village Hall Association, Moubray Hall Committee, Fossoway Church and Elizabeth Wilkie Hall, Powmill SWI, Blairingone SWI, Powmill Bloomers, Perth and Kinross Council (Planning Department), Fossoway Primary School, Baby's and Toddler Group, Blairingone Village focus group, Rumbling Bridge village focus group, Rumbling Bridge Care Home, Crook of Devon Inn, County Fabrics, Solsgirth House, Fossoway Stables, Fossoway Memories (Heritage). Additional conversations were held by volunteers from the CAP Steering Group at the Fossoway Gathering, and with young people at KYTHE Youth Club.

1. LOCATION

- Fossoway and District is a large rural community council area in Perth and Kinross. It is part of Kinross-shire and is on the border with Clackmannanshire and Fife.



- 1.2 The Community Council area includes the small villages of Rumbling Bridge, Crook of Devon, Drum, Powmill, Blairingone and Carnbo and a number of scattered rural settlements. There is an extensive upland area to the north of Carnbo that takes in the eastern edge of the Ochils. The upland area gives way to rich grassland and farmland to the south and east. The rivers – River Devon, Pow Burn and Gairney Burn are defining features of the landscape.
- 1.3 Kinross is a nearby hub for the area with health services, high school and community campus, retail and hospitality, with good bus connections to larger towns and cities.
- 1.4 Fossoway and District is in the 10% most deprived datazones in Scotland for 'geographical access' (2020, Scottish Indicators of Multiple Deprivation). This reflects 'the issues of financial cost, time and inconvenience of having to travel to access basic services.'

Stakeholder Views

Close to towns and cities but rural and scenic

1.5 The area's location is seen as offering a great mix of being close to the central belt while living in an attractive peaceful rural area. It is seen as a good place to commute from, and businesses also see it as a good place for people to come to.

A community of communities

1.6 Stakeholders noted that it was difficult to bring people together at a Fossoway and District level given the scale and nature of the place. Events like the Fossoway Gathering and the Flower Show were highlighted as way of celebrating a sense of shared community.

1.7 It was noted that the villages have arisen and grown for very different reasons at different times benefiting from their location, geology, and landscape. Blairingone as a mining community, Crook of Devon around the Mills along the river, Carnbo through its links to the rural economy and upland farming. This has meant that they have often developed their own facilities, amenities and services which have then proven difficult to sustain in more recent times.

Getting places and accessing services

1.8 The location can mean that some people access services, work, shopping and recreation in different local authority areas. While some people see Kinross and Perth as their focal places for services others will use services and facilities in Clackmannanshire, Fife or Stirling. For people in Blairingone – Dollar is only 2 miles away and Saline in Fife is 6 miles away. For people in Crook of Devon, Drum and Carnbo – Kinross is the more obvious place to go only a few miles away.

1.9 Poor public transport and lack of active travel routes make it difficult for residents to access places tantalizingly close to them. The busy A roads that pass through the settlements make this problem worse. Over the years villages have lost shops, hotels, and pubs and so the need to access services, facilities and amenities elsewhere has grown – making it more important to improve access.

Headlines

Large community council area dotted with small villages and rural settlements.

Lovely rural and scenic location with good access to major cities.

Great location for commuting because of good access to main roads and transport hubs.

More of a 'community of communities' rather than one obvious community.

On the border with Clackmannanshire and Fife.

Villages location along busy A roads with traffic volume and speed a major problem.

Poor public transport and a lack of walking and cycling routes for active travel limits access to services and amenities.

Difficulty accessing local services and amenities means area is classified in the 10% of the most deprived for 'geographic access' in Scotland (SIMD 2020))

2. POPULATION

Total population

2.1 The population of the two data zones that correspond closely to the Community Council area was 2,191 in the 2022 Census. The table below shows how the population has changed since the 2011 Census and the 2022 Census growing by over 7% since 2011. This compares to a smaller population increase of 2.9% for Perth and Kinross.

Age Range	2011 Census - % of population in age range	2022 Census - % of population in age range
0-4	4.2%	3.8%
5-15	14.8%	12%
16-29	10.5%	10.5%
30-44	16.3%	13.5%
45-59	27%	28%
60-74	18.3%	24%
75-84	7.2%	7.4%
85 +	1.8%	1.4%
TOTAL POPULATION	2,036	2,191

Sources: Census from 2011 and 2022

2.2 Most significant changes look like

- A decline in the percentage of under 16's. (from 19% down to 15.8%)
- A reduction in the percentage of those in the 30-44 age range
- the rise in the percentage of the population in the 60 -74 age group

Comparison of age profile with Kinross, Perth and Kinross, and Scotland

Age	Fossoway and District	Fossoway and District	Kinross	Perth and Kinross %	Scotland %
Under 15	314	14.3%	15.7%	14.7%	15.3%
15 – 64	1371	62.6%	59.6%	60.7%	64.6%
65 and over	506	23.1%	24.6%	24.7%	20.1%

Source: Census 2022

2.3 Fossoway has much the same age profile as Perth and Kinross as a whole. It has most noticeably a higher percentage of the 15-64 age range, slightly lower number of over 65's and slightly fewer percentage of people under 15 – but no real major differences to note.

Stakeholder Views

Population Change

2.4 Stakeholders mentioned the increase in population in terms of the growth in housing and also noted that there was a recent change in the population age profile with younger families starting to replace longer time residents moving out of the area.

2.5 Changes in population were often thought to be linked to changes in employment patterns over time – the older patterns of local employment on the land being replaced over the years by people commuting, and now more recently changing again with people more interested in living in smaller communities and being able to work from home or 'hybrid working'.

'Carnbo is now primarily a commuter village with people leaving and newcomers coming in with some people working remotely from home.'

'People who have lived for a long time in Crook of Devon have recently been replaced by younger families moving to the area.'

2.6 The primary school reported a recent trend of growing number of children - with the school roll increasing in recent years and this tallies with local perceptions of younger families now moving into the area. A healthy sign for the sustainability of the community.

2.7. Despite these recent changes however it was felt that there were still less children in the area than 15 years ago.....and this seems to be borne out by the Census statistics comparisons.

Population growth and access to services

2.8 The significant growth in population (7% between 2011 and 2022) – was seen as placing greater demands on services that had not increased accordingly. Mention was made of the health services being overstretched. On the other hand, it was felt that the failure to build houses in Blairingone had contributed to the demise of the school, and that some growth was necessary to sustain services and the local economy.

