



Future Forfar:
A series of creative conversations, activities
and events to explore the future of Forfar
Town Centre



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Section 1

Introduction & Approach

The Forfar Town Centre Charrette took the form of Future Forfar: A series of creative conversations, activities and events to explore the future of Forfar Town Centre.

Pidgin Perfect led the approach to the Forfar Charrette alongside project partners Nick Wright Planning and Willie Miller Urban Design and supported by consultants, Professor Leigh Sparks of Stirling University, Arts Curator Patricia Fleming and Architect Matt Bridgestock of John Gilbert Architects.

An intensive pre-charrette phase of public engagement, information gathering and preparation took place from the start of October 2015 through to the launch of the three day charrette on Sunday 22nd November in the Future Forfar Cafe at 3 East High Street, featuring live performances from DD8 music amidst an exhibition of Forfar's history and heritage created by the organisation Pitstop. The charrette concluded with presentations on visions for Future Forfar in the Future Forfar Workshop in the Drama Society space at 132 East High Street.

The project team's approach to the Forfar Charrette was to:

- Be as open and inclusive as possible
- Engage people creatively
- Not prejudge the issues or outcomes
- Conduct a thorough professional and transparent process

It was with these principles in mind that we approached the imperatives for the project as laid out by Angus Council to:

- Understand how the local community defines the town centre

- Generate a long term vision for the town centre that is ambitious, and shared by the community.
- Highlight the short term quick wins that will sustain momentum towards the long term vision.
- Feed into future decisions on future budgets and service delivery
- Develop a sense of shared responsibility / co-production for delivery of town centre regeneration amongst local businesses, community groups, institutions, residents and the Council/CPP partners as well as with the everyday public and 'quieter voices'.
- Consider how the town feels to live in, thinking about how the day to day experience can be improved through attention to simple things like quality of the street furnishings and pavements.
- Generate conversations and energy around the town centre and future change.
- Gear up to move quickly from charrette outputs to delivery of an action plan.

Section 2

Executive Summary

Framing Future Forfar

Our project team for the Forfar Town Centre Charrette - led by Pidgin Perfect, comprising partners Nick Wright Planning and Willie Miller Urban Design and consultants, Professor Leigh Sparks of Stirling University, Arts Curator Patricia Fleming and Architect Matt Bridgestock of John Gilbert Architects - undertook a pre-charrette programme that aimed to engage as widely and broadly as possible to uncover the critical issues for people in Forfar and use this knowledge to frame the structure of the charrette itself.

To gather a detailed picture of Forfar Town Centre the project team met with local residents, business owners, community groups of all descriptions, council workers and elected members. The research conducted was broadly across three distinct areas: Public engagement, conversations with Community Planning Partners, and strategic desk research into Forfar Town Centre.

For clarity and accessibility, we created a visual identity for the charrette that was simply titled Future Forfar: a series of creative conversations, activities and events to explore the future of Forfar Town Centre. The project was also accessible on Twitter through @FutureForfar and #FutureForfar and on Facebook with all the interactions being documented through Storify.

See link: <https://storify.com/pidginperfect/future-forfar>

We created a physical presence for Future Forfar by distributing flyers with this identity highlighting the programme of activity. Crucially our team also established a town

centre presence by taking over a shop unit on the High Street, creating a space for advertising the charrette, intended to accommodate activity from local community groups in the lead up to and post charrette.

Our team gathered important statistical information and maps of the urban framework for analysis and comparison with the information gathered public engagements.

The intensive Pre-Charrette Phase was invaluable to the framing of materials and discussions in the Charrette Phase. Out of the engaging conversations we had in the community came the clear themes of:

- How can we attract more visitors, investors and business to Forfar?
- How do we make the town centre better for the people of Forfar?
- How can we improve the town centre streets and outdoor spaces?

A series of fun engagement tools were made that took people through, what they valued in Forfar Town Centre; their aspirations for life in Forfar; the existing challenges and issues faced by the town centre; the opportunities for change in the town centre; what these changes should look like and; how they could work together to develop them.



Summary of impressions pre and post charrette

As can be seen in the many comments from local residents, business owners, community groups of all descriptions, council workers and community planning partners there were a number of challenges that were repeatedly highlighted for Forfar Town Centre such as:

- A sense of under development and lack of investment
- An absence of things to do, places to go and things to see in the town centre that meet people's interests
- A perceived lack of collective action and activity

Central to Forfar's ability to address the challenges highlighted will be collective action, yet a lack of community cohesion was one of the overriding impressions observed by the consultant team. Clear signs of this can be seen by the absence of a Community Council and the disconnected spread of community groups across Forfar.

The interpretation of our project consultant Professor Leigh Sparks of his research conducted through the Understanding Scottish Places forum, www.USP.scot, appears to corroborate the impressions above. A brief overview bears out what was learned in the public conversations:

- Comparatively more older couples without children
- Fewer charitable organisations per head implying less community cohesion
- Comparatively fewer shops and job opportunities than other similar sized towns implying less activity

- Difficulty to compete with the pull of the out of town shopping
- Something distinct therefore is needed to place the town centre in people's minds in order to draw them there

Furthermore the conversations conducted by Nick Wright with the Community Planning Partners, documented in the appendix, highlights the experience of key institutions, council workers and elected members. This too reiterates the impression that Forfar is lacking in civic cohesion.

The Emerging Vision for Future Forfar

The Forfar Town Centre Charrette ran from the 22nd - 24th November in which we received a huge number of great ideas and had passionate discussions with a wide range of individuals, organisations and stakeholders. The result was an overarching vision that everyone committed to push forward on.

Forfar Town Centre needs more buzz about it, primarily by encouraging local people to stay loyal to their town: to visit the town centre more often, to stay there longer, for work, shopping, meeting and eating, and this should be achieved by focusing on developing:

A Distinctive Character *by enhancing Forfar's underlying unique features such as buildings, shopfronts and streetscapes*

Forfar's town centre is full of distinctive character, but it needs to shine. Too many buildings are shabby, public spaces tend towards the utilitarian and are dominated by vehicles and there is a lack of beauty despite what lies beneath the surface. This group of proposals is designed to bring out the best in the town centre and encourage businesses and community groups to make the town centre's public spaces their own.

A Forfar for All Generations *by creating affordable spaces for all age groups*

Forfar is home to people of all ages. For the town centre to thrive in the future, it needs to offer something to all these different generations. For example, young people

have nowhere indoors to go without having to spend money. Young adults have difficulty getting one or two bedroomed homes, the kind of development that is ideally located in the town centre. In the evenings, people of all ages have lots of organised groups to choose from – but the choice of restaurants, bars or cafes is more limited.

Consolidating the Centre *by making The Cross and town centre a focus for the local community*

There was a strong desire from charrette participants to make the town centre more of a focus for the local community. This includes creating a central place for the community to meet and call its own, an important concept, but one which needs more detailed work. Complimenting that is a year-long town centre events programme and, in the long term, focussing future growth and investment on the town centre.

Better Communication *and coordination between all local partners on what is happening in Forfar and greater promotion to the wider world*

Forfar has a lot going on, but not everyone knows about the different activities and events available to them. To revitalise the town centre, residents need to know what there is to attract them into town. Community groups, businesses, social enterprises, the Council and its Community Planning Partners need to share and coordinate what they're doing. And, beyond all that, Forfar needs to communicate what it has to offer the wider world. The purpose? To create and share the buzz!

(See full charrette programme overleaf.)





Future Forfar

A series of creative *conversations*, *activities* and *events* to explore the future of Forfar Town Centre

About **Future Forfar**

Future Forfar is a series of creative *conversations*, *activities* and *events* to explore the future of Forfar Town Centre.

Across three days the local community of Forfar will collaborate with architects, planners, artists and other experts to explore how Forfar Town Centre can be improved and develop an action plan for a Future Forfar. Everyone is welcome. Please join us!

Booking is not required for any of the activities at the Future Forfar Cafe and Workshop – just turn up!

There will always be someone around during the Drop In times at the Future Forfar Cafe to welcome you, listen and record your comments.

Follow, post and share on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram using: **#FutureForfar**

@futureforfar | @AngusCouncil | @pidginperfect | @NickWright1 | @williemiller

pidginperfect.com | nickwrightplanning.co.uk | willemiller.co.uk

Schedule for **Future Forfar Cafe**

Programme of events in 3 East High Street...



Sunday 22nd November

12:00 – 14:00

'A Taste of Forfar'

Official launch Event with food by Forfar Cooking Club and special entertainment by DD8 Music.

We're kicking off Future Forfar by bringing the local community together and we want you to join us!

Monday 23rd November

09:30 - 11:30

Cereal Cafe & Drop In

13:00 - 14:00

Lunchtime Drop In

19:00 - 21:00

Game Night & Drop In

Tuesday 24th November

09:30 - 11:30

Coffee Morning & Drop In

13:00 - 14:00

Lunchtime Drop In



19:00 - 21:00

Open Mic Night & Drop In

Schedule for **Future Forfar Workshop**

What to expect at 132 East High Street...

- A warm welcome and a unique space for open discussion.
- An opportunity to review, comment and question.
- An informal structure and relaxed environment.
- Plenty of tea, coffee, soft drinks and locally made baked goods!

Sunday 22nd November

14:30 – 17:30

An introduction to Future Forfar

- Presentations and discussions

Monday 23rd November

10.00 - 12.30

How can we attract more visitors investors and business to Forfar?

- How can we create more opportunities for business and enterprise?
- How can we attract more visitors to the Town Centre?
- How can we make more of Forfar's heritage and culture?
- What should we do about vacant buildings?

If you are a business owner, run a social enterprise and are passionate about culture, heritage and tourism this will be of interest!

Locations



- ^ **Cafe**
| 3 East High Street
- ^ **Workshop**
| 132 East High Street

The **Future Forfar Cafe** is located in the former 'Treasured Gifts' shop at 3 East High Street. It is adjacent to The Cross and just next to the Post Office. Look out for the Future Forfar logos in the shop window!

The **Future Forfar Workshop** is located behind the red door at 132 East High Street at the Forfar Dramatic Society. The entrance is next to the British Red Cross Charity Shop. Look out for the Future Forfar sandwich board on the High Street!

No booking required.
Light catering from local businesses provided.
Creche facilities available.

Acknowledgements

Future Forfar is a joint project and initiative between Pidgin Perfect, Nick Wright Planning and Willie Miller Urban Design, Scotland's Towns Partnership and Stirling University Institute of Retail Studies to explore future of Forfar Town Centre.

Future Forfar is a Town Centre Design Charrette. This Charrette is a collaborative process which asks the public, local partners and professionals, 'How do we make the Town Centre even better?' and will lead to further actions for Forfar Town Centre. Future Forfar is funded by Angus Council.



WMUD
nick wright planning

With special thanks to; Forfar Dramatic Society, Pitstop, Forfar Cooking Club, DD8 Music, Glenview Community Group, Forfar in Flower, St. Margarets Church, Padanaram Action Group, Angus Cycling Club, CTC Tayside, Voluntary Action Angus, Lordburn RP Action Group, Forfar OAP Society and the many more organisations, community groups and individuals of Forfar who have helped make Future Forfar possible.

16.00 - 18.30

How do we make the Town Centre better for the people of Forfar?

- How can the Town Centre work better as the heart of the local community?
- How could it more welcoming for people of all ages?
- How can Forfar offer a better experience of leisure, culture and entertainment in the evenings?
- How can the local communities of Forfar work together to create positive change in the Town Centre and in Forfar?
- How can Forfar be a more attractive place for people to live and raise their families?

If you are a resident or an active member of community groups supporting health and wellbeing in Forfar then this will be of interest!

Tuesday 24th November

10.00 - 12.30

How can we improve the Town Centre, streets and outdoor spaces?

- What should the balance be between people and vehicles?
- How could we make streets and spaces more enjoyable to spend time in?
- Which spaces and places that should be a focus?

- What are the opportunities and challenges to the Town Centre brought by the Community Campus?
- What type of activities and events would you like to take place at The Cross?

This will interest residents, community groups, businesses and those with ideas about green space, outdoor events, transport, traffic, parking, walking and cycling.



16.00 - 18.30

A vision for Future Forfar?

- Presentations and discussions
- An opportunity to catch up on the conversations, activities and events so far!
- Special presentations from the public, community groups, local partners and invited professionals.
- Creating timeline for action
- Storytelling and imagining Future Forfar from different perspectives
- Exploring the local appetite and capacity to take action and make changes in Forfar.

This will interest EVERYONE and we encourage you to join us at the Future Forfar Cafe at 19:00 for our Open Mic night!



These events are aimed at bringing people together from across the community. All welcome!

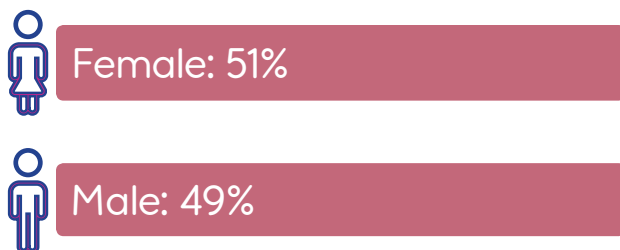
Engagement Statistics

Throughout the Future Forfar consultation programme Pidgin Perfect gathered information from participants which has been anonymised to provide the following statistics. The following statistics demonstrate the breadth and inclusion of the programme. The online social media engagement started relatively low, but the numbers increased gradually, with Facebook being most effective.

Pre-Charrette Engagement

Prior to the charrette itself, a number of key stakeholders, businesses and community groups within Forfar were engaged to help promote the charrette amongst local residents and ensure people had a clear understanding of the charrette's aims.

Participant Gender Split



26

Days spent in Forfar pre-charrette



1

Empty shop unit used to promote Future Forfar



216

People engaged pre-charrette



3000

flyers distributed

Social Media Engagement

In order to engage participants and share progress of the consultation programme with the wider Forfar community, social media was used throughout the project. This also enabled us to further promote the workshops and events amongst participants, without using costly advertising. A special @FutureForfar twitter account was set up so local residents knew where to find out further information about the charrette.



152

Tweets mentioning #FutureForfar



244

Re-tweets



210

Likes



300+

Facebook Friends



20

Likes



Pidgin Perfect @pidginperfect

Follow

Thanks to everyone who attended Day 1 of #FutureForfar! Fantastic creative conversations! #BuildingBetterCommunities



Charrette Engagement

The following data is a record of participants who took part in the five charrette workshops. The statistics reflect the diverse population engaged.



3

Day engagement programme



5

Charrette workshops held



54

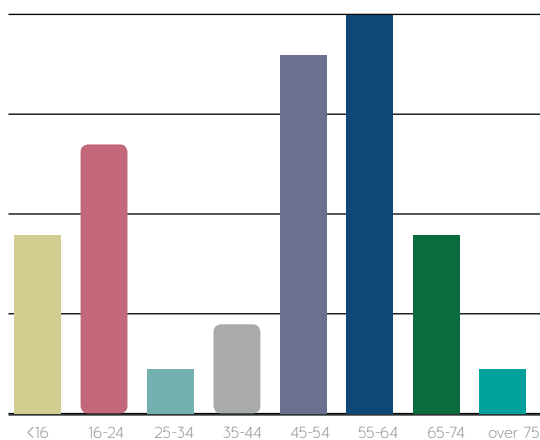
Total number of participants engaged in across the charrette workshops



1000s

of opinions, ideas & responses

Participant Age Range



12%
Under 16

18%
16-24

3%
25-34

6%
25-34

24%
45-54

27%
55-64

12%
65-74

3%
Over 75

taken from participants who chose to disclose their age. 21 participants chose not to disclose their age.

Participant Gender Split



Female: 52%



Male: 48%

Drop-In Sessions

Across the three days, seven informal drop-in sessions were held in a vacant shop space on West High Street. The shop space provided a vital public platform, raising awareness of the project with Forfar's residents, regardless of whether they actively engaged in the charrette. It also provided a venue for the launch event and closing party.



7

Drop-in sessions held across three days



2

Events held to mark the beginning and the end of Future Forfar



60

People who came into the shop for a chat and a cuppa



100s

of people stopped to look in the window and find out more about Future Forfar

It is true to say that, in general, we found public engagement slower on the uptake than expected. Whilst there was plenty of interest amongst the community in the charrette process, encouraging participation was more difficult. There were however a number of enthusiastic groups engaged and more time is required to continue to develop positive relationships with these groups and the wider community. (See contact list.)

Section 3

Gathering Impressions

Pre-Charrette Materials

The pre-charrette phase of public engagement was important in gathering material and impressions from the public to test against the desk research and interviews with Community Planning Partners.

Largely the data that we received from the public was clearly corroborated by the desk research and CPP interviews. However, there were a number of important issues where public perception differed from the official information, particularly where the issues had proved controversial to the public. For example the issues raised in conversations with youth groups at Pitstop varied dramatically from those with elderly groups. These became important talking points to clarify ahead of the charrette.

The pre-charrette phase was therefore invaluable for the project team to build a more nuanced picture of the issues around development in the town centre, ultimately resulting in more sensitive proposals.

The pre-charrette phase was also invaluable to the project team in establishing relationships and goodwill amongst the local community that helped to build momentum towards the intensive charrette phase.

(See collated comments on pages 20 - 25.)



A series of creative *conversations, activities* and *workshops* to explore the future of Forfar Town Centre

Name: _____
Postcode: _____
Email: _____
Twitter: _____

In your eyes where does Forfar Town Centre start and finish?
What are the important elements that make it a Town Centre?

What are the biggest issues facing the Town Centre?
Why, and how do they affect you personally?

What are the biggest assets and opportunities in Forfar?
Why, and how do they affect you personally?

What are the ways you could work as part of a community to address these issues?

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nd with Angus Council

FutureForfar

A series of creative *conversations, activities and events*
to explore the future of Forfar Town Centre

Forfar's best kept
secret is...

