

INTRODUCTION: ENGAGEMENT & ISSUES

ANGUS COUNCIL CONTEXT

In late 2015, Angus Council selected Kirriemuir as the focus for a major locally driven design charrette to actively involve local people, businesses and agencies in planning the future of the town centre.

Kirriemuir is the latest area in Angus to have a design charrette – a consultation and design programme to gather local opinions, ideas and aspirations, with a view to delivering a vision of what the Kirriemuir community would like to see over the short, medium and long term. Brechin, Carnoustie, Forfar, Arbroath, Montrose and Monifieth have all recently taken part in these creative conversations, activities and events. In parallel the Scottish Government Planning and Architecture Division has extended the Charrette Mainstreaming Programme for a fifth year and into 2015/16.

WHAT IS A DESIGN CHARRETTE?

A charrette is an **intensive consultation that engages local people in shaping the future of their community**. Charrettes are **collaborative events** that bring together local people of all ages with experienced design and planning professionals. Together they seek to **find solutions that will benefit the area over the short, medium and long term**.

KIRRIEMUIR DESIGN CHARRETTE

Angus Council commissioned a Design Team led by **Austin-Smith: Lord LLP** (urban designers & architects) & **Douglas Wheeler Associates Ltd** (local regeneration specialists) with **Fergus Purdie Architect, Transport Planning Ltd, Ryden** (property consultants), and **WAVEparticle** (artists/engagement specialists) in April 2016 to facilitate the Kirriemuir Design Charrette.

The 'Kirrie Talks' charrette took place on Thursday 8 and Tuesday/Wednesday 13/14 September. Over the three day period, the public, businesses, third sector representatives, designers and specialists worked together 'hands on' to prepare a **long term vision, development framework and action plan** for Kirriemuir, with the ideas translated into plans and drawings. A Final 'Report Back' Presentation was held on 27 September 2016.

Planning and design workshops were held at The Design Studio which was set up in **KirrieConnections Community**

Hub at 5 Bank Street. The Studio was operational from Thursday afternoon 8 September with on street activities in the public space opposite. The ideal town centre location on Bank Street proved **very popular** with a significant number of locals and interested parties 'dropping in' during the four days to have their say about the future development of Kirriemuir.

This report summarises the background, outcomes and the development framework and action plan that emerged. Appendix B summarises in PPT form the research and evidence base that was used to inform the Charrette.

The design team acknowledge and thank all the organisations, community and third sector groups and individuals who contributed to the success of the Kirriemuir Design Charrette.



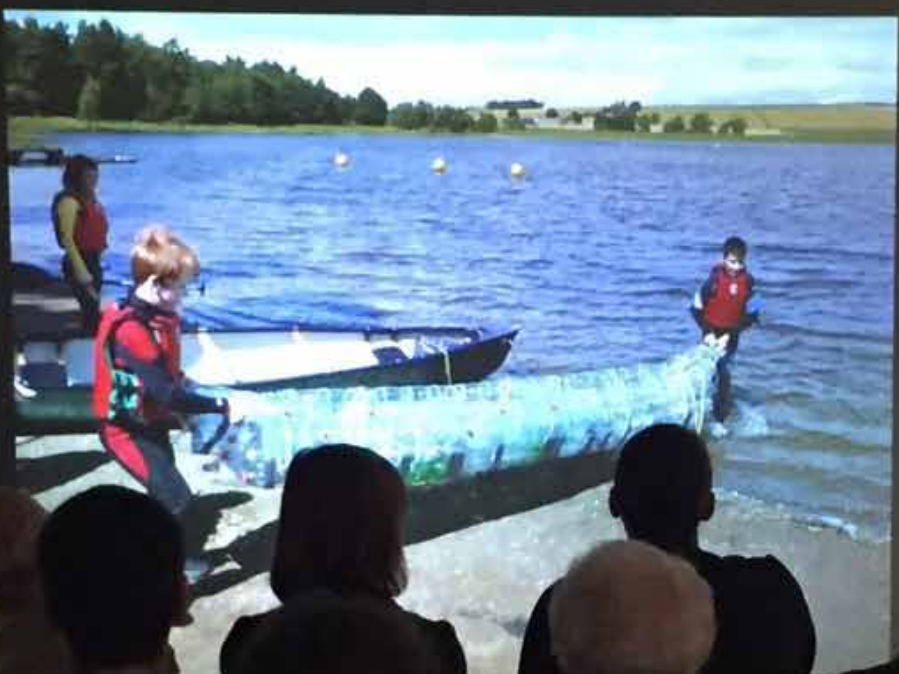
Making-off Kirriemuir Charrette Engagement Film - *WAVEparticle*