Population and Housing

2.9 There was concern that the population mix was affected by the limited type of housing available, and this is explored more in the next section.

Ability to stay in the area later in life

2.10 There was concern that the lack of access to services and dependency on cars has meant that people might move out of the area if they were no longer able to drive and/or were more dependent on services outwith the area.

Headlines

Significant growth in population over the last decade

Drop in under 16s in between the last two census.

However most recent trends suggesting more young families now moving into the area.

Primary School roll is up in the last 3 years.

Growth in population putting pressure on services.

Population mix affected by the limited nature of the local housing market.

Potential difficulty staying in the area later in life due to lack of access to services

3. HOUSING

Total number of houses

3.1 The total number of occupied houses in the Fossoway data zones has risen from 775 in the 2011 Census to 915 in the 2022 Census.

Comparison of Tenure with Perth & Kinross and Scotland

3.2 There is a relatively high level of owner occupied housing and low levels of social and private rented housing compared to regional and national figures.

Tenure	Fossoway and District Datazones	Perth and Kinross %	Scotland %
Owner Occupied	88%	67.76%	63.2%
Social Rented	2.8%	16.44%	22.5%
Private Rented	6.7%	13.74%	12.87%
Other (incl. rent free)	2%	2.06%	1.43%

Source: Census 2022

Housing types and prices

3.2 The main type of housing is detached housing - 79% of all houses in the area.

3.3 The following Scottish Government statistics compare various housing related measures in Fossoway with Perth & Kinross and Scotland.

Measure	Datazone SO1011833	Datazone SO1011843	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Number of dwellings 2020	411	540	58,999	2,660,863
No. of dwellings per hectare 2020	0.17	0.06	0.14	0.35
Mean House Price 2018	£286,190	£321,478	£180,143	£181,457
Median House Price 2018	£240,000	£292,000	£170,000	£152,500

Source: Scottish Government Statistics 2020

The mean and median house prices are very high in Fossoway compared to Perth and Kinross and Scotland. The mean house price is the statistical average of all the properties sold in the given year. The median house price is the exact midway point of all the prices, so is less skewed by the sale of very high-end houses than the statistical mean. The median house price in Fossoway is also very high suggesting that a greater proportion of available housing is particularly difficult to afford in this area.

Stakeholder Views

Growth in housing

3.4 It was felt that the growth in housing – and population – had not been matched by a growth of services and infrastructure. Further significant developments will include the Garwhinzean Hotel site development in Powmill and the 124 residential lodges to be built at Devonshaw. The Powmill site has been approved for 29 houses with seven affordable houses included in that number.

House size and type

3.5 It was thought that there was an oversupply of larger 'executive' housing and that this influenced the mix of population - making housing in the area difficult to access for smaller family units and for people on lower income. There was also a concern that some houses being built were not 'in keeping' with the village and rural nature of the area.

Housing development

3.6 Stakeholder views on housing development were varied and included:

- A desire to see more varied types and scale of housing and more affordable housing to ensure that the area attracts younger families and a wider cross section of people and provides options for local people to stay/downsize as their circumstances change.
- Concern over the scale of the plans for housing in Powmill.
- A concern that housing development did not lead to the loss of green spaces.
- The need to take account of flooding issues in Crook of Devon in considering future housing development.
- Concern over the appearance of the Travelers' Caravan Site in Crook of Devon.
- A hope that the development of the residential lodges site at Devonshaw would be well connected to neighbouring villages and help support local services.
- That the past failure to build houses in Blairingone had contributed to the closing of the school.
- Concern that a perceived planning preference for housing development over business/economic development/farm diversification was to the detriment of the local economy and did not contribute to a balanced approach to development.

Headlines

Growth in housing over the last 10-12 years.

A sense that the growth in housing had not been matched by the necessary infrastructure and growth in service provision.

Very high levels of owner occupation and lack of social and private rented accommodation.

High house prices and larger housing are characteristics of the current housing market in the area and influence the mix of population.

Stakeholder concern that there is a need for more sensitive development in the future that balances housing development with the need to retain the rural nature of the place, the need to protect green spaces, the need to provide additional infrastructure and services, and the need to also encourage development for local employment/business.

That the development mix should include affordable/smaller housing units

That there should be a greater awareness of flooding issues particularly in Crook of Devon.

4. EMPLOYMENT AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

Economic Activity

	Fossoway Datazone 833	Fossoway Datazone 843	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Economically Active (excl full time students)	57.68%	61.10%	57.39%	56.85%
Full Time Employees	31.61%	35.13%	34.62%	36.07%
Part Time Employees	10.96%	10.39%	11.55%	11.51%
Self Employed People with employees	3.93%	4.25%	2.29%	1.58%
Self Employed without employees	9.82%	10.29%	7.39%	5.84%
Unemployed	1.89%	1.32%	1.53%	1.88%
Full time Students	2.9%	1.61%	2.48%	3.97%
Economically Inactive	39.04%	37.31%	40.14%	39.14%
Retired	27.58%	28.05%	28.26%	23.32%
Student	3.65%	2.17%	3.14%	4.87%
Looking after family	3.40%	3.21%	2.82%	3.43%
Long term sick	2.9%	2.74%	3.80%	5.19%
Other	1.39%	1.42%	2.11	2.34%

Source: Census 2022

4.1 The statistics from the 2022 census help to highlight the importance of self-employment in Fossoway compared with Perth and Kinross and Scotland. This is true of self-employed with or without employees. Self-employment rates in Fossoway are twice that for Scotland. There is a slight difference in terms of overall economic activity with it being slightly higher in Fossoway and economic inactivity slightly lower. It is perhaps interesting to note that there is a higher percentage of people looking after family than there is in Perth and Kinross as a whole.

Employment by sector

4.2 The main sectors of employment for people living in Fossoway and District are: Health and Social Work; Education: Wholesale, Retail and Garages; Professional, Scientific and Technical; Public Administration; Manufacturing, and Construction. (Scottish Census 2022)

4.3 it is worth noting that agriculture still plays an important role in the area. It employs over 5% of the workforce compared to 3.46% for Perth and Kinross and 1.64% for Scotland. There is a workforce of around 133 people engaged in agriculture (*Agricultural Statistics for Fossoway Agricultural Parish (2023)*) – with 68 of those being farm occupiers, 33 full time employees, 20 part-time and 12 seasonal workers.