My favourite place in
Forfar is...

In the evenings in Forfar,
I like to...

In the daytime in Forfar,
I like to...

Section 4

Values & Aspirations

Charrette Materials



Often in community consultations people tend to be more inclined to highlight what they do not like about their place before they say the what is good about it. There is always a danger of arriving at a negative perception and missing important assets that can be supported and developed.

First and foremost, in establishing a vision for the future of Forfar Town Centre it was important to uncover what people valued in the town centre and how they wished to see this develop in the future.

These two early exercises in the charrette, Postcard to Future Forfar and Values & Aspirations, were important in setting the tone and goal for the workshops.

(See appendices at the end of report.)

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is

.....

My favourite place in Forfar is because

.....

I hope that in the future Forfar will

.....

Lots of Love

Age Range : Under 16 16 - 24 25 - 34 35 - 44 45 - 54 55 - 64 65 - 74 Over 75

Dear Future F

My fondest memory of Forfar is *going to a*

With pit stop

My favourite place in Forfar is *Pit Stop*

really fun and it is a

I hope that in the future Forfar will *as fun*

now & they have flying

Lots of Lo

Age Range : Under 16 16 - 24 25 - 34 35 - 44 45 - 54 55 - 64 65 - 74 Over 75



What do you value in your town centre?

What is your greatest aspiration for life in Forfar?

Special Occasion

Monthly

Weekly

Daily



Personalise me

ofar
because it is
good place to go
as it is
cars for kids
ve Anis Burgoyne
54 35 54 05 21 Over 70



Visualising Impressions

Charrette Materials

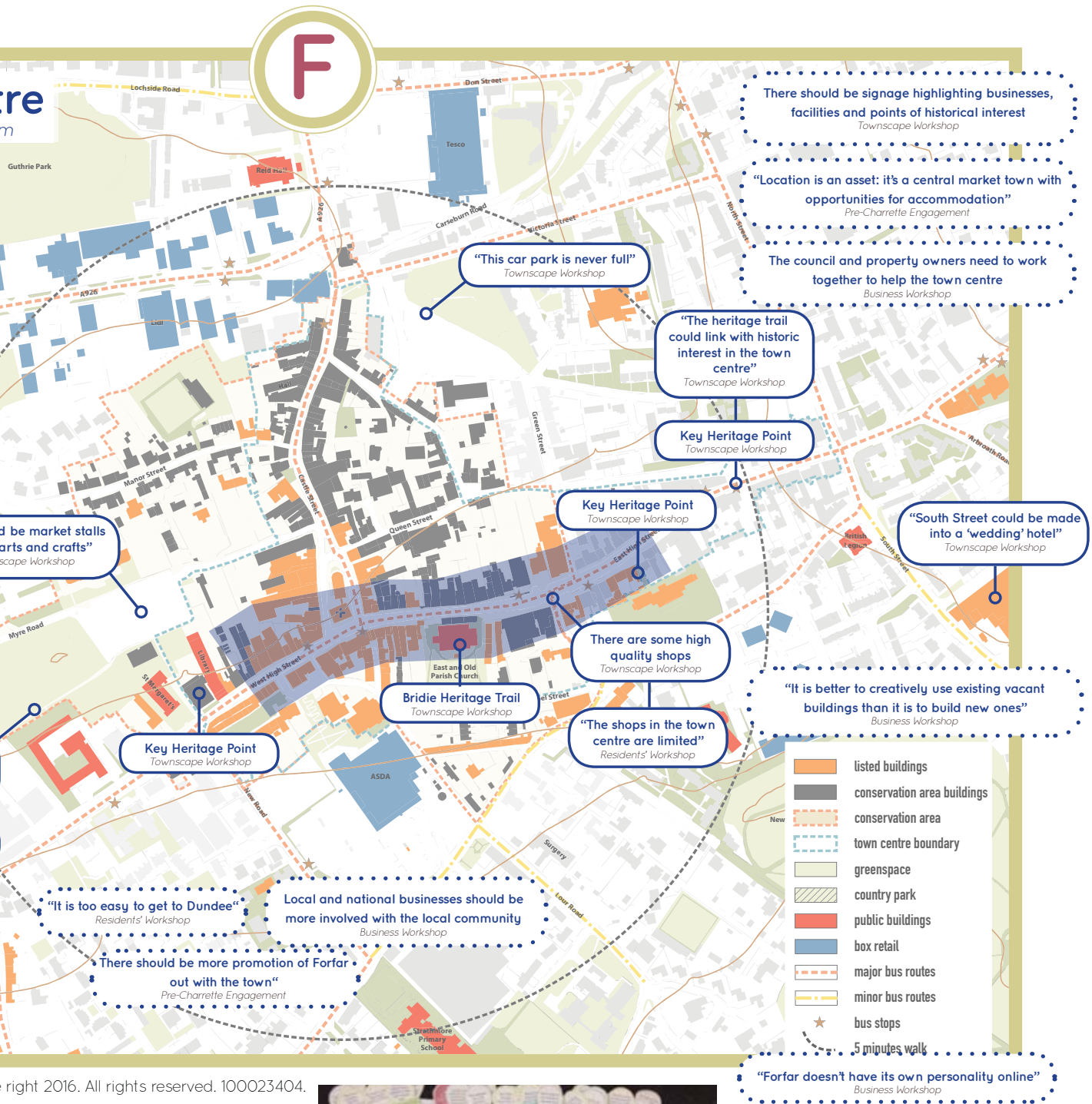
The impressions, thoughts, attitudes and opinions gathered in the pre-charrette engagements were organised into map markers ahead of the charrette to highlight the locations of the town centre that they referred to.

There were clear recurring themes and some contradictions. During the charrette period these comments were used as useful material for participants to respond to and stimulating focused conversations.

(See appendices for Activity 2.)



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Forfar Town Centre

Participants' Comments: Business & Tourism

"I'd like to see lots of different shops at more of a range of prices"

Pre-Charrette Engagement

"Businesses need encouragement - a tangible commitment"

Townscape Workshop

"The could be market stalls selling arts and crafts"

Townscape Workshop

There should be a camping site in the town

Residents' Workshop

"Strathmore farmers' market is successful - could it join with Forfar?"

Townscape Workshop

"Why isn't the farmers' market in the town centre?"

Residents' Workshop

Key Heritage Point

Townscape Workshop

You could survey visitors to find out what attracted them to Forfar

Business Workshop

"They should sell the town as accessible - and make sure that it is"

Townscape Workshop

"The potential for road cycling is great, as well as biking"

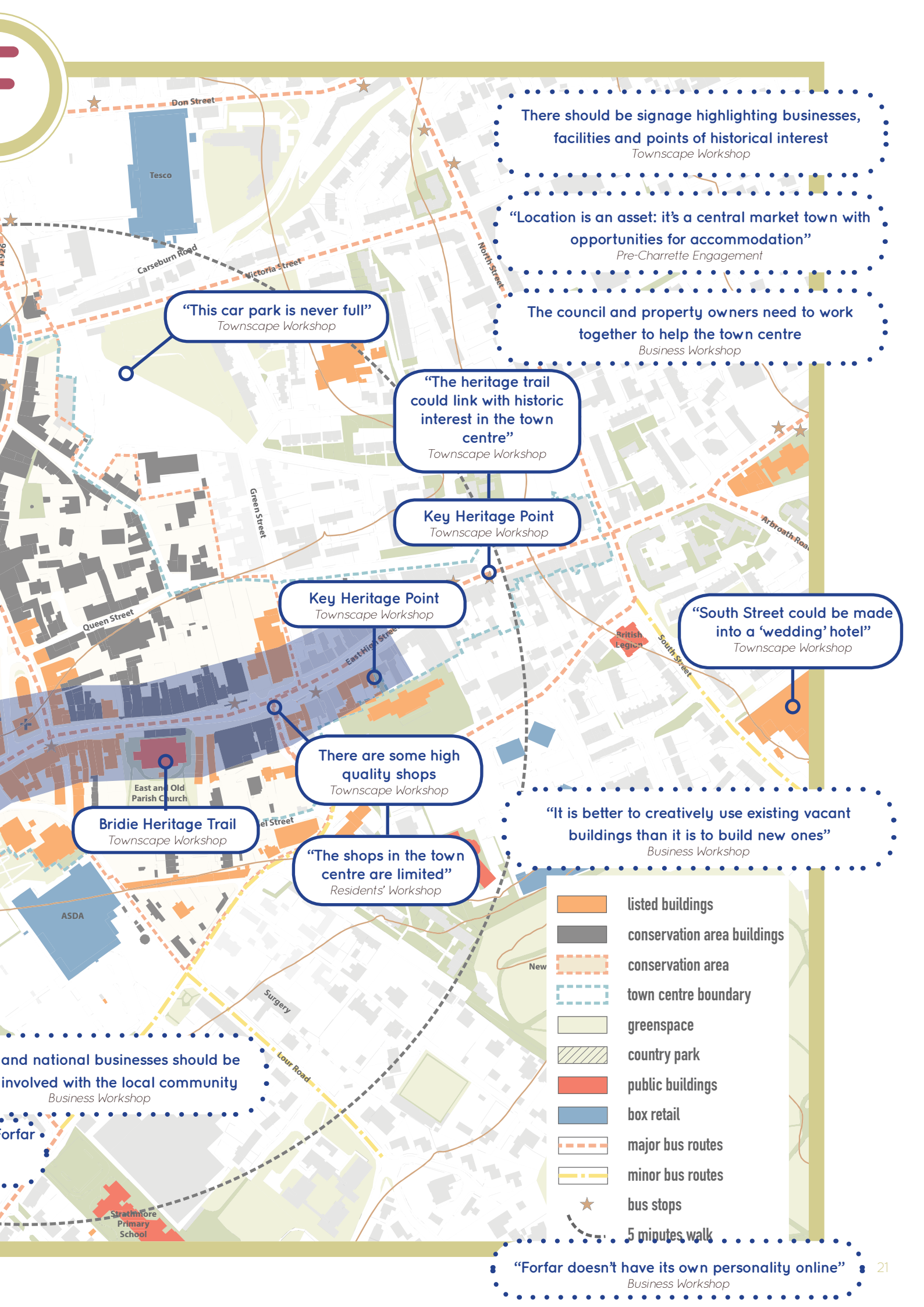
Pre-Charrette Engagement

"It is too easy to get to Dundee"

Residents' Workshop

There should be more promotion of Forfar out with the town"

Pre-Charrette Engagement



There should be signage highlighting businesses, facilities and points of historical interest
Townscape Workshop

“Location is an asset: it’s a central market town with opportunities for accommodation”
Pre-Charrette Engagement

The council and property owners need to work together to help the town centre
Business Workshop

“This car park is never full”
Townscape Workshop

“The heritage trail could link with historic interest in the town centre”
Townscape Workshop

Key Heritage Point
Townscape Workshop

Key Heritage Point
Townscape Workshop

“South Street could be made into a ‘wedding’ hotel”
Townscape Workshop

There are some high quality shops
Townscape Workshop

Bridie Heritage Trail
Townscape Workshop

“The shops in the town centre are limited”
Residents’ Workshop

“It is better to creatively use existing vacant buildings than it is to build new ones”
Business Workshop

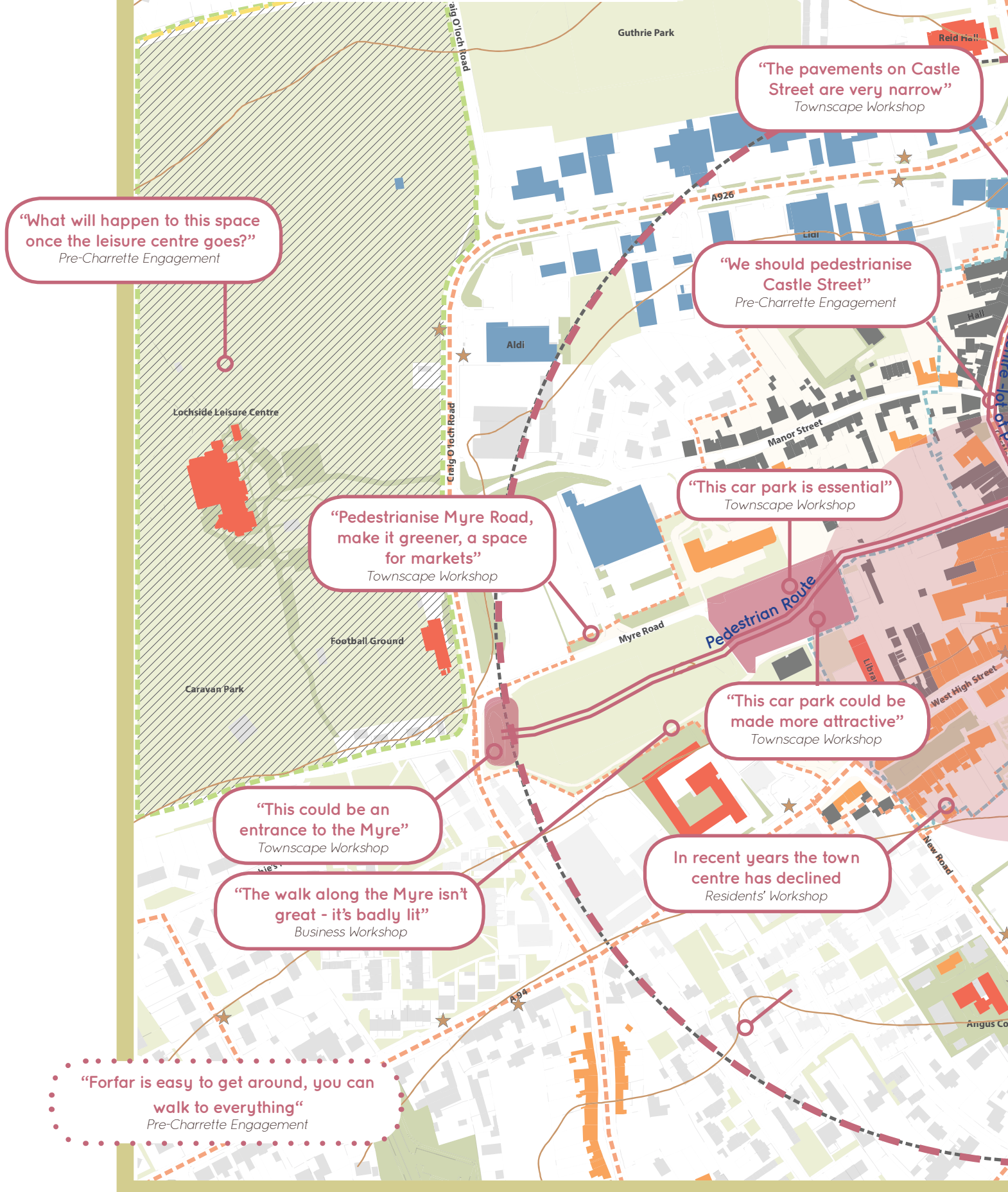
and national businesses should be involved with the local community
Business Workshop

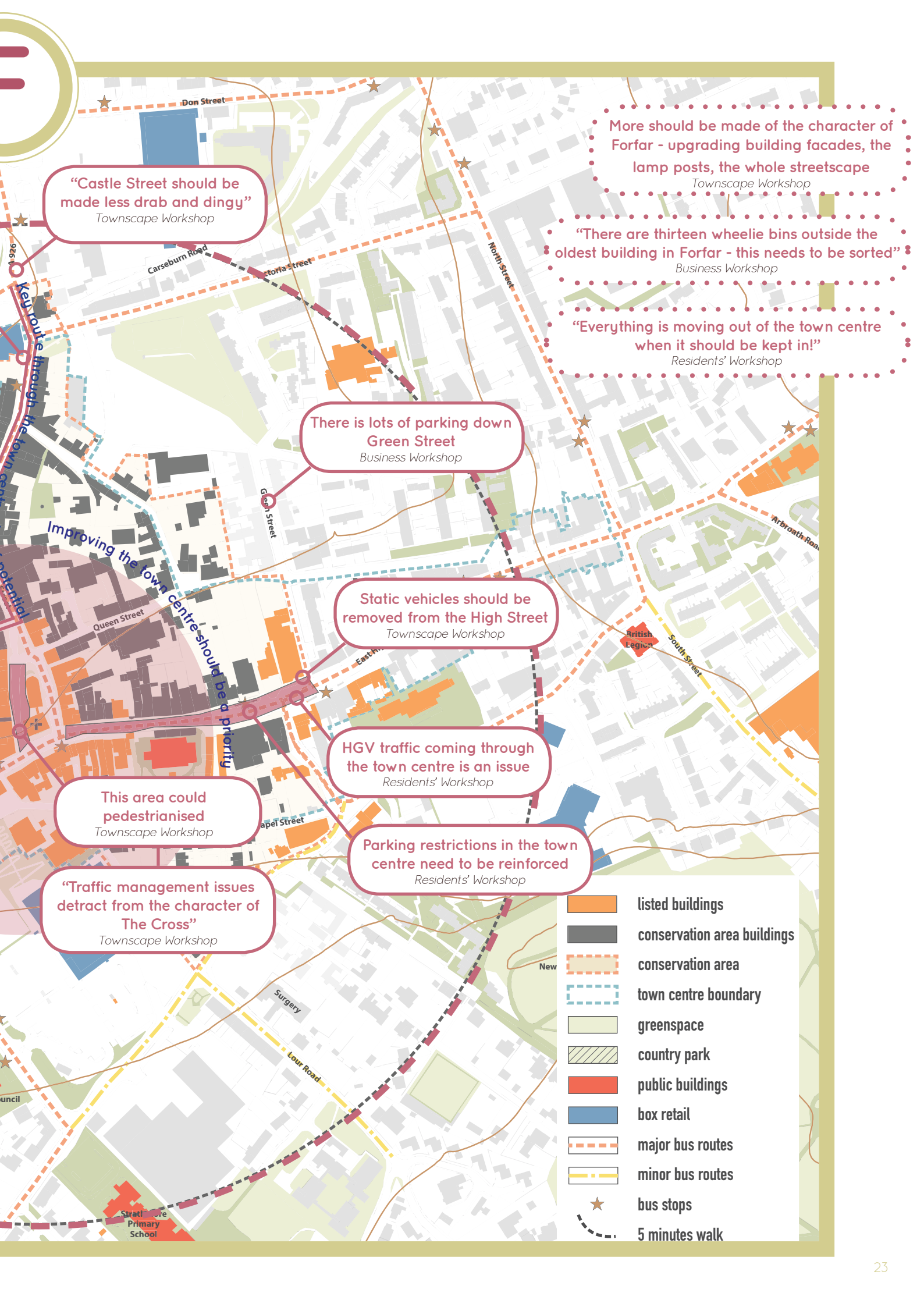
- listed buildings
- conservation area buildings
- conservation area
- town centre boundary
- greenspace
- country park
- public buildings
- box retail
- major bus routes
- minor bus routes
- bus stops
- 5 minutes walk