Future Walk - WAVEparticle

Adjacent page:
Pecha Kucha Presentation

Next spread:
Kirriemuir Treasure Maps (Frank Boyle)





NORTHMUIR



THE DEN



GAIRIE BURN

WEBSTERS HIGH SCHOOL



SOUTHMUIR

Caitlin Robb (a Webster's)

DRAINAGE		TERRAIN		SPECIAL FEATURES	
—	Terrace	○	Lake	—	Road
—	Spur	—	Pool	—	Track/Path
—	Restraint	—	Waterhole	—	Bridge
—	Earth Bank	—	Clearing	—	Stone Wall
—	Quarry	—	Thicket	—	Fence
—	Earth Wall	—	Wood	—	Crossing Point
—	Knossin Gully	—	Distance Tree	—	Building
—	Small Gully	—	Tree Swamp		
—	Hill	—	Stump		
—	Cliff	—	Caust		
—	Rock Pile	—	Happy Memory		
—	Cave	—			
—	Boulder	—			
—	Stony Ground	—			



KIRRIEMUIR



THE HILL

CAMERA OBSCURA

PLAY PARK

J.M. BARRIE

OLD PARISH CHURCH

MILL

KIRRIEMUIR

student) was chased by a chicken along here...

KIRRIEMUIR CHARRETTE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Angus Council's aims and objectives for Kirriemuir Design Charrette were to:

- Develop a **shared long-term vision & strategy for the future of Kirriemuir town centre** set within context of the town and surrounding area.
- Build on the agreed assets and strengths of the town and **challenges/opportunities** it currently faces.
- Ensure a **commitment from the local community, businesses and stakeholders** to deliver the changes required to achieve the vision.
- Establish clear **objectives** and an agreed **10 year development framework** and action plan to turn outputs from the charrette into a **longer term delivery strategy**.

Charrette outputs should influence future Angus and Kirriemuir Locality Outcome Improvement, Community Planning Partners, Local Development & Housing Plans and other significant local policies and investment proposals.

EVENTS & ATTENDANCE

A '@KirrieTalks' Facebook page was set up and had 71 'likes' and a Twitter account (@KirrieTalks) was set up that had 54 followers up to the Closing Event. Three Briefing Notes were also e-mailed to more than 240 contacts that included 70 local businesses on a database that was compiled by the Charrette Team.

A summary of and day by day review of the various Design Charrette events is presented in Appendix D. Early discussions and briefings with Angus Council officers were undertaken during August in preparation for the Charrette Events that were held on Thursday 8 and Tuesday/Wednesday 13/14 September with a Final Presentation held on 27 September. The Charrette directly engaged more than 170 individuals and was structured around the following fourteen events with attendance shown:

Below:

Charrette workshop with students from Webster's High.
Image courtesy of Kirriemuir Herald



Pre-Charrette	Attendance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Database: 250 including 70 businesses • 2 Primary & Webster's High: Schools Workshops • On Street/Town Centre in-situ • Social media 	<p>23 30+ 125+</p>
Thursday 8 September	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Launch Schools • Traffic + Transport Walk + Talk: • Drop In • Launch Event 	<p>8 pupils 5 20 42</p>
Tuesday 13 September	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intergenerational Storytelling • Futurewalk & Sports Hub • Working Lunch & Drop In • Youth Workshop • Business/ Community: Making Connections Workshop 	<p>12 5 20 14 15</p>
Wednesday 14 September	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Sector Agencies • Pin Up & Report Back 	<p>7 14</p>
Tuesday 27 September	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools/Youth Projects Review • Drop-In • Final Presentation 	<p>5 12 25</p>

Below:
Charrette posters and flyers

KIRRIE TALKS

All Welcome!