4.4 It is likely that the presence of Rumbling Bridge Care Home is a contributory factor to the importance of the Health and Social Work sector in the area. They employ around 60 people.

Stakeholder Views

Local retail and hospitality

4.5 Over the years the area has lost local shops, pubs and hotels. Their loss is identified with a loss of opportunities for social and community cohesion. The remaining shops, pub and Milk Bar are highly valued as is the local garage and shop. There is however concern for the future of the one remaining pub in Crook of Devon as well as the shop/Post Office. The pub is only open at weekends, and it is thought that the owners of the pub and the shop in Crook of Devon are due to retire.

4.6 In general stakeholders wanted to see more places to socialise – pubs and cafes to meet in and as important hubs in the area. In this context the new café at the Fossoway Stables is a welcome addition as is the Monthly Market at Solsgirth. Fossoway Stables also hope to open a Farm Shop soon and develop a Market Garden in the coming years.

Location

4.7 The area is thought to be in a good location for business. This was noted by several business stakeholders – pointing out that they served a wide area and were not just reliant on local trade.

'...we can be easily accessed from anywhere in Central Scotland. Many of our highland-based customers visit when travelling south to Perth, Edinburgh or Glasgow. Our regular in-store customers visit easily from Fife, Lothian, Clackmannan, Perthshire, Stirlingshire, Glasgow etc.'

'Customers come to the pub from a wide area it's not just local custom'

Lack of business units/land for economic development

4.8 There was thought to be a real lack of business units/land that had good access and main road frontage in the area in and around the villages. There was a strong perception and first-hand experience of planning being difficult for businesses wanting to expand or diversify or move to better sites. It was said that landmanagers wanting to diversify income had found it easier to acquire planning for housing development rather than for business development. They found the planning process a barrier rather than a help – and adversarial in nature and as a result often costly. The worry was that businesses existing and new could be lost to the area despite it being perceived as a good place to base businesses.

4.9 In general there was a hope for a better mix of development and not an overemphasis on housing development. Rumbling Bridge was cited as a good example of a residential area with some land on its outskirts for business/employment use – which is now being developed.

More for visitors

4.10 There was a general feeling that more could be done to encourage the 'visitor economy' The area was thought to not have made as much of its location and assets as it could. A vision would be to have attractions for people to visit, a good local paths

network that is well signed and promoted, cafes, pubs and accommodation, and events and activities, better parking, more information about what is on offer - and some toilet

facilities! There are already very good examples of individual landmanagers developing along these lines e.g., Fossoway Stables and Solsgirth House. However as mentioned above their planning road to diverse development was not viewed as being easy.

Lack of public transport

4.11 Access to employment is made more difficult by poor public transport (and active travel links). Most workers are highly car dependent either in getting out of the area to work elsewhere, or to come into the area to work in one of the local businesses. It was reported that the Powmill Milk Bar had to shut on a Sunday (typically one of their busiest days) due to the difficulties in recruiting staff that could travel easily to the area. Other employers including the Care Home also noted that it was difficult to recruit and retain staff due to lack of public transport.

Safe paths for active travel linked to the local economy

4.12 Several safer routes/paths were mentioned as being desirable in the context of linking people and community to businesses and these included:

- Drum to the Garage
- Rumbling Bridge Care Home to Crook of Devon
- Carnbo to Crook of Devon
- Blaringone to Solsgirth House
- Powmill to Crook of Devon
- Crook of Devon to Fossoway Stables
- Routes between Fossoway and Kinross and Dollar
- Future - Residential Caravan Site at Devonshaw to Powmill and Blairingone

Role for the community?

4.13 There was thought to be a potential role for the community in easing some of the weaknesses in the local economy:

- Working with employers to solve transport problems – one potential role for a Community Bus?
- Looking at ways of identifying suitable sites for business units and helping to create a more proactive and approachable relationship with planners.
- Considering a role for community ownership in the provision of hospitality and vital services. It was noted that communities elsewhere had organized the community buy out and operation of local pubs, shops, and post offices.
- Develop role of community halls in supporting home workers (e.g., Crook of Devon Hall already promote their two small meeting rooms as workspaces with good wifi).
- Helping to develop safe route links from residential areas to shops, hospitality, amenities, services.

Headlines

Economic activity/inactivity broadly similar to that of Perth and Kinross.

The significance of self-employment in the area – higher than for Perth and Kinross.

The need to retain and develop local shops, pubs, cafes.

More holistic development and growth of a 'visitor economy.'

Lack of suitable business sites – with a need to work more closely with planners.

Community working with businesses to solve local problems ((transport, business sites, safe routes for active travel, planning, meeting/workspaces in community facilities etc.)

Considering the role for community ownership of vital services and business e.g. pub, post office.

5. EDUCATION AND CHILDCARE

Nursery Provision

5.1 Fossoway Primary School have a nursery facility within the school. It has over 29 children on the list and can take 24 children in any one day. Fossoplay is an outdoor nursery based at Fossoway Stables. It provides a nursery service for up to 24 children (and had 50 children on the roll) aged between 2-5 years old. It is recognized as a 'partner provider' by Perth and Kinross Council. Some parents organise a 'split placement' with their children attending a mix of the school nursery and Fossoplay.

Fossoway Primary School

5.2 The primary school provides education for P1-P7. There are currently around 109 pupils in the school - an increase from 87 pupils three years ago.

High School

5.3 The main High School for the catchment is in Kinross. Some children go to Dollar Academy and other schools outwith the area.

Childcare

5.4 There is currently no wrap around care. The nearest is in Kinross and Milnathort. There is thought to be only one childminder that covers the Fossoway area.

Stakeholder views

Working with the community

5.5 The school take part in community activities and work with community groups. They have recently formed a Community Committee to develop these and other community connections. For example, pupils have recently been working on designs for improved play equipment in Waulkmill Park.

Both the school and Fossoplay highlight the value they place on outdoor education so being able to work with local community groups and local businesses on this is a great resource and a strong feature of education in the area. They take part in activities at Penney's Woodland and the Community Orchard and use the 9 Acres Scout Camp.

Safe routes

5.6 In general as already mentioned lack of active travel options is a real weakness in the community, and safe routes to school are one aspect of this. Within Crook of Devon itself main road up to the school is seen as dangerous, as is crossing the main A roads. A Park and Stride initiative is being put in place with the starting point being the Crook of Devon Village Hall car park.