“Forfar doesn’t have its own personality online”
Business Workshop

Forfar Town Centre

Participants' Comments: Townscape





“Castle Street should be made less drab and dingy”
Townscape Workshop

More should be made of the character of Forfar - upgrading building facades, the lamp posts, the whole streetscape
Townscape Workshop

“There are thirteen wheelie bins outside the oldest building in Forfar - this needs to be sorted”
Business Workshop

“Everything is moving out of the town centre when it should be kept in!”
Residents' Workshop

There is lots of parking down Green Street
Business Workshop

Static vehicles should be removed from the High Street
Townscape Workshop

HGV traffic coming through the town centre is an issue
Residents' Workshop

This area could be pedestrianised
Townscape Workshop

“Traffic management issues detract from the character of The Cross”
Townscape Workshop

Parking restrictions in the town centre need to be reinforced
Residents' Workshop

- listed buildings
- conservation area buildings
- conservation area
- town centre boundary
- greenspace
- country park
- public buildings
- box retail
- major bus routes
- minor bus routes
- bus stops
- 5 minutes walk

Forfar Town Centre

Participants' Comments: Life in Forfar

"There is nothing in Forfar for teenagers to do"

Pre-Charrette Engagement

"In Forfar, what we need is a playpark for young children"

Pre-Charrette Engagement

"Social media has created a new shared space online"

Pre-Charrette Engagement

There used to be allotments and a putting green

Pre-Charrette Engagement

"The Reid Hall is the main public space but no one uses it"

Residents' Workshop

"You could put an awning over the steps of the access office to make a temporary performance space"

Townscape Workshop

"The Myre is the best public space"

Pre-Charrette Engagement

"Is it? It could be with vision - places to sit etc"

Townscape Workshop

"Larger events could spill out onto the Myre"

Townscape Workshop

"Could the farmers market return to the Myre?"

Townscape Workshop

"There's stigma around events in Forfar"

Residents' Workshop

"There's no focal point for the community"

Business Workshop

"More public toilets!"

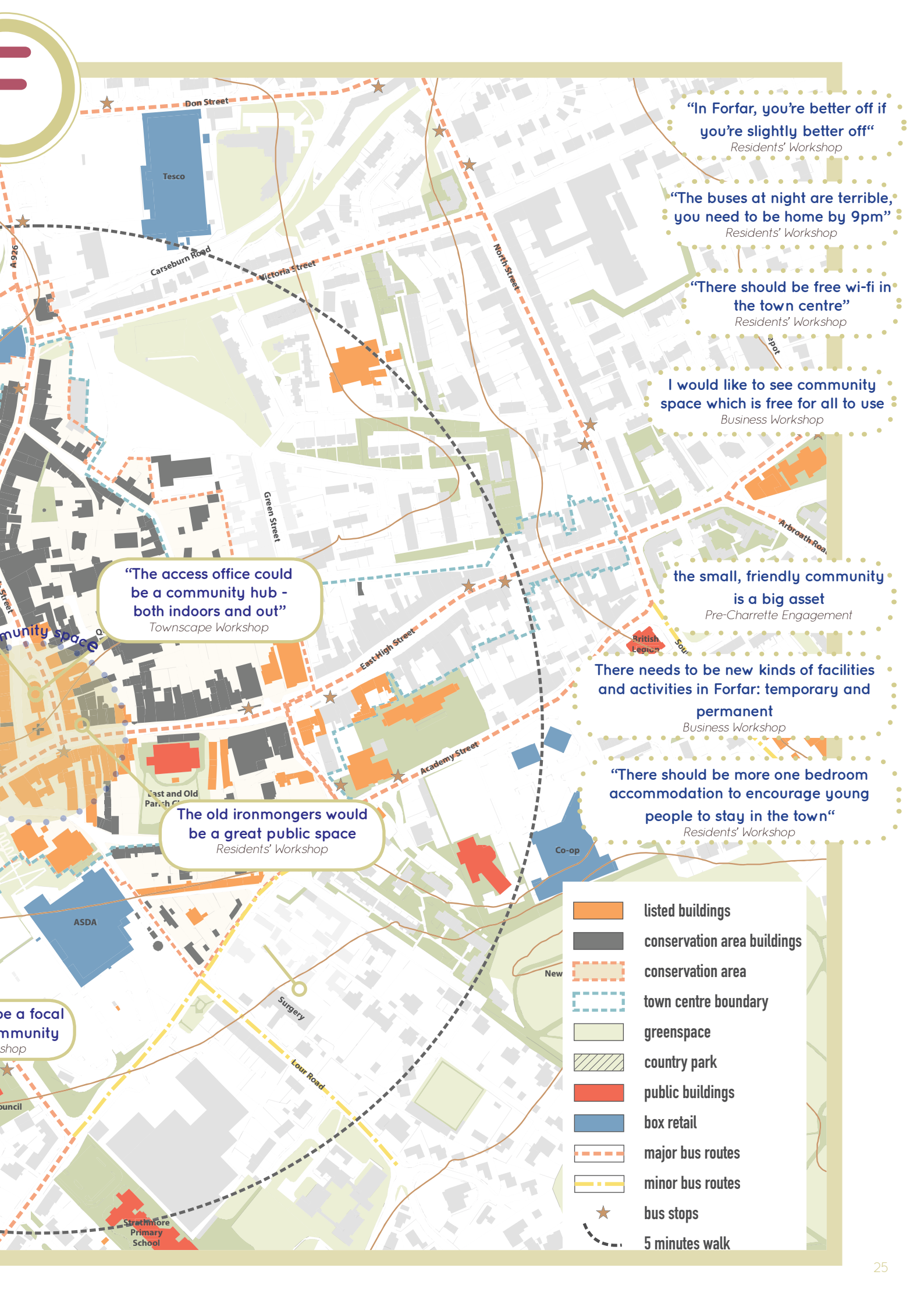
Townscape Workshop

There needs to be a focal point for the community

Business Workshop

Key area for creating community space

Key area for creating community space



“In Forfar, you’re better off if you’re slightly better off”
Residents’ Workshop

“The buses at night are terrible, you need to be home by 9pm”
Residents’ Workshop

“There should be free wi-fi in the town centre”
Residents’ Workshop

I would like to see community space which is free for all to use
Business Workshop

“The access office could be a community hub - both indoors and out”
Townscape Workshop

the small, friendly community is a big asset
Pre-Charrette Engagement

There needs to be new kinds of facilities and activities in Forfar: temporary and permanent
Business Workshop

The old ironmongers would be a great public space
Residents’ Workshop

“There should be more one bedroom accommodation to encourage young people to stay in the town”
Residents’ Workshop

- listed buildings
- conservation area buildings
- conservation area
- town centre boundary
- greenspace
- country park
- public buildings
- box retail
- major bus routes
- minor bus routes
- bus stops
- 5 minutes walk

What would you like to

“A coffee shop which is open at night”

“Safer civic lighting”

“An affordable, but good quality hotel. There is no point in having great events and shops if there’s no where to stay”

Public Artwork

“Forfar in flower”

“Pedestrianised streets”

“A coffee shop which is open at night”

Daily

“Better community what”

“There could fortnightly market”

Permanently

“The local community should decide any future uses”

“A tourist information office”

“A youth hub”

Community Cinema

“An independent greengrocers”

“Improved traffic flow and parking”

“Great restaurants”

Weekly

“A local food”

“There could be a league -”

“An arts and”

see in the town centre?

Communication of
is on”

ould be a
y farmers’
ket”

ekly

od market”

be a Sunday
5 a side”

crafts group”

“A community cinema”

“More live performances
at The Cross, on a
Saturday”

“A monthly drive-in
cinema,
at least in the summer”

Monthly



“Wedding fairs: an
opportunity to showcase
all the local businesses”

“Using the bandstand in
the park to have music
concerts on a Saturday
night”

Farmers’ Market

Pop Up Restaurant

Streetsports Festival

Puppy Parade

Forfar Bridie Festival

“A week or weekend long
event”

“Expanding Doors Open
Day”

“Something with a big
impact
day and night”

Forfar in Flower

Cycling Festival

On Special Occasions

“What is unique that we
can build on?”

Outdoor Festival

Big Tent Festival

Heritage Festival

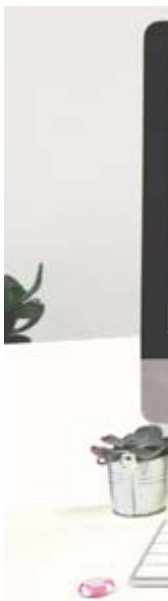
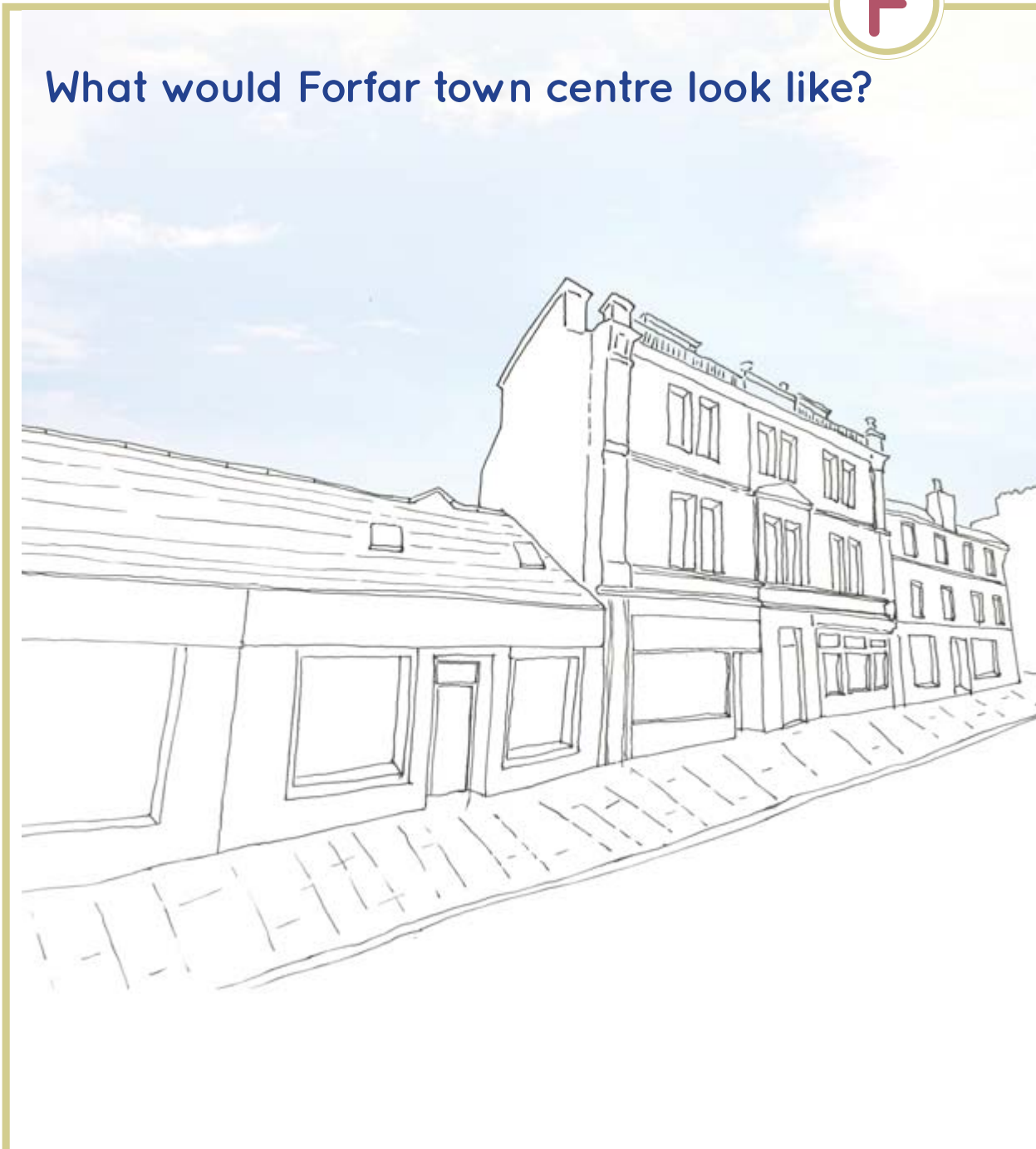
“Music shows - local
bands and traditional
music”

Visualising Future Forfar

Charrette Materials

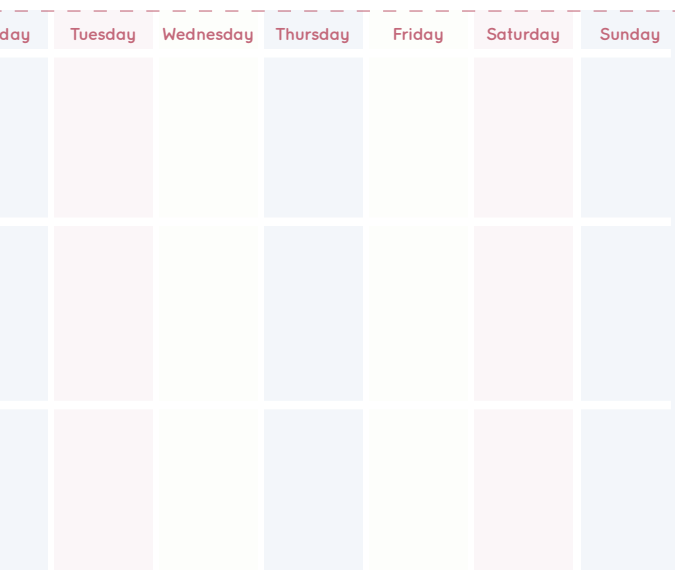


What would Forfar town centre look like?



	Mon
Morning	
Afternoon	
Evening	

How does this work?

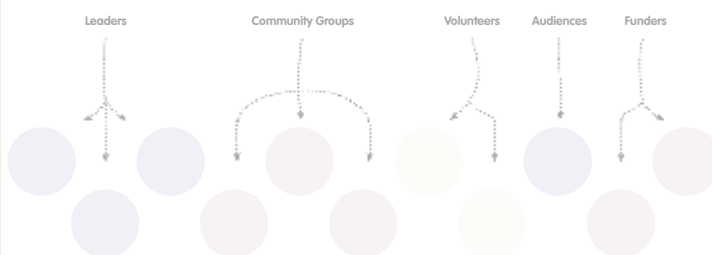


It was important that the process of the charrette produced tangible outcomes. By creating design and engagement tools participants were encouraged to visualise what the future of Forfar might look like, how that would affect their daily lives, as well as think about who might be involved in the process of delivering this.

When it came to describing what groups might be involved to help deliver the vision's, the public understandably found it difficult to think of strategic partners. This is something that community groups will require support with. The exercise did however start people thinking about what groups in Forfar could come together.

F

What groups might be involved?