WHEN?
8th, 13th, 14th, 27th
September

WHAT?
KIRRIE TALKS is a series of free events that invite everyone to have their say in shaping the future of Kirriemuir

WHERE?
KirrieConnections
Community Hub
5 Bank Street
Kirriemuir
DD8 4BE

FREE EVENTS
All events are free. No need to book. Join the conversation... as often as you like!

Get In Touch
f KirrieTalks @KirrieTalks #KirrieTalks

KIRRIE TALKS events

Thursday 8 September – Selling the Agenda
12noon – 3pm Drop-in Design Studio
1pm – 2.30pm Schools Workshop
3pm – 4.30pm Transport walk + Talk (meet @KirrieConnections)

Thursday 8 September – Launch Event
5.30pm – 6.30pm Community Networking
6.30pm – 7.30pm Community Pecha Kucha - Presentations
7.30pm – 7.45pm Break / Entertainment
7.45pm – 8.00pm WAVEparticle film – ‘48 hours in Kirriemuir’
8.00pm – 9.00pm Selling the Agenda – Agreeing Areas of Focus

Tuesday 13 September – Gathering Ideas
12 noon – 3pm Drop-in Design Studio
11am – 12noon Intergenerational Storytelling – Kirriemuir Tales
1pm – 2.30pm Fulcrum to Camera Obscura (meet @ KirrieConnections)
4pm – 5.30pm Youth Workshop – What do young folk want in Kirriemuir?
6.00pm – 8.30pm Business / Community Networking / Workshop – Making Connections (@ KirrieConnections)

Wednesday 14 September – Testing Ideas
10.30am – 1.00pm Drop-in Design Studio
10.00am – 1.00pm Agencies / Angus Council / Stakeholders Workshop – Including Discussion on Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARE) scheme
1.30pm – 4.30pm Dressing up Time
4.30pm – 4.30pm Drop-in Design Studio
7.00pm Work in Progress presentation
9.00pm Close

Tuesday 27 September – Report Back
2pm – 6pm Emerging Ideas Exhibition
2pm – 3pm School Project Review
4pm – 5pm Youth follow-up / Report Back
6.00pm – 8.30pm WAVEparticle Film Premiere
8.30pm – 8.30pm Report Back Presentation

All Welcome! @KirrieConnections

Get In Touch
f KirrieTalks @KirrieTalks #KirrieTalks

Below:
Charrette workshop



LISTENING & WHAT THE COMMUNITY SAID?

The main issues that were identified in the pre-charrette and during early events were as follows and in summary included:

- Informal volunteering: needs to be celebrated and encouraged
- Facilities for **young people**: pre-school to late teens. Where? How?
- Pre-school facilities + involvement
- **Dementia friendly**: what should that mean (support for families etc.)?
- **Open space & natural heritage** - respect for environment / education / interpretation
- **The Den** - overlooked + great (forgotten?) asset
- KALBA/business association: business group re-establishing
- **Visitor economy**
 - > Choice of accommodation: bunk house & boutique hotels?

- > Events > BonFest plus
- > Gateway to Glens / Police Museums
- > Tell Kirrie's tale, better - trails, apps,
- > Promotion, active tourism
- > Visitor packages: stay longer & spend more

- **Community Sports Hub**: raise awareness / increase participation
- **Fairlie House**: Community Asset Transfer Stage 1 > supply + demand?
- **Gairie Works**: possible redevelopment? Getting the mix right?
- **Transport issues**: footway widths, signage, coach parking, bus services
- **Housing**: quality / affordable / adaptable
- **Safe routes to school and leisure centre** > zigzags
- **Community gardens** / growing?
- **How to get things done?** Who leads? Where's the funding & not Angus Council?
- Community with strength in depth: two successful Pecha Kucha events!

Those issues formed the focus of the Tuesday and Wednesday (13/14 September) discussions and helped shape the Kirriemuir: 2026 Vision/values, objectives, programmes and projects that are outlined in the chapter "*VISION OBJECTIVES & PROJECTS*".

Below:
Charrette discussion themes