Other barriers to safe active travel to school/nursery mentioned included:

- the poor cycle path and its unprotected proximity to the road between Powmill and Crook of Devon which also affects cycle access from Rumbling Bridge.

- Lack of pavements out of Carnbo to the Gelvan Road and lack of a proper joined up safe functional route between Carnbo and Crook of Devon
- The need for an extended pavement out from Crook of Devon to Fossoway Stables for the nursery and after school clubs.

Lack of Childcare

5.7 Stakeholders often noted the difficulty in accessing childcare locally. They noted that this limited their ability to work and resulted in a range of expensive and complicated childcare arrangements. Parents at the Primary School have organized a volunteer run Breakfast Club that helps, and after school clubs run by Fossoplay at Fossoway Stables go some way to fill the gaps left by lack of after school care – but it is recognized that more is needed.

'Parents struggle with childcare.'

'Currently parents access childcare in Kinross, Kelty, Dollar, Dunfermline. There is even not enough in Kinross'.

'Parents in Crook send their kids to Milnathort for After School Care.'

Headlines

Growth in Nursery and School Roll.

Need to maintain and develop safe routes to school.

Lack of childcare and need to develop wrap around care locally.

Parent run Breakfast Club and After School Clubs help provide some out of school hour activities.

Good work between school and community.

Value placed on outdoor education.

6. HEALTH AND CARE

Health and Care Services

6.1 Resources and facilities include:

- GP Services in Kinross and Dollar
- Main hospitals in Ninewells, Dundee and Perth Royal Infirmary, Perth, (as well as Dunfermline and Larbert).
- Ambulance Service in Kinross and Fife
- Kinross First Responders
- The availability of public defibrillators Crook of Devon Village Hall, Carnbo Village Hall, Blaringone,
- Care home in Rumbling Bridge

6.2 The Care Home has 23 rooms catering for the elderly and is also home to 18 residents with Huntingdon's Disease. They use Health Services in Kinross and Dollar.

Local Perceptions of Health

6.3 The census asks people to rate their health as being either - very good, good, fair, bad, very bad. The results for the Fossoway data zones show a little change between the 2011 and 2022 censuses with a slightly higher percentage of people describing their health as less than good or very good. However as can be seen Fossoway is in very good health compared to Perth and Kinross and Scotland!

Perceptions of Health	Fossoway 2011	Fossoway 2022	Perth and Kinross 2022	Scotland 2022
Very good health	59%	56%	49.37%	47.95%
Good health	29%	28%	31.99	30.89%
Fair Health	9%	11%	13.4%	14.22%
Bad Health	2.3%	3%	4.29%	5.30%
Very Bad Health	0.7%	2%	1.18%	1.64%

Census Data: 2011 and 2022

Unpaid Carers

6.4 Census 2022 results include information on unpaid carers – with as many as 250 people providing unpaid care in the Fossoway area.

Number and percentage of people over 3 involved in unpaid care

	Fossoway data zone 833	Fossoway datazone 843	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
All unpaid care	14.9% (135 people)	10.77% (115 people)	12.17%	11.86%

Census 2022

Stakeholder views

Growth in population and access to services

6.5 One of the major issues identified was growing difficulty in accessing health services in Kinross. There was also issues in accessing any NHS dentists in the area and several stakeholders mentioned the use of dentists as far away as Edinburgh and Dunfermline.

Role of community halls/hubs

6.6 It was noted that community halls could explore how to provide outreach health and care services, or appropriate activities and activities that contributed to wellbeing. There might also be a need to look at how to support respite care given the number of unpaid carers in the area. Some halls in the area had been part of the 'Warm Hubs' scheme and were applying to take part again this year.

Work with the Care Home

6.7 As noted the Rumbling Bridge Care Home were keen to look at ways of improving transport arrangements for their staff to support their recruitment and retention. They attribute high turnover of staff to difficulties with transport. They also noted that there was a need to improve the pavements leading from the Care Home up to the main A977 road and the path links between Powmill and Crook of Devon. Improvements would help them to take residents to activities and events in the Church and Village Halls.

Strategic Issues

Health Services being accessed often across at least 4 different local authority areas.
Fossoway in relatively good health!
Significant (?) number of people involved in unpaid care.
Pressure on health services due to growth in population and more difficult to access.
Role of community halls in providing outreach health, care and wellbeing services.
Supporting the local Care Home to access community facilities, activities and events.

7. COMMUNITY AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND GROUPS

7.1. A list of community facilities and organisations includes:

Village Halls and Church Hall

- Carnbo Village Hall
- Crook of Devon Village Hall
- Moubray Village Hall (Powmill)
- Elizabeth Wilkie Church Hall. (Crook of Devon)

Open Spaces and Outdoor Recreation

Main areas include:

- Park in Blaringone and garden beside Blairingone School
- Playpark beside Moubray Hall (Powmill)
- Waulkmill Park (Crook of Devon)
- Tennis Courts (Crook of Devon)
- Village Green (Crook of Devon)
- Fossoway Community Orchard
- Penney's Wood (Crook of Devon)
- School grounds (Crook of Devon)
- Scouts Field (Crook of Devon)
- Open Space beside Carnbo Village Hall

Community Groups

- Fossoway & District Community Council
- Fossoway Community Development Trust
- Crook of Devon Village Hall Committee
- Carnbo Village Hall Committee
- Crook and Drum Growing Together
- Penney's Woodland Group
- Powmill Bloomers
- Fossoway Horticultural Society
- Fossoway Gathering
- SWI Groups in Powmill, Blairingone and Carnbo

Sports and Recreation Groups and Activities

- Fossoway Tennis Club
- Table Tennis Club (Carnbo Hall)
- Outdoor Bowling Club (Carnbo)
- Fossoway Ladies Amateur Badminton Club
- Scottish Country Dancing Club (Crook of Devon Hall)
- Crook of Devon Carpet Bowls (Crook of Devon Hall)
- Legacy Gymnastics Club (Crook of Devon Hall)
- Vinnyassa Yoga Classes (Crook of Devon Hall)
- Walkers Group (Church Hall – organized walks)
- Carnbo Sewing Group
- Creative Crafters (Church Hall)
- Fossoway Board Games Night (Church Hall)

Children and Young People

- Youth Club - (Church Hall)
- Baby and Toddlers Group (Church Hall)
- Parent and Teachers Association (School)

- Scout Group

Community Events include:

- Fossoway Gathering
- Horticultural Flower Show
- Carnbo Cabaret and music events, BBQ's, Duck Egg Race, Coffee and Chat, Monday Night Talks, Pop Up Pub, Halloween, Children's Christmas Tree Party, Christmas Community Party, Social Nights and Fundraisers.
- Crook of Devon Hall – Annual Ceilidh, Quiz Nights, Disco
- Film nights (Church Hall)
- Re:refresh (Drop In Thursday Afternoon Tea and Chat at Church Hall)
- Fossoway School Fete
- Fair Trade Stall (monthly at Church Hall)
- Quiz Nights (Moubray Hall)

Community social media and newsletters

Many of the halls, groups have their own websites and/or facebook pages

Community Benefit Funds and organisations

Rumbling Bridge Community Hydro Society

Stakeholder Views and Information

Need for community hubs

7.2 Stakeholders identified the need for community hubs in each of the villages – indoor and outdoor places where people could meet and join in with activities and events. Community halls and green spaces were seen as being very important especially given the linear nature of the villages, the traffic dominated A roads that run through them and the loss of cafés, pubs, hotels, and shops. There was also a feeling expressed that as the communities and population were changing there was less of a sense of community than was perhaps once the case. Developing community and social hubs was seen as an important way of addressing this.

'There is no shop, church or other meeting place therefore Carnbo Community Hall is the only venue in the village for community events'.

7.3 In light of the above there were some needs and action identified to fill gaps in provision in some of the villages:

- Blairingone has no indoor hub and the community is working to develop one in the old School with a potential focus on health and wellbeing – the subject of a current feasibility study
- Blairingone has a park which was well used during Covid, and it was felt it could be developed as an outdoor hub for activities, events and community gathering. There is also potential to make more of the garden at the school if it becomes a community asset.
- Rumbling Bridge has no hub, but they have identified a potential site for an open space that could be a village green/recreation area/event field for community gatherings. – *'a green space a hub - could be at the heart of the community.'*
- Powmill - Moubray Hall is currently underused and there was a desire to see it developed more as a lively hub. It is run by the Women's Institute and is currently mainly used for SWI meetings and events.

All of the above need some commitment to develop them as they all in different ways require a review of ownership and management and the potential for a stronger role for the community in developing them.

Community Halls

7.4 Other points made about individual halls and activities included:

- The good work of Carnbo Hall, Crook of Devon Village Hall, and the Fossoway Church Hall in providing activities and events and meeting spaces for groups
- Carnbo Village Hall was seen as a very good example of a hall committee proactively organizing a wide range of activities and events. Their outdoor space beside the hall is seen as a particular asset.
- Crook of Devon Hall assets include a good-sized hall (that can be used for badminton) small meeting rooms (workspaces) and a good kitchen as well as good broadband wifi.
- The desire to see more activities – for young people and for all ages
- To use halls as a base for more adult education classes
- To use the Halls as Warm Spaces
- To look at ways of using the Halls for outreach health and wellbeing services. – ‘we need social service organisers and service facilities hubs’
- To have halls offer more informal ways of meeting – drop in cafes/pop up pubs. – ‘Cleish Hall has a pop-up pub.’
- To include the role of halls in Resilience Planning (Crook of Devon Hall is now recognized as a resilience centre)
- Support halls to become more energy efficient and use renewable energy where possible.

Parks, Play Areas and Outdoor Recreation

Blairingone Village Park – *reinvigorate the Park and turn it into a public green space*’.

Powmill Play Area – the area is at the back of the village hall and has some play equipment which is thought by some to be outdated and which could be improved.

Waulkmill Park

The park is a great asset throughout the year and is also home for the Fossoway Gathering. It has a range of play equipment and a football area. Improvements were advocated that would see:

- Improved play facilities
- Shelter and picnic areas for all
- Outdoor gym
- Skate Park
- A better football pitch
- A multi-use games area (perhaps as a joint venture with the tennis club?)

It was thought that many of these benefits could be of value to the primary school – and indeed the school pupils have been involved in proposing improvements.

Tennis Courts

The tennis club is a fantastic resource for the community. They have plans to develop this further and would like to see a second tennis court and additional facilities that would enable them to take part in competitions.

Parking

There was thought to be a need for improvements to parking to enable better access to community facilities e.g., Carnbo Hall, Crook of Devon Hall, Church Hall, Waulkmill Park. It was mentioned that car parks could also be locations for community noticeboards, visitor information, EV charging Points, bike racks, more recycling points.

Collaboration and Area Wide Working

Hall committees thought there were opportunities to share resources, and market the halls and activities and events collectively. There was a view that they should all identify and 'play' to their own strengths.....and as much as possible complement rather than compete with one another.

The advent of Fossoway Community Development Trust has helped to increase capacity to look at Fossoway wide issues as well as support priorities within different villages. The ability for the Trust and Community Council to work well together is highlighted by their successful negotiation of improved public transport for the area. Other area wide groups might emerge that focus for example on developing local paths networks, and heritage.

Community Information

Many of the stakeholders noted that it was difficult to access information not only about groups, activities and events in the community – but also information about the local paths network, services and businesses. They also saw a need for this information being available to visitors.

Suggestions included:

- A Fossoway and District Website
- A calendar of events in Fossoway and District (on the website)
- A comprehensive list of activities taking place in all the village halls (on the website)
- More Community Noticeboards in key locations (e.g., Park in Blairingone, Car Park at Rumbling Bridge, Car Park at Crook of Devon Hall, Powmill Milk Bar/Moubray Hall (Powmill))
- Maps and leaflets about walks, heritage, attractions, hospitality etc.

Headlines

Support the use and development of Halls as community and social hubs in each village. Address gaps – community hub in old school in Blairingone, revitalise use of Moubray Hall in Powmill.

Continue to develop parks, play areas and outdoor recreation in each village.

Address gaps – develop outdoor community spaces in Rumbling Bridge and Blairingone. Develop infrastructure around halls and parks – parking, EV charging, bike racks, storage, recycling etc.

Working together well - coordinated programmes of activities and events, shared resources, ability to work on area wide priorities as well as key gaps.

More information about the area – noticeboards, website, information, maps, signage, interpretation etc.

8. ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

8.1 Core Paths in Fossoway and District

CORE PATH – path code	Description
FSWY/1	Path from Crook of Devon to road near Keith Hills via Bull Stone & West Bank Wood
FSWY/10	River Devon North Bank (Rumbling Bridge – Naemoor Road (including viewpoints and bridge))
FSWY/101	Gairney Water Path, Drumbog to Easter Aldie
FSWY/103	Crook of Devon at Greenparks to Craiglawn via Harelaw
FSWY/104	A977 to Harelaw via Sewage Works track
FSWY/105	River Devon South Bank - Rumbling Bridge – A977 at Crook of Devon Sewage Works
FSWY/107	Naemoor Road west of Lendrick Muir to Yetts of Muckhart
FSWY/109	Fossoway School Millenium Walk Project (Ashgrove to new bridge over River Devon)
FSWY/11	Pitfar Lodge south to Tethyknowe via Lambhill Wood
FSWY/117	Path east of Pitfar Lodge to Lambhill via Pitfar
FSWY/123	Lendrick Hill ascent path from Glendey Burn Parking area
FSWY/130	Link path from A91 at Hallhill, east of Cambro to bend on road to Dalqheich
FSWY/131	Path from minor road west of Carsehall (Loop Road) to Gelvan via Hoods Hill
FSWY/134	Disused railway north of Wood of Coldrain to minor road west of Wester Coldrain
FSWY/14	The Loan. Path from Ashgrove, Crook of Devon to minor road west of Carsehall (Loop Road)
FSWY/140	Old Saline Road at Blairingone
FSWY/141	Loop path at Powmill Cottage via Craigton and disused railway
FSWY/146	Footway, Vicars Bridge Road, Blairingone (from Main Street to Ladieshall)
FSWY/148	A977 footway from Gartwhinzean Feus through Powmill and Crook of Devon to Loop Road, Drum
FSWY/15	Path from A977, Station Road, Crook of Devon, via Broomhill Kennels & Drumbog to B9097 south of Drum
FSWY/151	Off road path by A823 opposite Rumbling Bridge Nursing Home
FSWY/153	Braelangwell on Vicar's Bridge Road, Blairingone to River Devon via Boghall, Clacks.
FSWY/156	A91 at Grace Cottage, Carnbo to Waterhead Bridges
FSWY/157	Footway, Grace Cottage, Carnbo to Carnbo Community Centre
FSWY/16	Naemoor Road at Rockcliffe, Crook of Devon to Yetts of Muckhart
FSWY/164	Ladieshall, Vicar's Bridge Road, Blairingone to B913 by Dollarbeg, Clacks
FSWY/170	Vicar's Bridge Road at Palace Brae to River Devon & B913 at Rackmill House, Clacks.
FSWY/18	A823 at Smithy House, Rumbling Bridge, via Blairhill & Muckhart Mill to Pathead Road, Clacks
FSWY/50	Link to A977 from FSWY/7 at The Poplars, Drum
FSWY/51	Bull Stone to Broomhill Kennels, Crook of Devon
FSWY/7	Fossoway School to Ashbank via St. Thomas's Cottage

Designated sites and environment assets

8.2 Designated sites in the area are all Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSI's)

- Glen Queich – steep sided glen on the south side of the Ochils – designated for its rocky slopes and lowland grassland habitat
- Devon Gorge – 'only example of mixed gorge woodland on rocks of carboniferous age within Tayside'. Includes upland ash and sessile oak in around 39.6 hectares of woodland
- Gartwhinzean Meadows – herb rich grassland – one of the few areas of this grassland left in lowland Perth and Kinross. Flora includes orchids and moonwort.

8.3 Other key environmental assets include:

- North Eastern Ochils – 'The Forgotten Ochils!'
- The River Devon, Pow Burn, Gairney Burn
- Woodlands and Forestry e.g., Lendrick Muir Woods, Crook Moss Woodland, Forestry Walks (Blairingone)

'Pow Burn, a remarkable watercourse which links the Gairney Water, running east into Loch Leven, and the Gairney Burn running west into the River Devon'

Environmental groups and initiatives

8.4 Powmill Bloomers, Crook and Drum Growing Together, and Penney's Community Woodland carry out environmental improvement work in their villages which includes:

- Establishing and developing Penney's Community Woodland in Crook of Devon
- Establishing and developing the Community Orchard in Crook of Devon
- Village enhancement work of Crook and Drum Growing Together –e.g., planters, tree planting, improvements to the Village Green in Crook of Devon, planting at the village hall, clean-up of the war memorial and the natural planting of greenspace in Crook of Devon for biodiversity – and lobbying for the recognition of Crook of Devon as a Biodiversity Village.
- Powmill Bloomers work in improving the appearance of the village with planters, often at key locations e.g., Moubray Hall, Shop, Aldie Road, opposite the Milk Bar, either side of the bridge.

Heritage assets

8.5 Heritage assets include:

Sites, Monuments, and Buildings

- Tullibole Castle – built in the 17th Century - Category A listed building
- The Witches Maze in the Castle Grounds
- Old Tower Houses like Aldie Castle and Briglands – old Tower
- War Memorials including the one in Moubray Hall.
- Bull Stone near Crook of Devon
- Prehistoric sites - Pictish Stone, Cup and Ring Mark Stones, and old log boats
- Lime Killns
- Gairney Viaduct
- The site of the medieval town 'the Muckle Town'

Heritage connections

- Blairingone Mining
- The Mills at Crook of Devon (Links Mill, Cross Mill, Waulkmill)
- Railway History
- Old Drove Roads and Markets
- The 'Butter Road' between Culross and Scone
- The Witch Trials at Crook of Devon, and Kinross Witches.
- Crofting heritage of upland farming and enclosures set in a 'wild' landscape within the old parish of Fossoway

'The witches maize in Tullibole Castle gardens and nearby Landlairs field and Gallows Knowe at Carsehall are evidence to the killing of more witches in this area than anywhere else in Scotland.'

Heritage Organisations

8.6 There is no formal local Heritage Association but there is the Fossoway Memories Facebook Page and some local people with a deep knowledge of local heritage.

Stakeholder Views

Paths and Access for recreational use*

(*Note: paths and routes for active travel /functional use are covered in the next section on Transport and Active Travel)

Developing and promoting a Fossoway and District Local Paths Network

8.7 Stakeholders would like to see the improvement and development of the local paths network, with more information, signage, and promotion of what is available in the area. Local people highly value the walks in the area but recognise that these are not necessarily well known to other local people or visitors. There is very little or no information about local paths on the internet compared to other areas of Perth and Kinross.