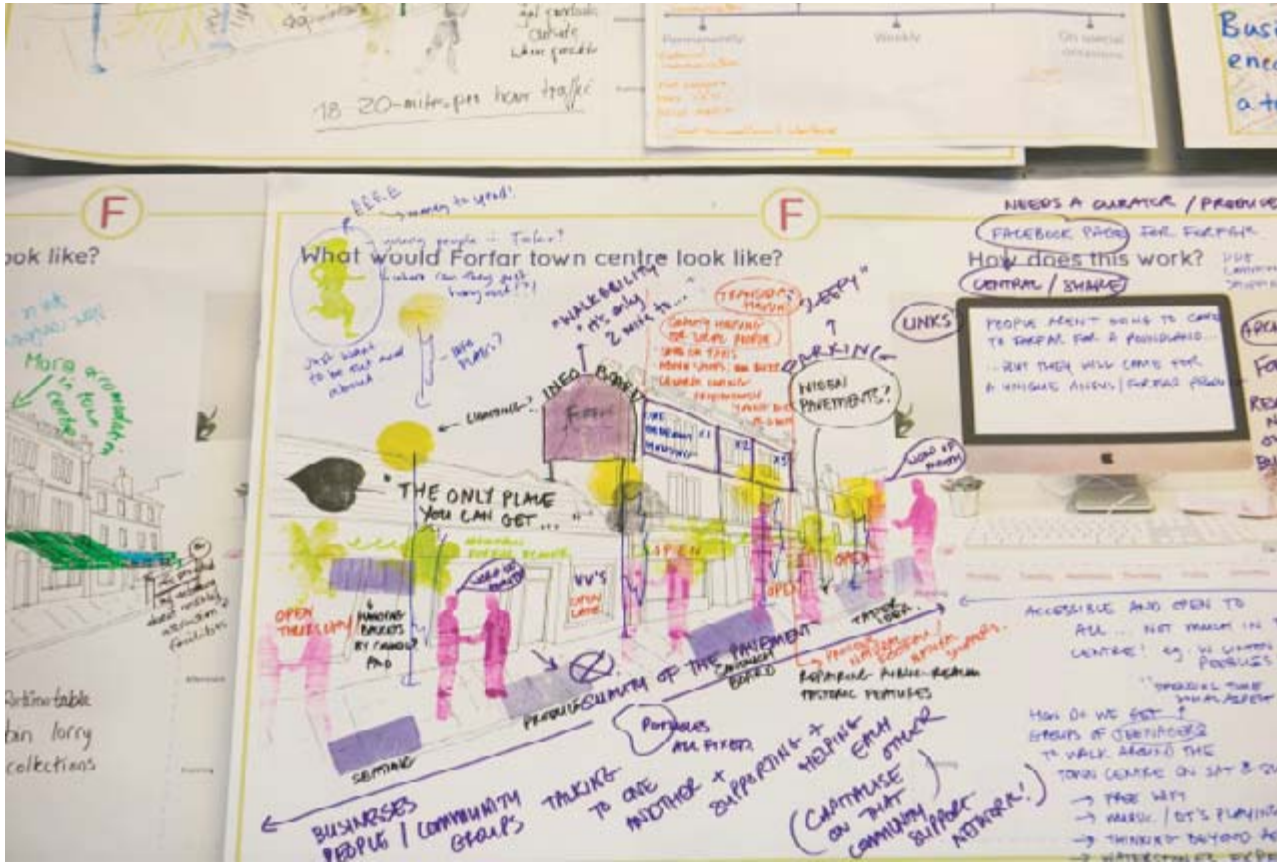
Assorted Workshop Output

Activity output from returned responses



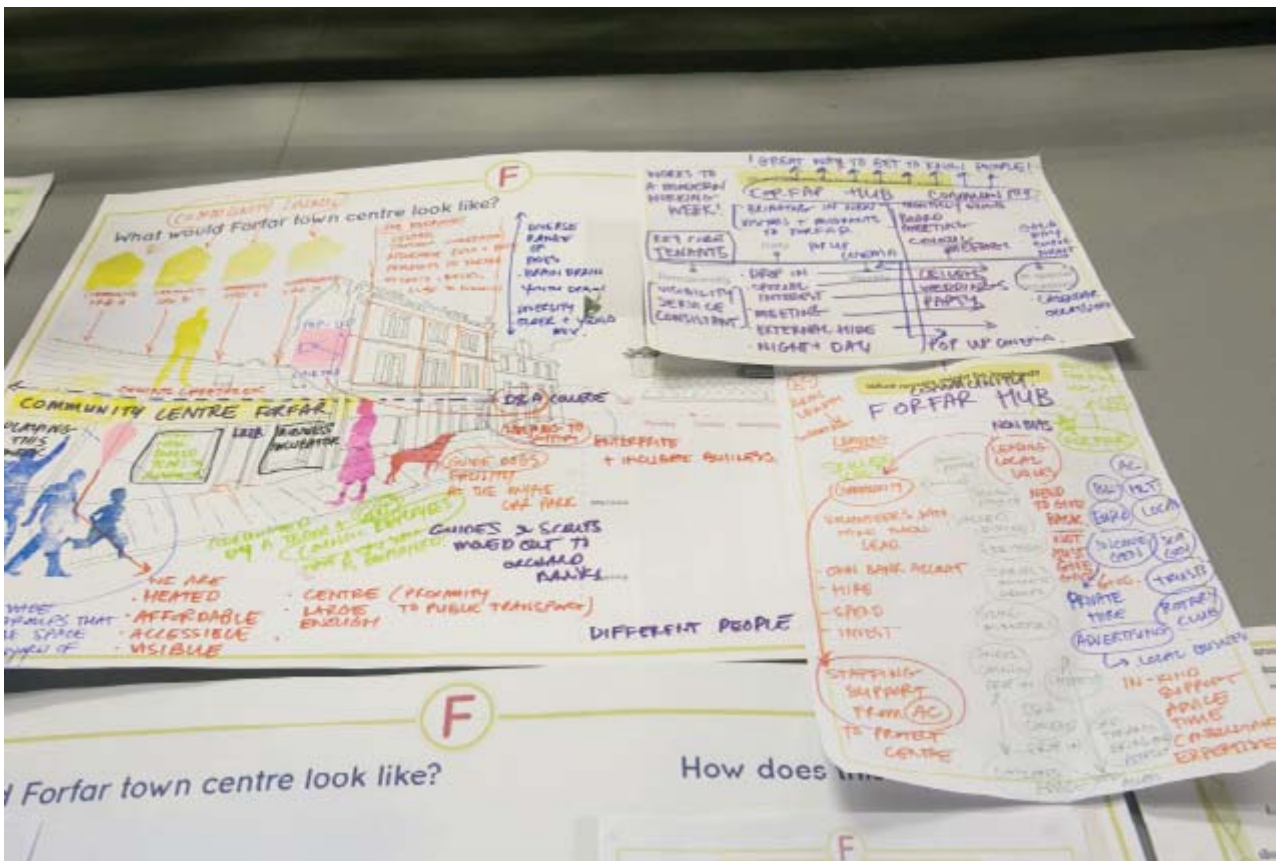
Assorted Workshop Output

Activity output from returned responses



Assorted Workshop Output

Activity output from returned responses



Summary of impressions

Impressions from Forfar

- Lack of a sense of cohesion in the community
- Feeling of under development
- Lack of things to do in the town centre that meet people's interest
- Sense of a lack of collective action and activity

Corroborating Research

- Comparatively more older couples without children
- Fewer charitable organisations per head implying less community cohesion
- Comparatively fewer shops and job opportunities than other similar sized towns implying less activity
- Difficulty to compete with the pull of the out of town shopping
- Something distinct therefore is needed to place the town centre in people's minds to draw them there



Forfar ANGUS

POPULATION 14,048

This type of large town is extremely mixed in terms of demographics. There is a particularly wide range of people, housing and activities. The number of older couples with no children is higher than average. There is a mix of professional and non-professional jobs, and part-time and self-employment are both important for a significant proportion of residents. Socioeconomic status is higher than in other kinds of town and there is a mix of professionals and nonprofessionals, those with higher and lower educational attainment.

Forfar is an independent to interdependent town.

Its most similar towns are Elgin, Dumfries, Inverness, and Falkirk.

COMPARE TOWNS



Inter-relationships



Forfar is an **independent to interdependent** town.

Combining inter-relationships and typology, Forfar is grouped with 8 other towns. It has similarities to these towns in terms of the number of GP surgeries, children in primary schools, children in secondary schools, jobs, and shops. It also has similarities in the diversity of jobs.

Forfar differs most from its group in the number of public sector jobs.

- Orange: Employment
- Green: Public
- Red: Commercial
- Blue: Social
- Vertical line: Average for the category

Section 5

Vision for Future Forfar

Create a Buzz

Forfar Town Centre needs more buzz about it, primarily by encouraging local people to stay loyal to their town: to visit the town centre more often, to stay there longer for work, shopping, meeting and eating. This should be achieved by focusing on developing:

- **A Distinctive Character** by enhancing Forfar's underlying unique features such as buildings, shop-fronts and streetscapes
- **A Forfar for All Generations** by creating affordable spaces for all age groups
- **Consolidating the Centre** by making The Cross and town centre a focus for the local community
- **Better Communication and Coordination** between all local partners on what is happening in Forfar and greater promotion to the wider world

Vision explained

Everyone at the charrette agreed: Forfar town centre needs more buzz!

How are we going to get more buzz? Primarily by encouraging local people to be loyal to their town: to visit the town centre more often and to stay longer. We want people to stay in the town centre for work, shopping, meeting and eating.

As well as existing residents, we want to attract future residents of the 600-plus new homes that are programmed for construction in the next ten years. We need to get them into the habit of using Forfar town centre, rather than their energy, liveliness and expenditure leaking out to Dundee or elsewhere. Not only will that help create more footfall and activity in the town centre, it will help new residents to integrate into the local community.

To help animate the town centre, creating more homes in the centre should be a priority. At the charrette, there was clearly local demand for more one to two bedroomed homes for young and old alike. With a number of potential sites and properties for new build and refurbishment, where better than the town centre for these smaller flats and houses?

Encouraging more tourists to come to Forfar is a longer term aspiration, probably as part of a wider area strategy in which Forfar plays its full part as the historical county town.

So, if creating more buzz in the town centre is our big objective, how are we going to do it? Our proposals for the future of Forfar Town Centre are grouped under four

strategic priorities. Resources are limited, so we can not achieve everything. Instead, the proposals are very focussed on a relatively small number of achievable actions, which reflect the aspirations of the charrette participants.

Supporting Consultant Analysis

The Understanding Scottish Places tool (usp.scot) provides a snapshot of Forfar and it can be used to compare Forfar with other towns. The classification for Forfar in the tool is as an independent to interdependent town, which is described as following:

“This type of large town is extremely mixed in terms of demographics. There is a particularly wide range of people, housing and activities. The number of older couples without children is higher than average. There is a mix of professional and non-professional jobs, and part-time and self-employment are both important for a significant proportion of residents. Socioeconomic status is higher than in other kinds of town and there is a mix of professionals and non-professionals, those with higher and lower educational attainment. Independent to interdependent towns have a good number of assets in relation to their population. These towns have a good diversity of jobs; and residents on the whole travel shorter distances to travel to work and study. These towns attract people from neighbouring towns to access some of their assets and jobs.”

Whilst the town has this mix of assets, Forfar has something of an independent feel, it is linked in to flows in the network and it

is likely that the patterns of movement are differentiated across the mix of the population.

In terms of charitable organisations, the tool suggests that Forfar has more residents per charitable organisations than other similar towns, which may indicate a comparative lack of civic and community interaction (the number of charitable organisations is our nearest proxy for this in the tool, and is not perfect; this is thus suggestive only at this point). Add this to the flows outside the town and it would seem that there is some scope to build more of a place and community feel and keep more people in the town and to attract others to come in.

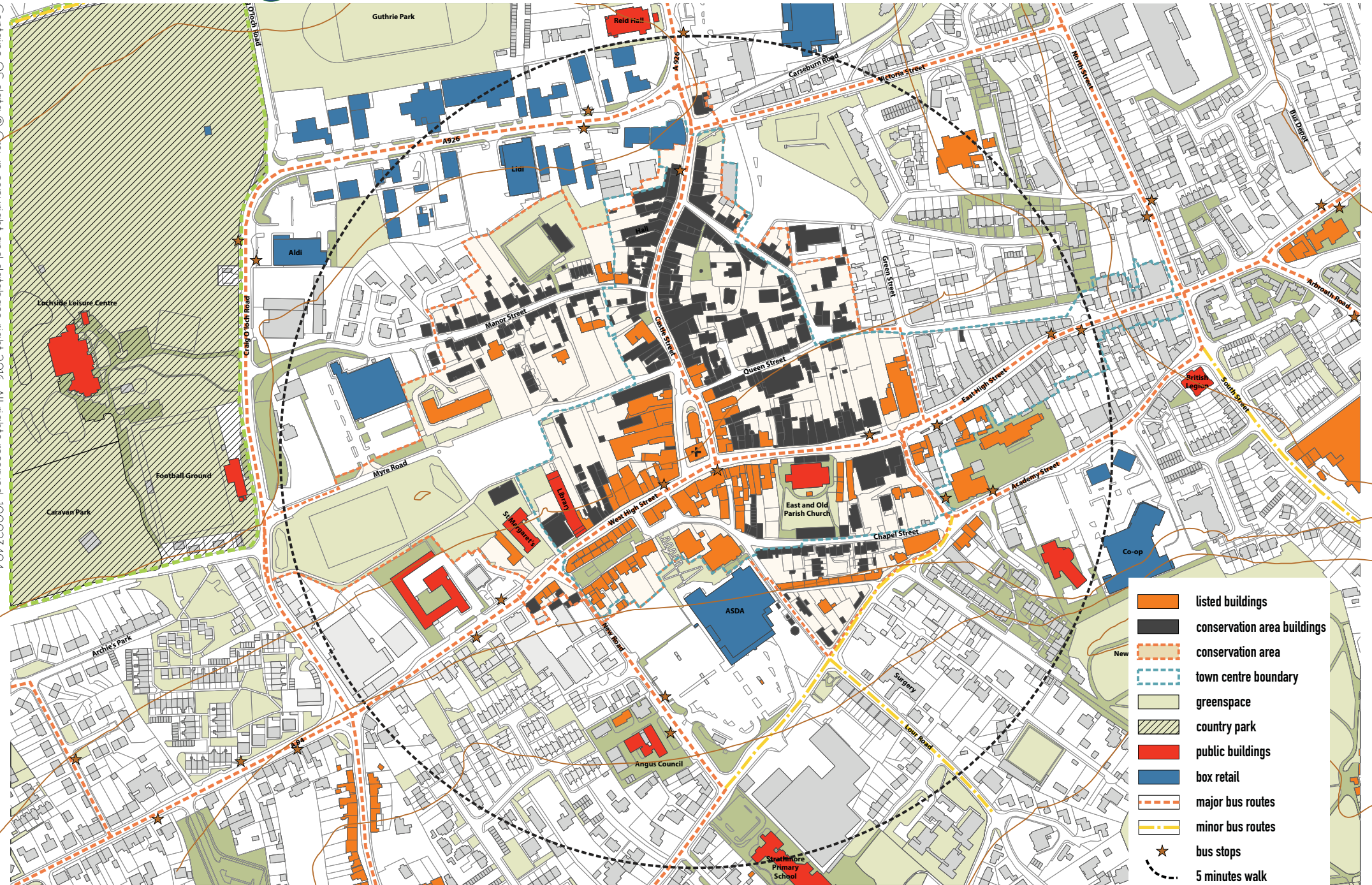
The tool also suggests that Forfar has more people per shop and fewer jobs in the town than its comparators, again pointing to the flows and comparative lack of opportunity and facility of this form. Building these sectors would help the town.

All of these point to a lack of energy and life in the centre - or at least at a level that we might expect for a town like this.

Forfar needs to differentiate itself from the convenient shopping attractions on its periphery rather than attempting to replicate them in the town centre.

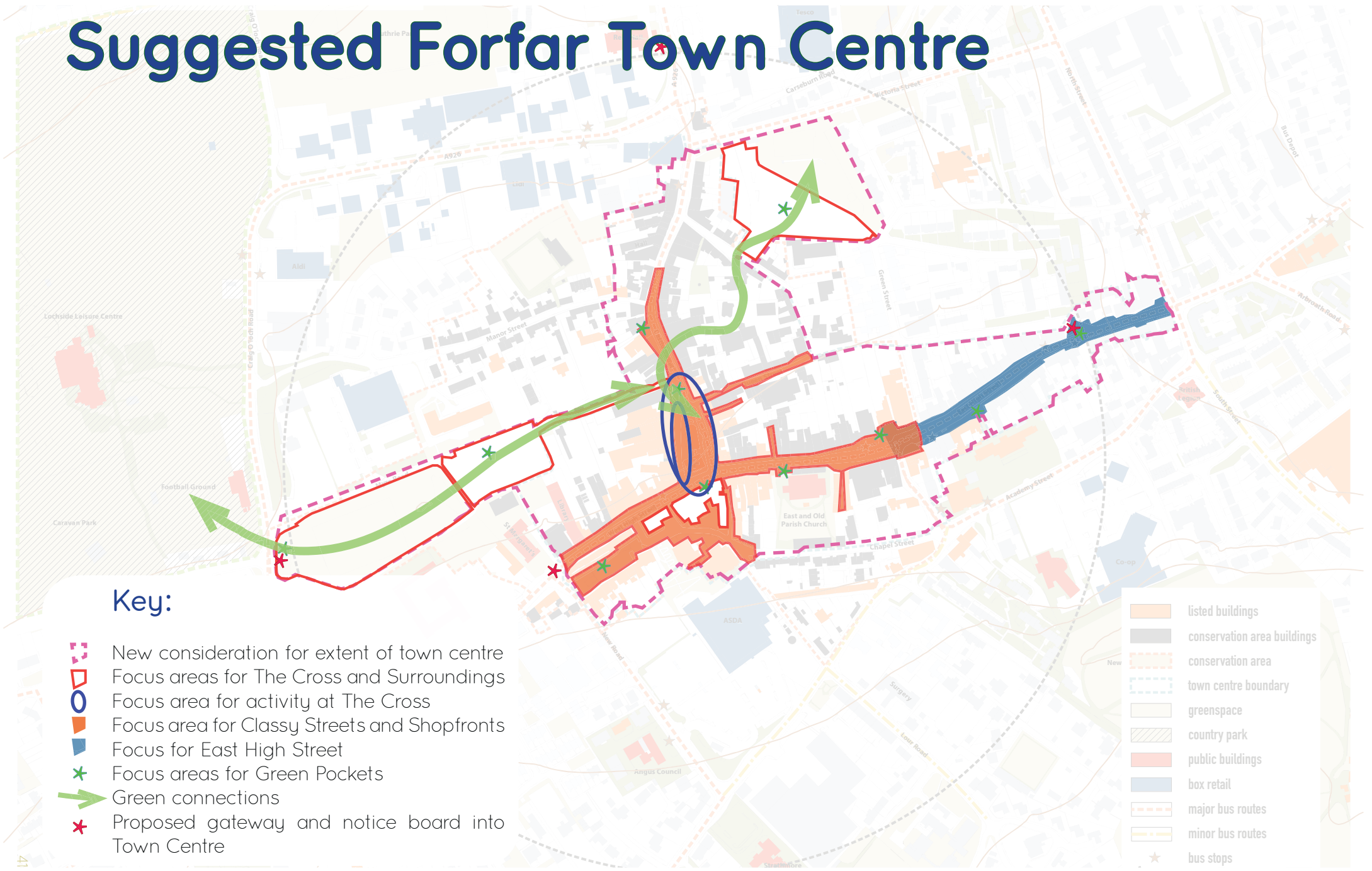
Forfar has a sense of place and pride in place, but this needs to be built on and reinforced. Beyond the retail experience, Forfar Town Centre has the potential to offer a richness of experience across the full spectrum of life. Essentially the aim is to remind people of this and seek to put the centre back on the mental choice set of residents and others.

Existing Forfar Town Centre



















- listed buildings
- conservation area buildings
- conservation area
- town centre boundary
- greenspace
- country park
- public buildings
- box retail
- major bus routes
- minor bus routes
- bus stops
- 5 minutes walk

Suggested Forfar Town Centre



Key:

-  New consideration for extent of town centre
-  Focus areas for The Cross and Surroundings
-  Focus area for activity at The Cross
-  Focus area for Classy Streets and Shopfronts
-  Focus for East High Street
-  Focus areas for Green Pockets
-  Green connections
-  Proposed gateway and notice board into Town Centre

-  listed buildings
-  conservation area buildings
-  conservation area
-  town centre boundary
-  greenspace
-  country park
-  public buildings
-  box retail
-  major bus routes
-  minor bus routes
-  bus stops

Section 5

1. A Distinctive Character

Forfar's town centre is full of distinctive character, but it needs to shine. Too many buildings are shabby, public spaces tend towards the utilitarian and are dominated by vehicles and there is a lack of beauty despite what lies beneath the surface. This group of proposals is designed to bring out the best in the town centre and encourage businesses and community groups to make the town centre's public spaces their own.

A Distinctive Character can be achieved by focusing on the following:

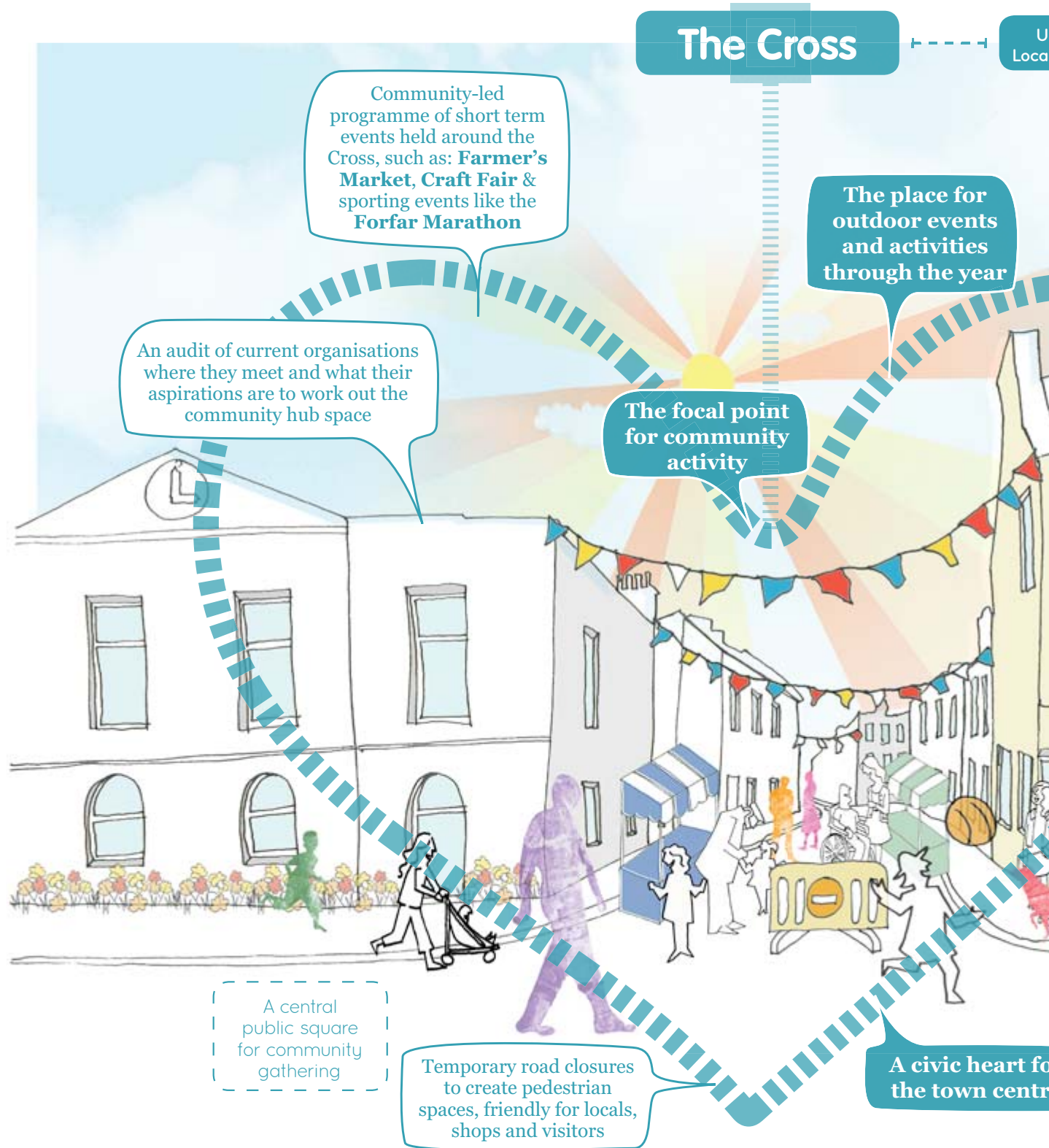
- The Cross & Surroundings
- Classy Streets & Shop-fronts
- East High Street
- Getting About
- Green Pockets





The Cross & Surroundings

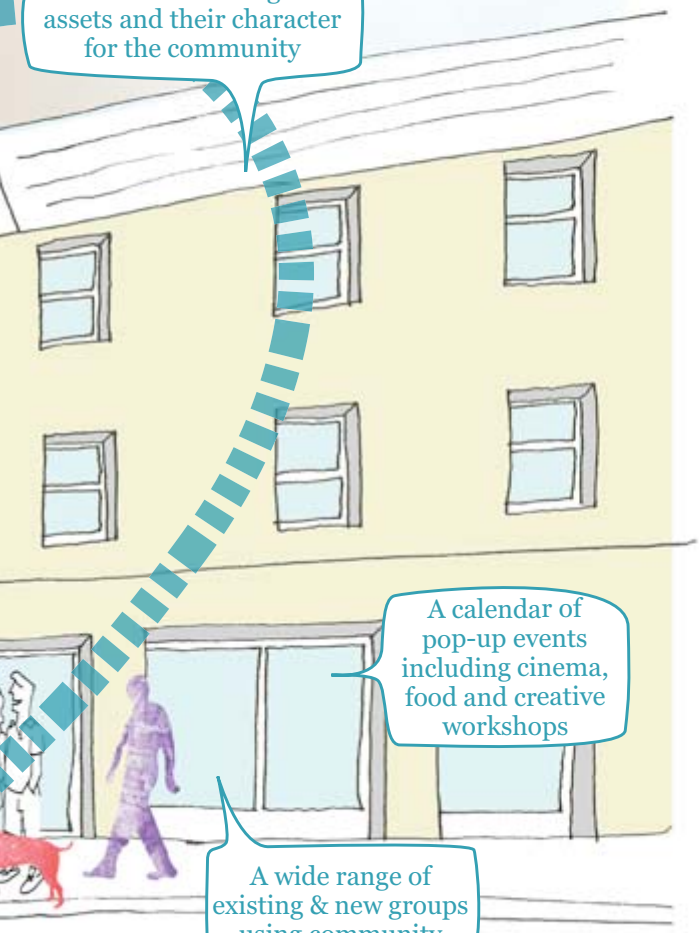
Visual Brief



Unique Interest for Visitors & Residents Variety in Activity

“What’s going on” spread by word of mouth

Make use of existing built assets and their character for the community



A calendar of pop-up events including cinema, food and creative workshops

A wide range of existing & new groups using community spaces and assets

Activities for All Generations & all of the community

or e

Summary Vision

- Overwhelmingly people said The Cross was the town centre and where they would like to spend most of their time
- The Cross has the potential to be a centre of activity at the heart of the town
- Use existing built assets around The Cross, perhaps in a community asset transfer to create a central hub
- This is something that could happen relatively soon if there is a constituted group to take it on
- A civic heart for the town centre and a focal point for community activity
- The place for outdoor events and activities throughout the week, month and year
- Expanding the centre to make use of surrounding areas

Action Plan

Short Term

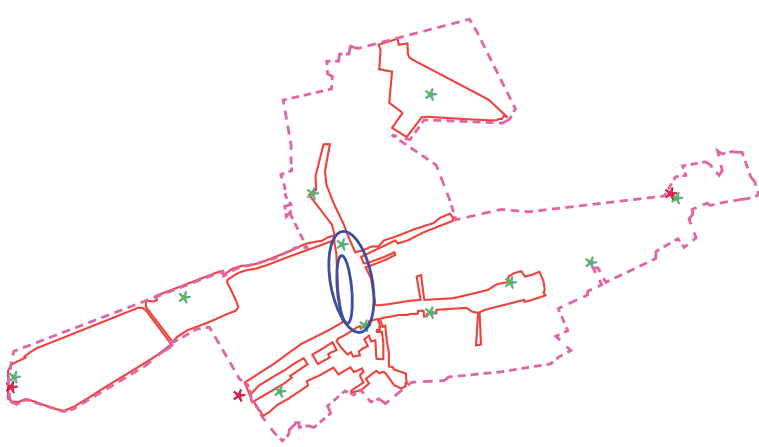
- community led programme of short term events held around The Cross such as a farmer’s market, craft fair, marathon
- audit current organisations: where they meet and what their aspirations are to work out the community hub space

Mid Term

- temporarily close the road down to create spaces that are pedestrian friendly for locals, shops and visitors
- make use of the existing built assets and their character for the community

Long Term

- improve the quality of the streetscape and built environment



The Cross & Surroundings Vision explained

It was clear from the charrette that the heart of the town centre is The Cross, particularly the west side of Castle Street outside the Access Office and Royal Hotel. There is an opportunity to make this focal point work much better as the civic heart of the town – the place for outdoor events and activities. A key action will be to put in place a programme to coordinate town centre events and activities over the whole year.

For this concept to fulfil its promise, the west arm of Castle Street should be enabled for regular temporary closure for outdoor events and activities, and indoor space for related indoor activities, storage and overcoming poor weather could be made available in the Access Office or other adjacent buildings. For example Council buildings that become surplus to requirements in the short to medium term such as the Access Office, could be well suited to re-use as a community hub for music, craft and culture, combining studio and show in one building (see Central Community Hub).

A strong re-energised centre will be the catalyst for activities that make use of its surrounding civic spaces such as events on the Myre and more activity amongst the old classy streets.

Please note that this action should be progressed in tandem with Central Community Hub.

(See plan on page 41 for location.)

(See drawing on page 54 for suggestion of location specific activities.)

Supporting Consultant Analysis

Culture and Events Programme

The Meffan Museum and Art Gallery provide the opportunity to connect to a new community space in or around The Cross.

Museum:

A review of the collection is required to be conducted and the creation of an active arts and heritage strategy based on the focus of the collection - a wide community survey should be undertaken to ask questions about what is understood and what can be done to attract more visitors - create a buzz about its events and actively generate new tangible and intangible heritage projects referring to this generation of Forfarians.

Gallery:

There is a small but impressive oil painting collection of artists from Scotland. These include works by Henry Raeburn, Scotland's first prominent portrait painter. In addition there are Flemish works by Pieter Brueghel the Younger! There is an opportunity to investigate who collected these works and the story that brought them to Forfar.

The Meffan has an annual events programme which could be coordinated better into a new Forfar Events Programme.

Events on the Myre

Sculpture trails:

- The loch could be developed as a platform for commissioning see: <http://>

kielderartandarchitecture.com/home.html

- Light events around the loch/forest see: <http://www.electricglen.co.uk>

Annual Guide Dog Event:

- Forfar Puppy Parade with live 'pup dates' good use of social media - cultivate an online buzz/follows and reaching beyond Forfar.
- See how Forfar could link into international networks: http://www.igdf.org.uk/media/85997/visionary__edition_20_-_september_2012_.pdf

A vintage and 'boy racer' car festival:

- link into regional groups like Stonehaven & District Motor Club



- <http://www.sdmc.co.uk/>

Quality of environment of Streetscape

In order to achieve the desired improvements to the quality of the street environment additional attention is required to the issues around traffic identified during the charrette and pre-charrette by the local community. Particular emphasis should be placed on the following:

- inappropriate vehicle speed in key streets and a culture of aggressive driving
- through traffic of heavy vehicles in key streets

Addressing these points would help foster an environment more conducive to the community activities, events and festivals outlined above.

Castle Street and The Cross

This area is generally regarded as the natural centre of the town and it would be appropriate to have a public realm which supported and acted as a platform for social interaction as well as business activity. The options for Castle Street would be:

- retain the existing situation with potential to close part of the street (Buttermarket) but without any changes to street or footway surfaces
- implement an improvement scheme for the public realm on Buttermarket either as a pedestrianisation project or as a low speed environment
- implement a low speed environment project for Castle Street from The Cross north to Manor Street

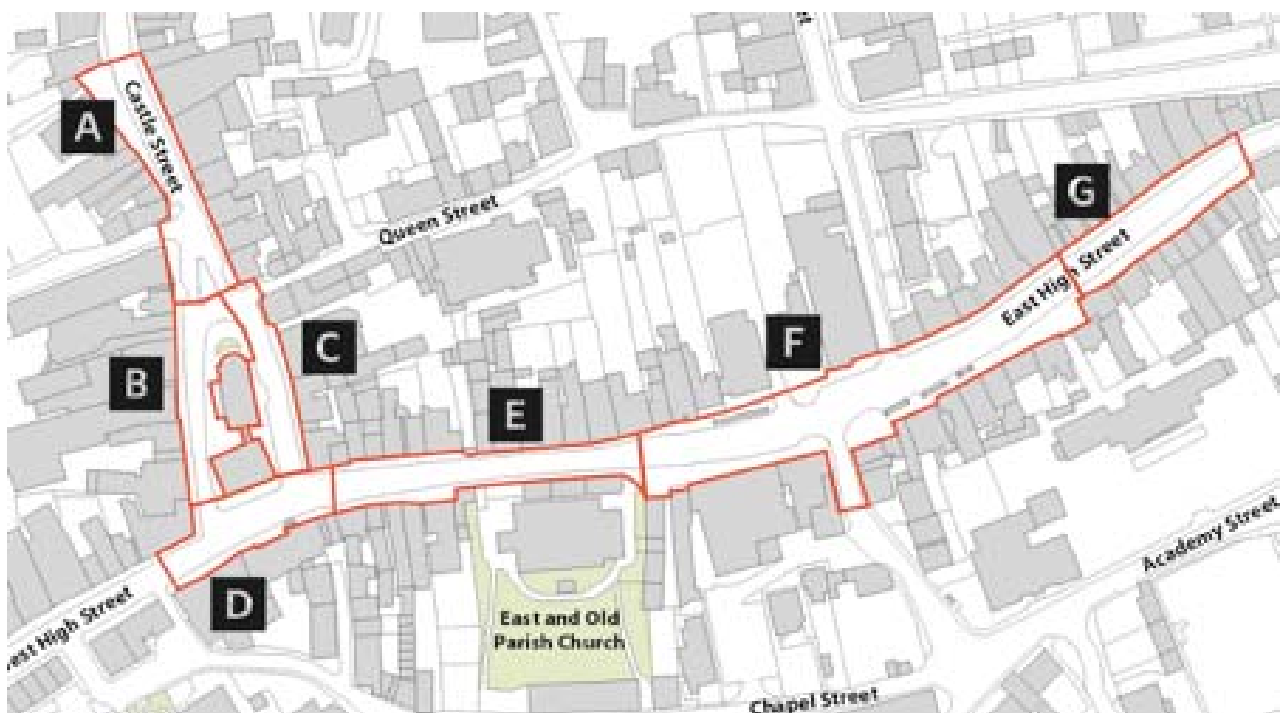
A low speed environment project would prioritise pedestrians over vehicles, but retain car and bus access at all times. The Cross could also be the subject of a low speed project which altered priority at the junction and created a better balance between vehicles and pedestrians.

Costs:

Clearly there are issues over the cost of remodelling these areas. Current best practice is to use sustainable (natural) materials which have a long service life. That is what the costs are based on. However it is possible to design projects which have the same beneficial effects but which cost substantially less, perhaps with a unit cost between £400-600/m².

Castle Street:

- Area A: 1,472m² @£800/m² = £1.2M
- Area B: 1,180m² @£800/m² = £0.95M (priority area)
- Area C: 810m² @£800/m² = £0.65M
- The Cross:
- Area D: 1,062m² @£800/m² = £0.85M (priority area)
- East High Street:
- Area E: 1,406m² @£800/m² = £1.2M
- Area F: 3,713m² @£800/m² = £2.9M (priority area)
- Area G: 1,227m² @£800/m² = £0.98M



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Traffic Management Report 2010

The most recent traffic study made available to us is from February 2010 prepared by the Infrastructure Services Department of the Council. The focus of the report is on Traffic Management and deals particularly with the options for Castle Street and the introduction of a Southbound only one-way traffic movement on Castle Street between Victoria Street and Myre Road.

The report deals with the movement of heavy vehicles to and from the town's industrial areas at Orchardbank, Carseview Road/Station Road and Lairds. It also catalogues the town's car parking areas, cycle and pedestrian facilities.