8.8 People mentioned the need for:

- More signage of existing paths throughout the area and how they link up. e.g., Powmill down the Aldie Road and through to Crook of Devon via the Old Golf Course Road.
- More information, maps, leaflets noticeboards, online information about walks/cycle routes e.g., information at village hall parks, Powmill Milk Bar, Rumbling Bridge Car Park/Gorge
- Improving, developing and promoting circular routes, and different lengths of routes
- Clearer indication of the car parks that can be used for walking in all villages e.g., car park in Rumbling Bridge.
- Better access to walks/cycling routes – parking, pavements etc. e.g., better access and signposting to the forestry walks in Blairingone.
- Looking at ways of developing access into the Ochil Hills perhaps linking this to facilities and parking at Carnbo Hall (with the potential for hall income generation (parking donations, refreshments etc.)

Local Paths Group

8.9 There was thought to be the need to establish and support a Fossoway local paths group to work on developing, maintaining and (Importantly) promoting a local paths network both for recreational and functional use.

Green spaces, allotments, orchards, woodlands, and biodiversity

8.10 Stakeholders valued the work of the environmental groups and the Woodlands and Orchard and saw real potential in work to increase biodiversity and Crook of Devon's status as a Biodiversity Village. The opportunity to work with statutory and third sector organisations to develop 'Nature Corridors' was noted. The work of environmental groups was thought to be good for community involvement – with the local school and volunteers involved, and community facilities and open spaces made more prominent and attractive. Planting was also seen as having a role in traffic calming and it was suggested that more could be done to create village gateways using planting.

8.11 It was thought that other future development might include:

- The creation of community allotments
- Polytunnels for Bloom Groups to bring on their own plants
- Restoring the lade that flows through Crook of Devon
- Establishing a Bloom Group for Blairingone

'Tidy up and litter picks and plants like the Crook – we are the first community in Perth and Kinross so should have that'. (Blairingone)

Flooding in Crook of Devon & Drum

8.12 Flooding was raised as a problem mainly in Crook of Devon and Drum. Suggestions for reducing this included:

- A ditch management and improvement scheme for the Drum
- A need to restore the lade and in particular the sluice gates and to manage water flow
- Retain the water higher up the hill – e.g., more trees planted up the hill and fields ploughed across the hill rather than down!
- Better maintenance/clearing of drains.

8.13 It was noted that a source of flooding comes from the Glendevon Reservoir – and in a curious Catch 22 the village is not notified when they release water from it – apparently in case the Reservoir forget to inform and are then liable?! In times gone by the village (fish farm) were personally notified and operated the sluice gates so the water was diverted from the village.

Heritage

8.14 Stakeholders highlighted the areas rich and varied heritage but noted that it was not widely known by locals or visitors and in some cases was difficult to physically access. There was thought to be an opportunity to provide more information and interpretation e.g., leaflets, guidebooks, noticeboards, interpretation panels, trails with QR codes for locals and visitors. It was suggested that this could be linked to similar work needed to promote the local paths network.

8.15 It was even suggested that a local heritage museum could be explored – maybe not as a standalone venture but something that was part of a community hub, pub or café. It was noted that other communities have done this and that some rural communities in Scotland have developed 'Eco Museums'. We have included links to two examples that might be appropriate for Fossoway to learn from.

<https://tweedsmuir.ecomuseum.online/about.php>

<https://cateranecomuseum.co.uk/about/>

8.16 Difficulties with access mentioned by stakeholders included poor access to hills and glens to the north, to the railway viaduct in the south, and to some of the tower houses.

'Would like to see an interpretative map of Fossoway's Forgotten Ochils and even a short stay Bothy.'

'Gairney Burn Viaduct is now completely abandoned and closed to access.'

Proposals for windfarms

8.17 There are two proposals for windfarms to be located in the north of the community council area. Local heritage and environment is seen as being potentially 'threatened' by these developments. There is also real concern about the volume and scale of the traffic that will be coming through the area, and this potentially makes the development of safe roads, paths and cycle routes even more important. As well as a threat there was also a view that if done with due diligence the roads into the windfarms could improve recreational access.

Headlines

Form local paths group to develop, maintain and promote a local path network.

More joined up paths, cycle networks and safe roads between villages and into Kinross.

Forestry development maintains and improves recreational access.

Development of Crook of Devon as a Biodiversity Village (Woodland, Orchard, Planting for Biodiversity etc.).

Work of Crook and Drum Growing Together and Powmill Bloomers and need for similar initiative in Blairingone.

Need to tackle flooding issues (particularly in Drum and Crook of Devon).

Improve access and interpretation to heritage sites and history of the area.

Develop Fossoway and District Ecomuseum – digitally and then on the ground.

To make sure any windfarm development enhances access and the enjoyment and understanding of the environment and heritage of the area.

9. TRANSPORT AND ACTIVE TRAVEL

Profile and Stakeholder Information and Views

Transport

Car ownership

9.1 Stakeholders note that there was very high dependence on car ownership and that being unable to drive makes it very difficult to survive in the community. It was said that most households have to have more than one car.

9.2 This is borne out by the statistics available. The 2022 Census figures provide the following information for the area's 915 households:

- 39 had no cars or vans
- 267 had one car or van
- 372 had two cars or vans
- 154 had three cars or vans
- 80 had 4 or more cars or vans.

9.3 This shows for example that 26% of households have three or more cars. The hope is that the community becomes less dependent on cars through improving public transport and developing better options for active travel.

Public transport

9.4 Stakeholders noted their dissatisfaction with the previous operation of the 202 bus service. As a result of community negotiation led by the Community Council and Trust this contract has now been awarded to Glenfarg Community Council. This is recognized as a major community achievement.

9.5 It was hoped the new service could address some of the problems identified e.g.

- Lack of evening and weekend transport
- Poor timetabling meaning it was difficult for students to get to college
- Better onward links to services to Perth and Stirling
- Extended provision of service to Carnbo
- Access to the service from Rumbling Bridge.

Taxis and Demand Responsive Transport

9.6 It was thought that there was a dearth of taxis in Kinross-shire and a need for more to provide a good service. There is a DRT scheme running in the area – but it is thought to be poorly advertised and not widely known about. The service is provided using local taxis but charged at the 'bus price equivalent' At best it provided a one-way trip but people were then reliant on another way of getting home.