The summary points affecting the quality of

the town centre's spaces are:

- vehicle speeds are high though not necessarily above the speed limit – an average speed of less than 18mph is appropriate for the town centre's streets, especially those where there is a high degree of pedestrian use and social interaction – namely East High Street, The Cross and Castle Street
- a low speed environment seems appropriate for East High Street, The Cross and Castle Street as a means of creating a safer environment and encouraging street life and events
- the 2010 report notes that there were 16 'slight injury accidents' and seven 'serious injury accidents' in the town centre from 2008-2009



Classy Streets & Shopfronts

Visual Brief

Classy Streets

Maintaining and creating a quality public realm and historic features

Take inspiration from the Angus Archives for public realm design and reinvigoration

A mix of Artist Installations, Pop Up Shops and Long Term Commercial Units

Increase high street activity through pilot shopfront schemes

Artist Installations

Pop Up Shops



Summary Vision

- Bring out the character of East and West High Street, Castle Street and smaller streets leading off like Osnaburg Street and Little Causeway
- Offer incentives for owners of historic buildings to restore historical details
- Maximise the improvements with more attractive street lighting, pavements, crossings, benches and greenery outside shops
- Offer more opportunities for community planting and street activity like Forfar in Flower
- Bring in better parking enforcement to make the streets safer for pedestrians
- Continue good quality street maintenance and cleansing

A vibrant town centre

Public Space

Something for Everyone



Long Term Commercial Units

Annual "Old Time Festival" with stalls, food and entertainment

Better lighting for more varied uses at night and in the winter months

Improve the quality of the streetscape and shopfronts

Planting, seating and lighting introduced to the public realm

Action Plan

Short Term

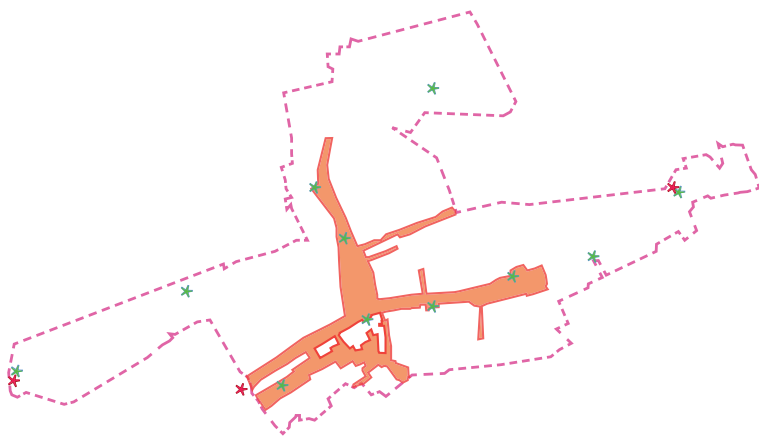
- Increase activity through pilot shop front schemes: Pop Up Shops & Artist installations
- Look at examples like Made in Stirling, SomewhereTo and the Living Window project in Cumbernauld
- Improve the quality of the streetscape and shopfronts, whilst restoring character of town centre
- Take inspiration from the Angus Archives, Old Time Festival: stalls, food, entertainment

Mid Term

- Better lighting at night
- Support businesses to submit funding applications to improve their shop fronts

Long Term

- Improve the quality of the streetscape and built environment



Classy Streets & Shopfronts Vision in Detail

Bring out the character of East and West High Street, Castle Street and smaller streets leading off like Osnaburg Street and Little Causeway.

Offer incentives for owners of historic buildings to restore historical details, give a fresh lick of paint, and spruce up their lighting, signage and window displays. Several buildings to the north of Castle Street are in need of urgent maintenance and repairs, targeted support for repairing and re-occupying these buildings will enliven and regenerate this end of the street.

Maximise the improvements with more attractive street lighting, pavements, crossings, benches and greenery outside shops, and up-to-date “what’s on” information. Offer more opportunities for community planting and street activity. Bring in better parking enforcement to make the streets safer for pedestrians. Continue good quality street maintenance and cleansing.

(See plan on page 41 for location.)

Supporting Consultant Analysis

Many of the residents and many of the facilities (retail, out of town, supermarkets etc) can be found outside the centre. Together with the road network and ease of access elsewhere, and less clear access and availability centrally, the effect is that people do not necessarily engage with the centre. It will be difficult to replicate these attractions in the town centre, and thus the main way of counteracting these pulls is to seek to build something distinct and different in Forfar Town Centre which will attract people (residents) to give the centre a try and to build their businesses and energy in the key central spaces. Essentially the aim is to seek to put the centre back on the mental choice of residents and others. Forfar has a sense of place and pride in place, but this needs to be built on and reinforced.

In order to create a distinct character for Forfar that will attract people to stay and be loyal to their town centre, the quality of the streetscape and activity on the high street are essential.

Long term sustainable activity will take investment from businesses, but this can only come when there is a confidence around footfall. Greater interest can be encouraged in the short and mid term through projects that offer activity and services that are interesting and exciting to people.

Pilot shop front schemes such as below have all shown to be effective in stimulating activity:

Made in Stirling
www.creativestirling.org/mis/about

Start Up Street
<https://startupstreetstirling.wordpress.com>

Somewhere To
www.somwhereto.com

Living Window
<http://www.pidginperfect.com/index.php/10-participation/32-cumbernauld-living-windows>

Kilmarnock Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme
<http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2014/11/6172/7>



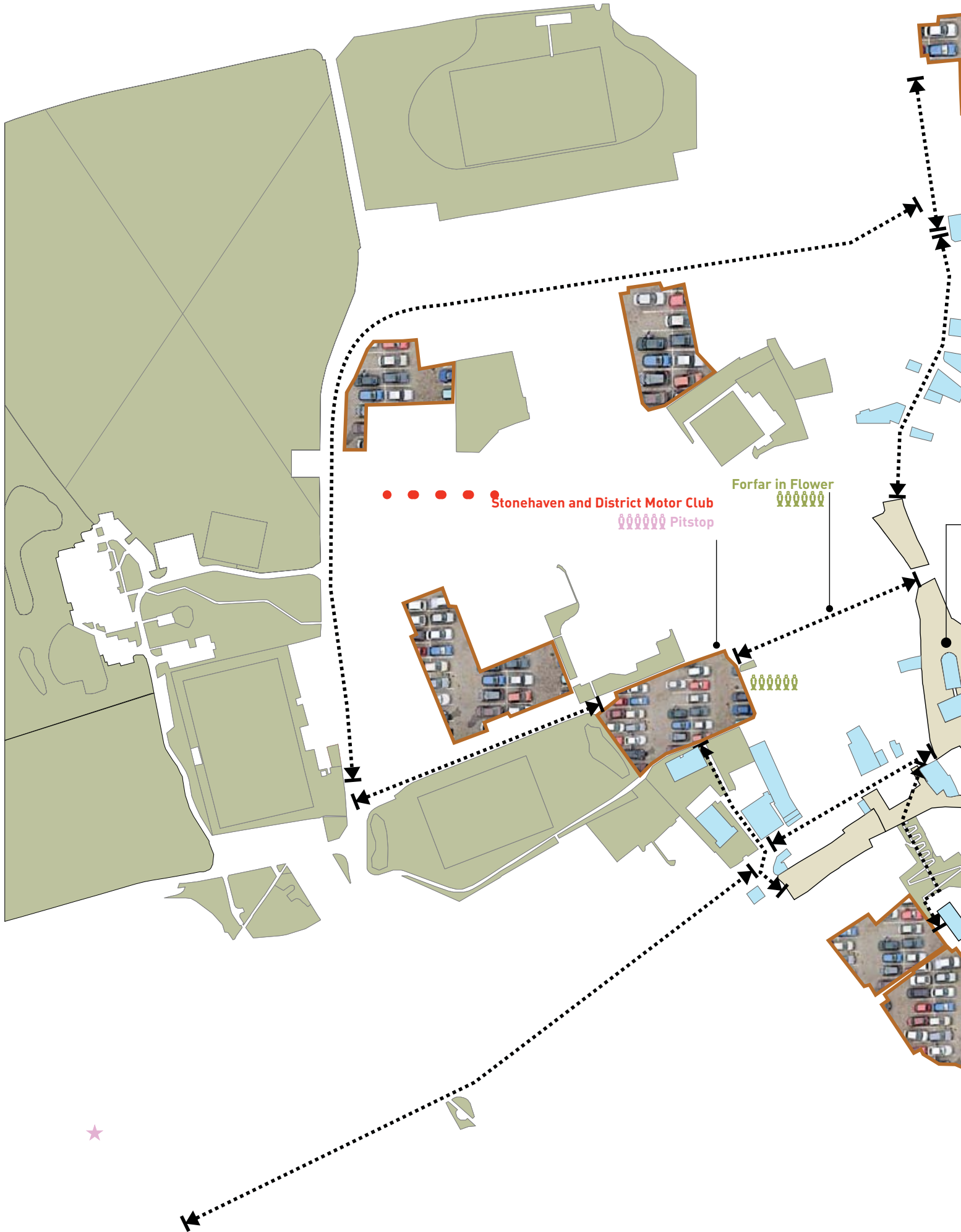
Made in Stirling Initiative - shopfront showcases

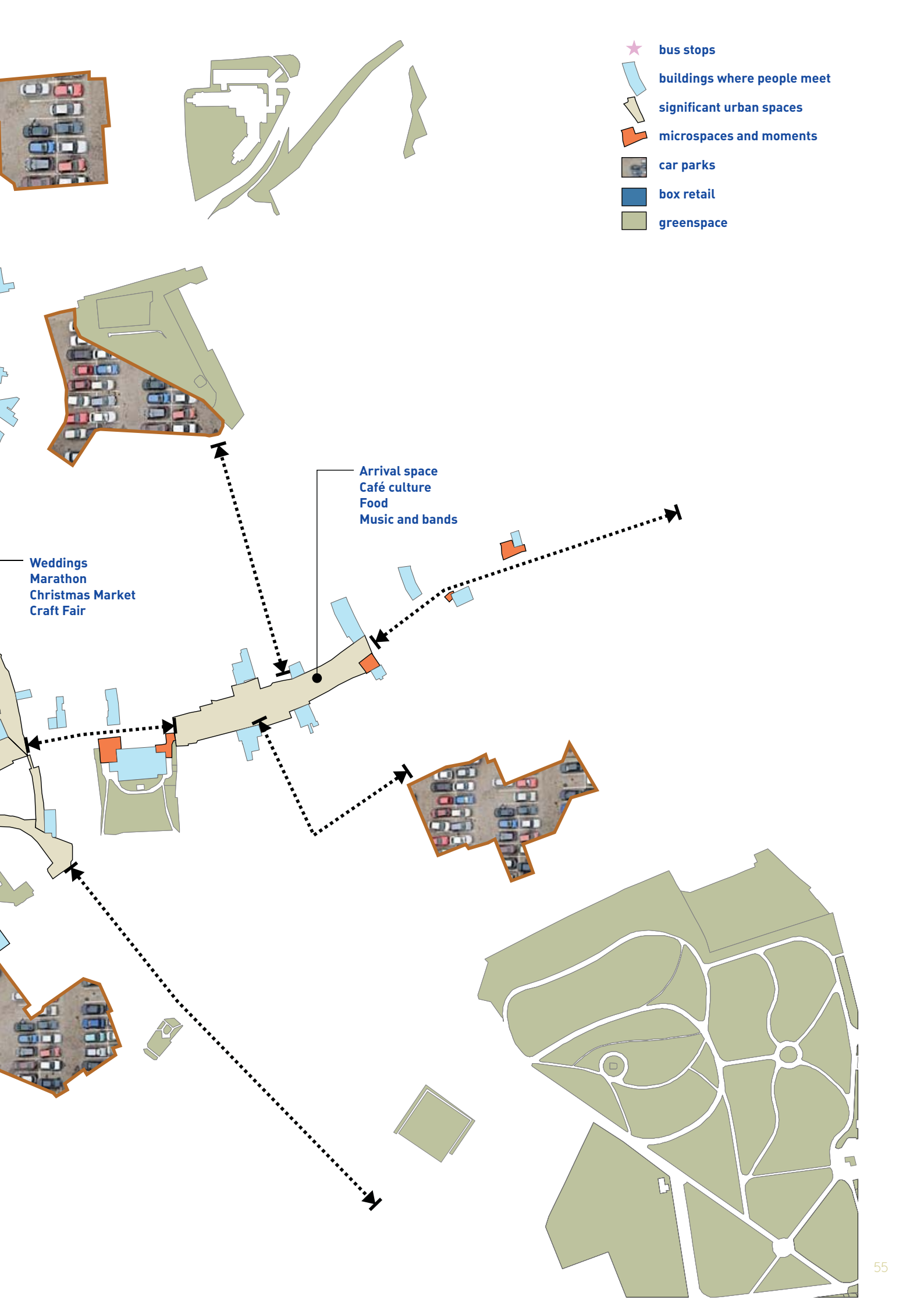


Living Window, by Pidgin Perfect for the Scottish Wildlife Trust, artist Gabriella di Tano



Kilmarnock Conservation Area Regeneration





- ★ bus stops
- ▭ buildings where people meet
- ▭ significant urban spaces
- ▭ microspaces and moments
- ▭ car parks
- ▭ box retail
- ▭ greenspace

Weddings
 Marathon
 Christmas Market
 Craft Fair

Arrival space
 Café culture
 Food
 Music and bands

East High Street

Visual Brief

East High Street

Information on walking access to Town Centre and extents

Public Transport as a priority

Improve the quality of bus stops and public transport infrastructure on East High Street

Improve the street quality on East High Street

Better bus stops & civic seating along the East High Street route

Travel & Connections

Linked transport network with connections to new Community Campus

Promote access for all to support a diversity of community members

Summary Vision

- Celebrate East High Street as an important entry point to the town centre.
- East High Street has the potential to be an important civic space within the town centre offering a more flexible civic space and contemporary environment to the area around The Cross
- Improve the quality of the streetscape on East High Street to create small civic spaces
- Create comfortable shelter and seating. (Link in with green pockets)

Central Connections

Promoting Access

Civic Spaces

Improve the quality of the streetscape on East High Street to create small civic spaces

Creating civic & public space

Networks supportive of Active Travel

Action Plan

Short Term

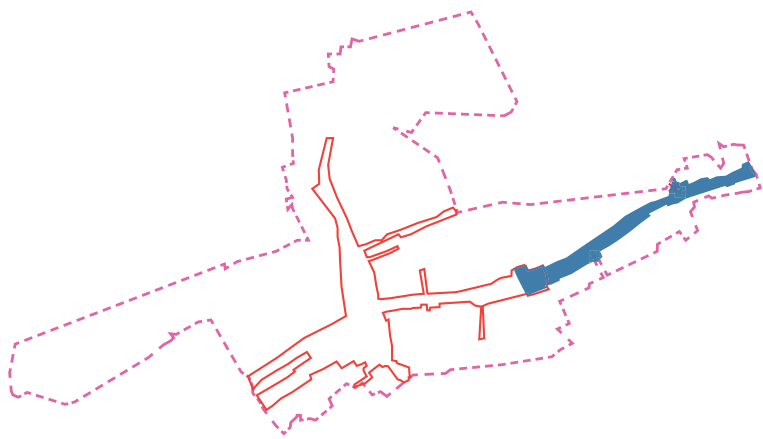
- Celebrate East High Street as an important entry point to the town centre.
- Extend the Green Pockets initiative to East High Street

Mid Term

- Improve the quality of the bus stops on East High Street
- Link the transport network to the new Community Campus
- Improve the quality of the streetscape on East High Street to create small civic spaces

Long Term

- Reconfigure the East High Street roadway to create a single narrower lane in each direction



East High Street Vision explained

Many people during the pre-charrette phase and charrette phase highlighted that Forfar needs more things to do.

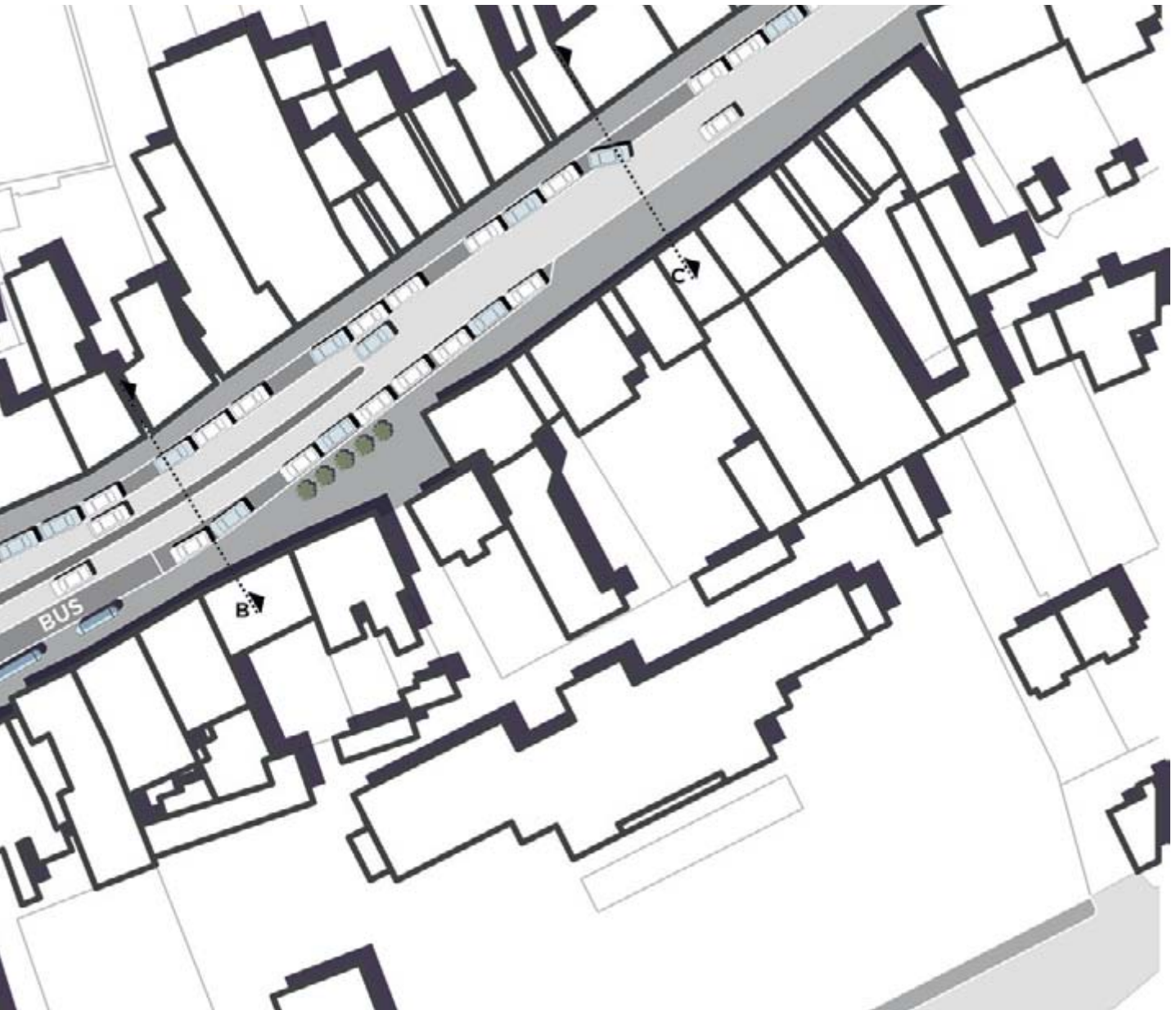
As East High Street sits outwith the conservation area it offers a more flexible

alternative civic space and contemporary environment to the area around The Cross. With investment in the streetscape making it more pedestrian friendly, seating, shelter and a shuttle bus to the community campus, East High Street has the potential to create more open civic space in the town centre for Forfar's residents.





left: Fishergate, Preston above: Poynton, Cheshire

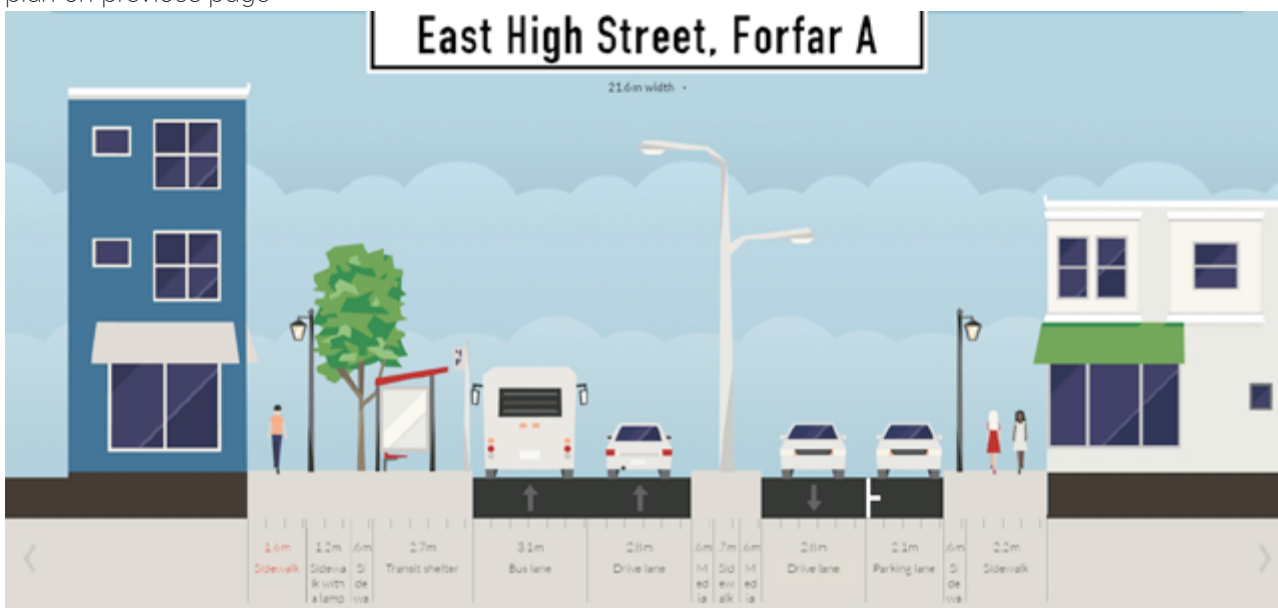


Supporting Consultant Analysis

There were two 'serious injury accidents' on East High Street in 2008-2009

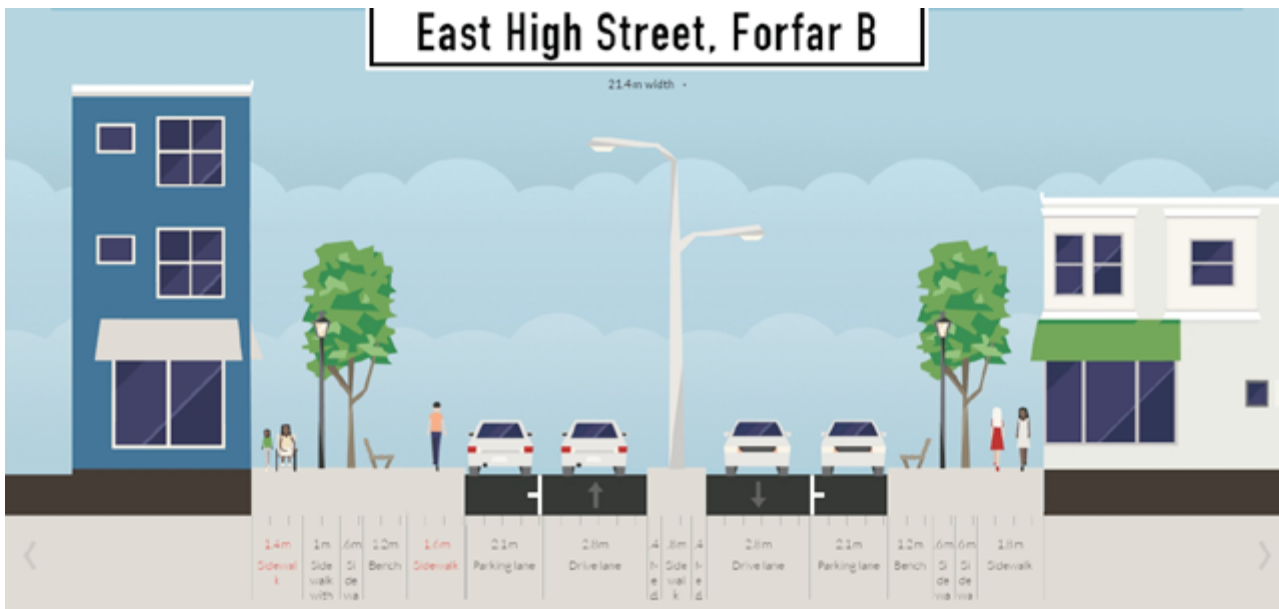
- East High Street is an important entry point to the town centre and could be the subject of a low speed environment project which could create more pedestrian space, reduced traffic speeds and less space given to vehicles while retaining parking spaces
- reconfiguring the East High Street roadway to create a single narrower lane in each direction separated by a median strip that would make it easier for pedestrians to cross the street
- a similar street configuration has been successful in regenerating businesses, reducing accidents and traffic congestion at Ashford in Kent, Poynton in Cheshire and Fishergate in Preston

Refer to sections A, B, C through East High Street on plan on previous page



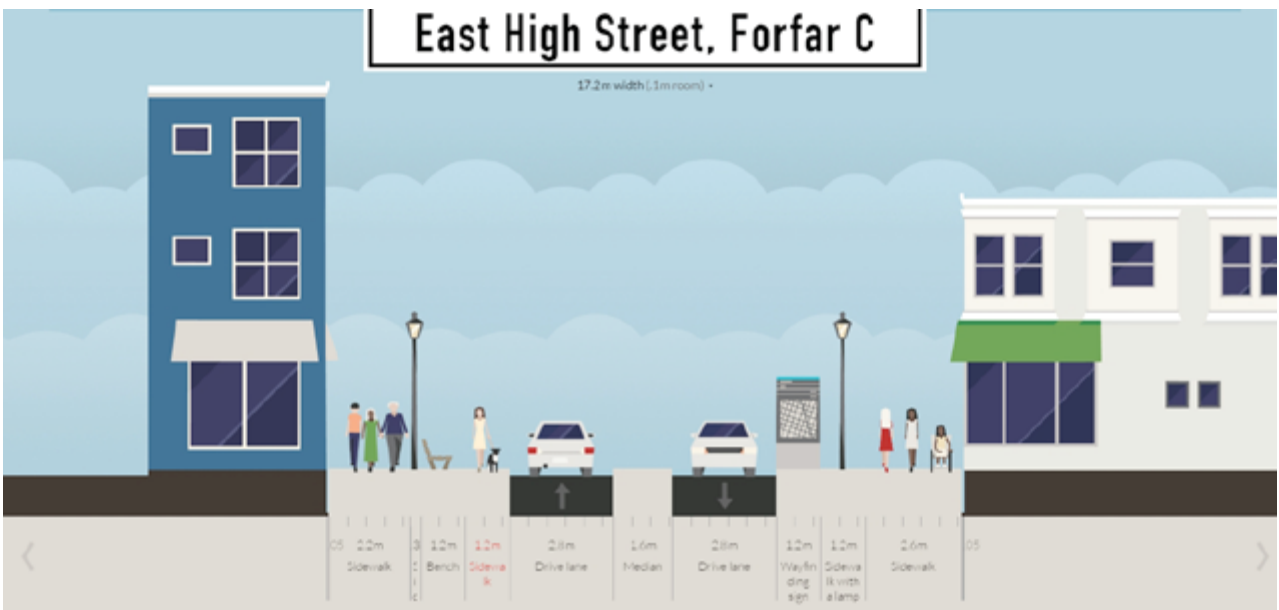
East High Street, Forfar B

21.4m width



East High Street, Forfar C

17.2m width (3m room)



Green Pockets

Visual Brief

Green Pockets

Creating new “Green Champions” and developing links to existing growing communities

Highlight potential for green pockets in the Town Centre, using Forfar in Flower and the local council partners as a guide for locations to start with

Develop and building on Community Growing Spaces initiatives, building on council greenspace audit and strategy

Highlight the green & growing potential of Forfar

Working together to make things happen

Developing funding strategies between communities, public & private organisations and local authorities

Pocket parks, community gardening and greenspaces. Links to Stalled Spaces Scotland

A network green pock



Creating more green

Growing spaces

Community ownership



Undertake Active Travel audit for networked travel strategies

Make links for walking from residential areas to Forfar Town Centre

Information on walking access to Town Centre and extents

of
ets

Summary Vision

- Create a network of green pockets, parks and connections throughout the town centre
- Create links from housing into town centre using network of Green Pockets
- Use Green Pockets to increase the quality of civic space of the town centre
- Engage the local community in the development of the Green Pockets

Action Plan

Short Term

- Map the potential sites for green pockets in the town centre, using knowledge from Forfar in Flower and the local council planters as a guide for these sites.
- Develop and build on Community Growing Spaces initiatives.
- Build on council greenspace audit and strategy and undertaking an active travel audit and strategy
- Create a network of green pockets
- Work together to build funding applications

Mid Term

- Make links for walking from housing areas into town centre
- Detailed design work and consultation for network of pockets of greenspaces around the town centre

Long Term

- Develop funding applications to deliver the proposals

Section 5

Getting About

Visual Brief

Getting Around

Active
Community
Groups

Use information from walking groups to map and develop heritage walking routes through and around Forfar

New Green
Connections

Organise “**Beat the Street**” to get residents involved in walking, running and cycling

Information on walking access to Town Centre and extents

Identifying existing and new communities and walking groups to engage widely and share knowledge

Summary Vision

Networked Connections

Knowledge Mapping

Active Travel Priority

Upgrade existing signs with clear signage strategy communicating walking distances, times and ease of access

Interpretive signs linking the built and natural heritage of Forfar and into Angus

Make Forfar's car parks the most beautiful car parks in the world...

Mapping Community & Heritage Assets

Networks supportive of Active Travel including cycling, walking and running

- Bring out the character of East and West High Street, Castle Street and smaller streets leading off like Osnaburg Street and Little Causeway
- Offer incentives for owners of historic buildings to restore historical details,
- Maximise the improvements with more attractive street lighting, pavements, crossings, benches and greenery outside shops
- Offer more opportunities for community planting and street activity like Forfar in Flower
- Bring in better parking enforcement to make the streets safer for pedestrians.
- Continue good quality street maintenance and cleansing

Action Plan

Short Term

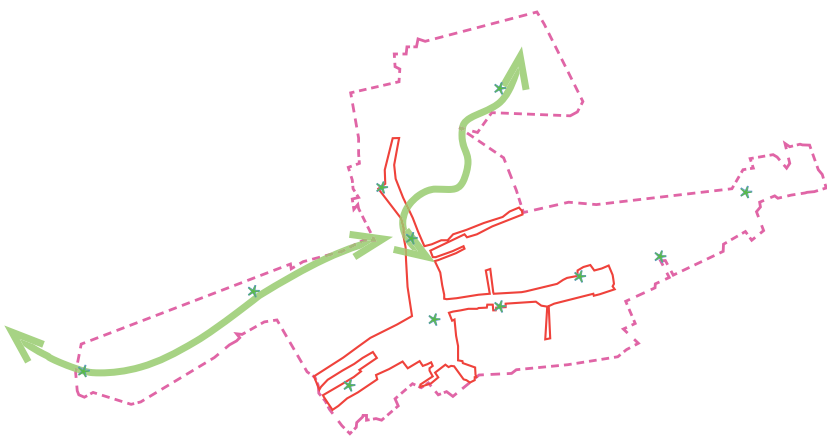
- Identifying communities and walking groups.
- Map Community and Heritage Assets.
- Organise a Beat the Street where residents get involved in running, walking or cycling.

Mid Term

- Upgrading signage with clearer signage that communicates walking distances and times
- Create interpretive signs that link to the built and natural heritage

Long Term

- Detailed design work for direct walking routes around town centre, signage, Myre and East Greens car park improvements



Green Pockets Vision explained

Create a network of pocket parks around the town centre, places with greenery and colour. Some will be peaceful places to sit (such as Little Causeway), others will be bustling places to stop for a chat (like the main bus stops on East High Street). Community planting, community art installations and community heritage interpretation will help bring out local identity and provide opportunities for community action.

(See plan on page 41 for locations.)

Getting About Vision explained

People need to know that they are arriving in the town centre and what it has to offer. This means appropriate signage to town centre shops, facilities and events at key arrival points: both ends of the High Street (North Street and Dundee Loan), the north end of Castle Street and the main car parks (East Greens, Myre, Asda and Academy Street).

Create a network of direct walking routes through the town centre, with signage showing what is on offer, walking times and convenient road crossings. This signed and timed network should extend out to other important local places like the loch side, campus, hospital, community facilities and individual residential neighbourhoods; it is all part of promoting what the town has to offer and how easy it is to get around.





- SIGNIFICANT URBAN SPACES**
- + CONSERVATION AREA
- + CONSERVATION AREA BUILDINGS
- + LISTED BUILDINGS
- + SOCIAL BUILDINGS
- + MOMENTS AND BUS STOPS
- + GREEN SPACES
- + POTENTIAL GREEN INITIATIVES
- + CONNECTIONS
- + CAR PARKS

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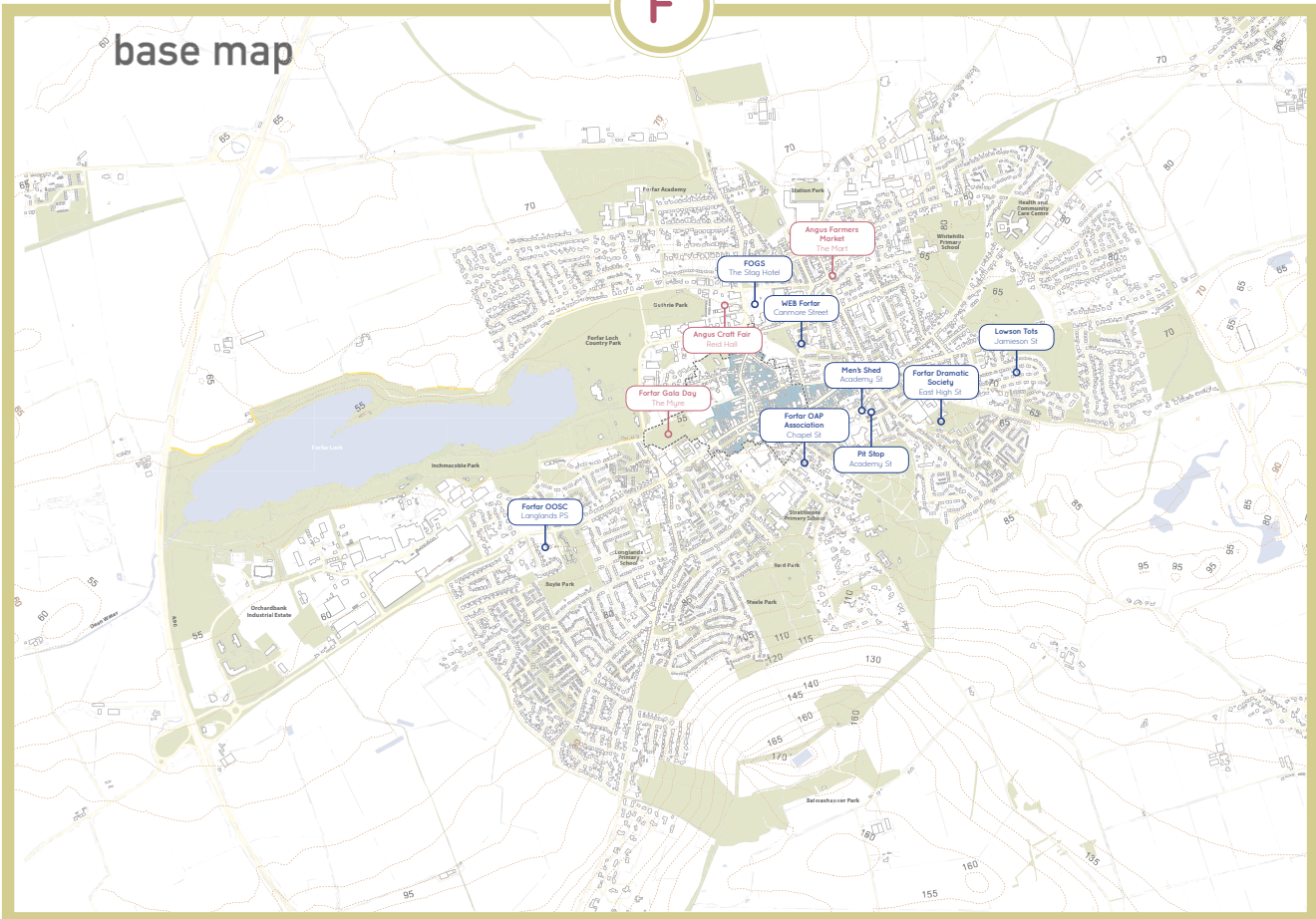
Section 5

2. Forfar for all generations

Forfar is home to people of all ages. For the town centre to thrive in the future, it needs to offer something to all these different generations. For example, young people have nowhere indoors to go without having to spend money. Young adults have difficulty getting one or two bedroomed homes, the kind of development that is ideally located in the town centre. In the evenings, people of all ages have lots of organised groups to choose from – but the choice of restaurants, bars or cafes is more limited.