Community Minibus

9.7 The community are now working on another transport initiative to secure a Community Minibus to help fill the gaps and address needs that can't be met by public transport. People say a role for a bus in helping residents access activities and events across the area in the different villages and halls and in general supporting access to

services, businesses, amenities and other community projects.

Active Travel

9.8 The vision and desire expressed by many is to have safe active travel routes within villages, between villages and to connect these into Kinross and Dollar and beyond. It is seen as a realistic aspiration as there are many of the pieces in place but just need improved, protected and extended to bridge gaps e.g. between Blairingone and Dollar, Rumbling Bridge up to the A977, Crook of Devon and Carnbo into Kinross. Small connections into Dollar for example will have the added value of then connecting to other exiting cycle routes to Alloa and Stirling.

- 9.9 Specific requests for improvements included being able to walk/cycle safely
- From Blairingone to Dollar, Solsgirth House and Powmill
 - From Rumbling Bridge to the A977 and into Crook of Devon (paths in Rumbling Bridge are poor and overgrown)
 - from Powmill to Crook of Devon (the current path is overgrown and not protected enough from the road)
 - from Drum to the Garage on the A977
 - from the Crook of Devon into Kinross
 - from Carnbo to Crook of Devon, Kinross, and even just out to the Village Hall and out to the Gelvan Road.

Access to Services, Facilities and Amenities

9.10 Better transport and active travel networks were seen as vital in connecting people in Fossoway to health services, childcare, shopping, education, recreation, work etc. They were important in connecting to onward travel to towns and cities and they were also seen as important to enable people to come out to local businesses, community activities and events. As mentioned, some local businesses have already experienced difficulty in recruiting and retaining staff due to the lack of public transport or active travel options. Ultimately people hoped that it would make the community less reliant on car use and enable people to stay or work in the area even when they were not able to drive.

9.11 In summary better public and community transport and active travel routes would make a huge difference to the quality of life of residents and would help tackle the one indicator of multiple deprivation – geographical access to services – where the community is in the 10% most deprived areas in Scotland.

9.12 It should also be emphasised here that people were keen to see services retained and developed in the area to help its own sustainability including;

- Retention of mobile services like the Library and Bank
- Ensuring the future of the Post Office
- Developing Childcare services
- Looking at ways of providing outreach health and care services.

Headlines

High reliance on car ownership and lack of public transport.

Very poor and unreliable public transport service.

New public transport service likely to be a vast improvement.

Potential for community through the Trust to acquire a community bus.

Develop active travel network – in villages, between villages and into nearby Fife and Clackmannanshire communities as well as linking to routes to Stirling.

Try to ensure buses and active travel routes help connect people to local services, facilities and amenities and on-travel to other places.

Retain and develop services/outreach services/mobile services in the community.

10. TRAFFIC, ROADS AND PARKING

Profile and Stakeholder Information and Views

Traffic

10.1 The volume and the speed of traffic going through the area is one of the greatest problems identified. The volume which has been a problem for years is also now seen to be worse than ever – partly attributed to the additional Clackmannanshire Bridge. There is concern over the number of heavy goods vehicles coming through the area using it as a short cut between the central belt and the north/northeast.

'All traffic from Kincardine Clacks side cut through from Kincardine to M90'

'Asda Lorries, tankers – distribution centres in Grangemouth all add to the volume between the Bridges and the M90'

We are a 'short cut' between the Clackmannanshire Bridges and major roads, towns and cities to the north creates a high volume of traffic often speeding often heavy goods vehicles

'Going along the A9 should be the preferred route'

10.2 The impact on the villages and residents is hard to overstate. It impacts on many aspects of life – safety, access to facilities and services, active travel, social networking, community cohesion. As someone in Blaringone said – *'we live on the main street – our front doors remain shut – we are more likely to know our neighbours out the back than across the road!'*

10.3 Lack of good pavements, paths and cycleways throughout most of the area compounds this problem – improving them would make a big positive difference (as discussed in the previous section) – but active travel routes and traffic reduction and calming need to go hand in hand to really improve the quality of life in the area.

10.4 Over the years there have been a number of initiatives to reduce speeding and there is a sense that these have only been partly successful – and that much more needs to be done. Any partial attempts to reduce speed seem to have had some negative knock-on effects – people speeding more in other villages or between villages or creating bottlenecks/convoys at traffic lights. They have also had little effect on reducing the volume.

10.5 There is therefore advocacy for area wide initiatives that reduce speed throughout the area which are also aimed at reducing the volume of traffic.

'Speed from Kinross on the A977 all the way through the area should be no more than 50mph out of the villages'

'Should be 40mph from here to Powmill and from here to Crook' (Rumbling Bridge)

'Treat Fossoway as a whole community from Blairingone to Drum so people can move through the villages safely.'

10.6 Some specific village requests for reducing speed limits included:

- Speed limits reduced in front of the Hall' (Carnbo)
- Speed limits extended out beyond the village to create a buffer zone' (Carnbo)
- Stop speeding and volume of traffic along the Gelvan Road
- Improve traffic light systems installed in Crook of Devon and Drum

- Village gateways that slow traffic '*Scotlandwell and Coalsnaughton good examples of traffic calming*'.
- Traffic lights at the bridge in Rumbling Bridge.
- Generally more traffic calming measures in Powmill and Blairingone .

10.7 There is also concern over the future threat of added heavy lorries going through the area if the windfarms are progressed. There is the potential for Gelvan Road to be overused if its status as a walking and cycling friendly road is not recognized.

Roads

10.8 Main concerns about roads related to maintenance and litter often with specific mention of verges and in particular where overgrown verges and roadside hedges impinged on the ability to use paths. As previously mentioned, there was also concern over road drains being blocked and contributing to standing water and flooding problems.

Parking

10.9 Over the course of this report we have touched on the needs for parking – for community halls and facilities, access to walks, for better access to shops and businesses. Key ones that stand out are:

- The need to adopt and promote the use of the parking in Rumbling Bridge
- Better car parking in Crook of Devon – for the hall, shop and pub, church, Waulkmill Park
- More parking at Carnbo Village Hall.

Headlines

An area wide approach to traffic calming that also helps reduce volume and use by heavy goods vehicles.

Traffic calming that contributes to enabling active travel and protects the use of walking and cycling friendly roads.

Traffic calming that deals with local village 'pinch points' and speeding between villages.

Road maintenance that contributes to active travel in particular maintenance of verges and roadside hedges.

Parking to support halls, active travel, shops and local businesses, and outdoor recreation.