A Forfar for All Generations can be achieved by focusing on the following:

- Sustain what you have
- Free indoor youth space
- Town centre living



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	
Lowson Tots Toddler Group 9.30am to 11.30am		Lowson Tots Toddler Group 9.30am to 11.30am		Lowson Tots Toddler Group 9.30am to 11.30am	Angus Farmers Market <i>2nd Saturday of the Month</i>		Padanaram Action Group
	Forfar Library Reminiscing Group 2pm to 3pm <i>first Tuesday of the month</i>						Forfar and District Men's Shed
		Forfar Open Gardens Space 5.45pm for 6pm					Angus Cycling Club
Forfar Musical Society 7.30pm to 10pm	Forfar Dramatic Society 7.30pm		Forfar Musical Society 7.30pm to 10pm	DD8 Music 7pm to 9pm			Forfar and District Historical Society
						DD8 Music 4pm to 7pm	Forfar in Flower
							Strathmore Cricket Club
							Strathmore Rugby Club
							Hillwalking Club
							Swimming Club
							USA
							Forfar Cooking Club
							Pitstop
							FACE

Weekly Community Timetable

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
				Forfar Fest ★ 🌙	Forfar Gala Week ●			Cycling Festival ▲	Glamis Castle Halloween Fest ■	Remeberance Sunday ■	Christmas Market 🌙 ●
					Bridle Fest ●				Witch Burning ■		

Yearly Community Timetable *events shown in italics are suggestions*

wellbeing
youth
arts & culture
sport
history
food

Sustain What You Have

Visual Brief

Build On Existing

Give local businesses more opportunities and incentives to work together and with local community groups

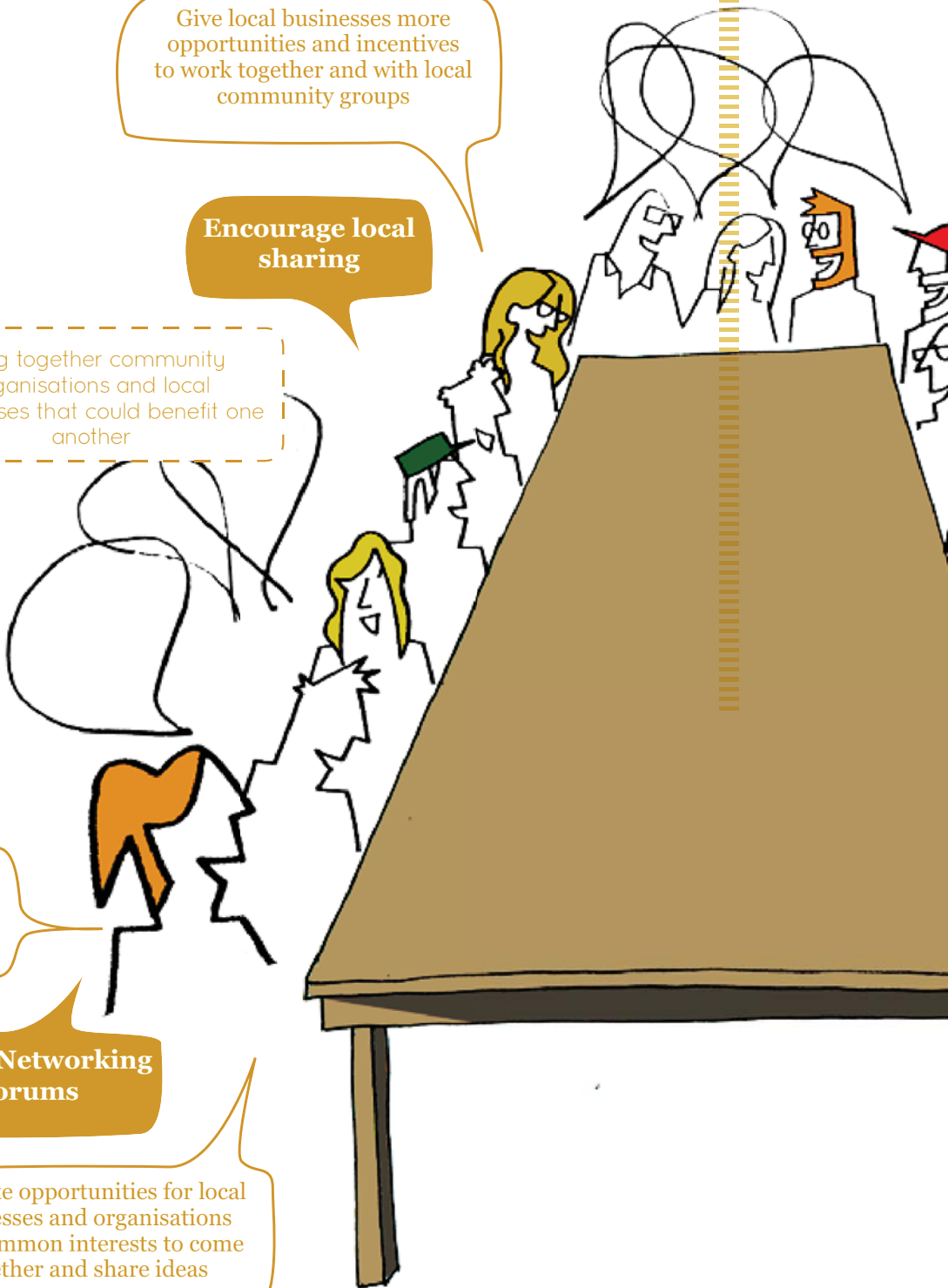
Encourage local sharing

Bring together community organisations and local businesses that could benefit one another

Look at how local people could better share ideas and co-ordinate new ventures

Create Networking Forums

Generate opportunities for local businesses and organisations with common interests to come together and share ideas



Summary Vision

- Build on what is already happening such as the groups outlined in the Community Timetable on Page 74

Action Plan

Short Term

- Maintain support for community groups and social enterprises in town centre more effectively
- Generate more forums for networking sessions. Encourage more local sharing and coordination (To be read in connection with actions for Better Communication)

Vision for Sustain What You Have explained

Forfar has a rich landscape of community groups, all working hard to provide services and opportunities. From the Scouts and Guides, Pitstop and DD8 Music to The Men's Shed and the OAP Association, there are voluntary groups and social enterprises for all ages.

But we should not take all this for granted. These groups need a constant flow of new volunteers, ongoing financial support (often very limited) and occasionally more substantial new investment in premises or equipment.

(Refer to existing activities on pages 72-75)



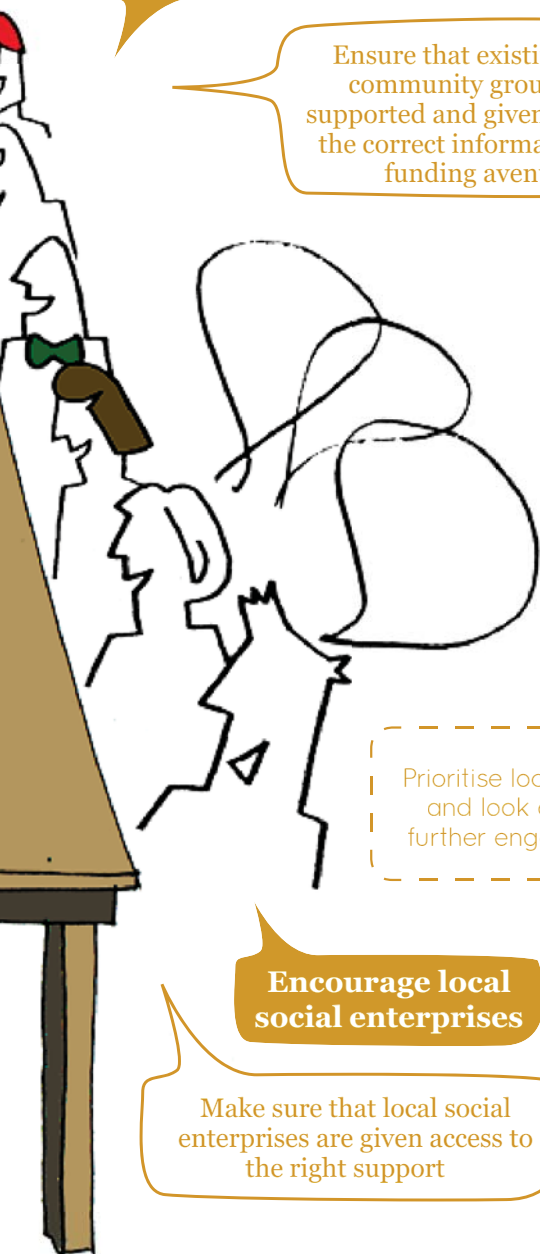
Support local community groups

Ensure that existing local community groups are supported and given access to the correct information and funding avenues

Prioritise local social enterprises and look at how they could further engage the community

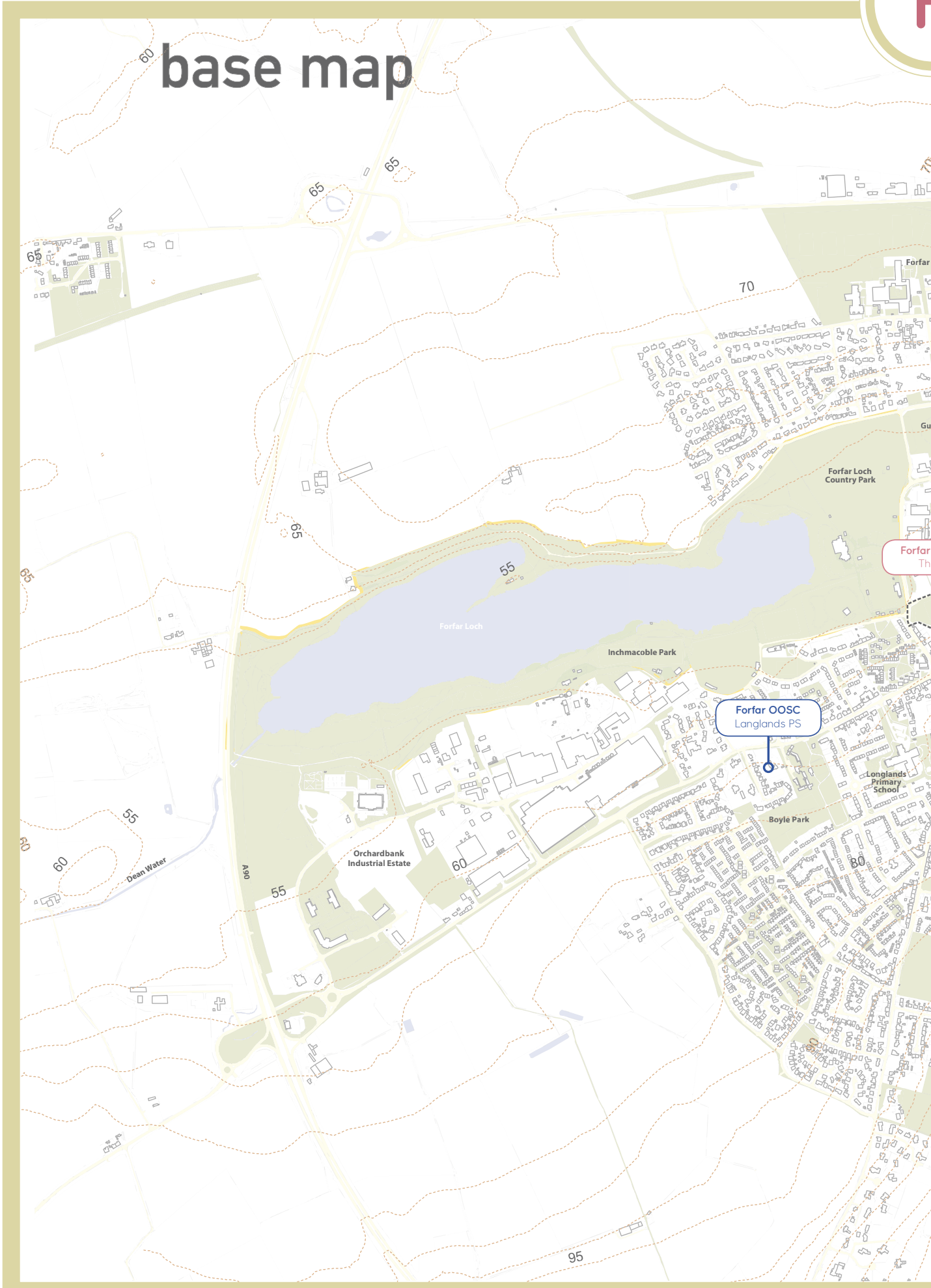
Encourage local social enterprises

Make sure that local social enterprises are given access to the right support





base map





Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<p>Lowon Tots Toddler Group 9.30am to 11.30am</p>	<p>Men's Shed 10.30am</p>	<p>Lowon Tots Toddler Group 9.30am to 11.30am</p>	<p>Men's Shed 10.30am</p>
	<p>Physically Disabled United Group Forfar Library</p>	<p>Men2Sing 2pm to 3.30pm</p>	<p>Strathmore Primary School Community Cafe</p>
<p>Glensview Community Parent & Toddler Group 12.30pm to 3pm</p>	<p>Forfar Library Reminiscing Group 2pm to 3pm <i>first Tuesday of the month</i></p>	<p>St Margaret's Church Craft Group 2pm to 4pm</p>	<p>Lowon Church Lunch Group</p>
<p>Glensview Community S1 - S3 Group 7pm to 9pm</p>		<p>Forfar Open Gardens Space 5.45pm for 6pm</p>	<p>Glensview Community Toddler & Pre-School Group 1pm to 3pm</p>
<p>Forfar Musical Society 7.30pm to 10pm</p>	<p>Forfar Dramatic Society 7.30pm</p>	<p>Glensview Community P4 - P7 Group 7pm to 9pm</p>	<p>Forfar Judo Club 6pm to 8pm</p>
<p>Pitstop 7pm to 10pm</p>	<p>Pitstop 7pm to 10pm</p>	<p>DD8 Music 7pm to 9pm</p>	<p>Forfar Musical Society 7.30pm to 10pm</p>
		<p>Pitstop 7pm to 10pm</p>	<p>Pitstop 7pm to 10pm</p>

Weekly Community Timetable

January	February	March	April	May	June
		<p>Forfar Dramatic Society Show </p>		<p>Forfar Fest </p>	<p>Forfar Gala Week</p>
			<p><i>Heritage Walks</i> </p>	<p>Forfar Dramatic Society Show </p>	<p>Royal Forfar Heritage Walks </p>
			<p><i>Sponsored Dog Walk</i> </p>	<p><i>Outdoor Concerts</i> </p>	<p><i>Bridie Fest</i> </p>

Yearly Community Timetable *events shown in italics are suggestions*



Friday

**Lowon Tots
Toddler Group**
9.30am to 11.30am

**Glensview Community
Open Door Cafe**
10am to 11.30am

**St Margaret's Church
Coffee Morning**
10am to 11.30am

Hedz Up
Forfar Academy

DD8 Music
7pm to 9pm

Community Cinema
The Plough

Saturday

Angus Farmers Market
2nd Saturday of the Month

Football Matches

Sunday

**Angus Cycling
Club Run**

DD8 Music
4pm to 7pm

**Padanaram Action
Group**

**Forfar and District
Men's Shed**

Angus Cycling Club

**Forfar and District
Historical Society**

Forfar in Flower

Strathmore Cricket Club

Strathmore Rugby Club

Hillwalking Club

Swimming Club

U3A

Fofar Cooking Club

Pitstop

FACE

July

**Royal Forfar
Heritage Walks**



August

**Scottish Transport
Extravaganza**
Glamis Castle



September

Cycling Festival



**Forfar Dramatic
Society Show**



Doors Open Day



Heritage Week



October

**Glamis Castle
Halloween Fest**

Evening Witch Walk



Heritage Tour



Witch Burning



November

**Remeberance
Sunday**



**Proms: Glamis
Extravaganza**



December

**Forfar Dramatic
Society Show**



**Reid Hall
Panto**



**Glamis Castle
Xmas Market**

**Christmas
Market**



being



youth

arts & culture



sport



history



food

Free Indoor Youth Space

Visual Brief

Free Indoor Youth Space

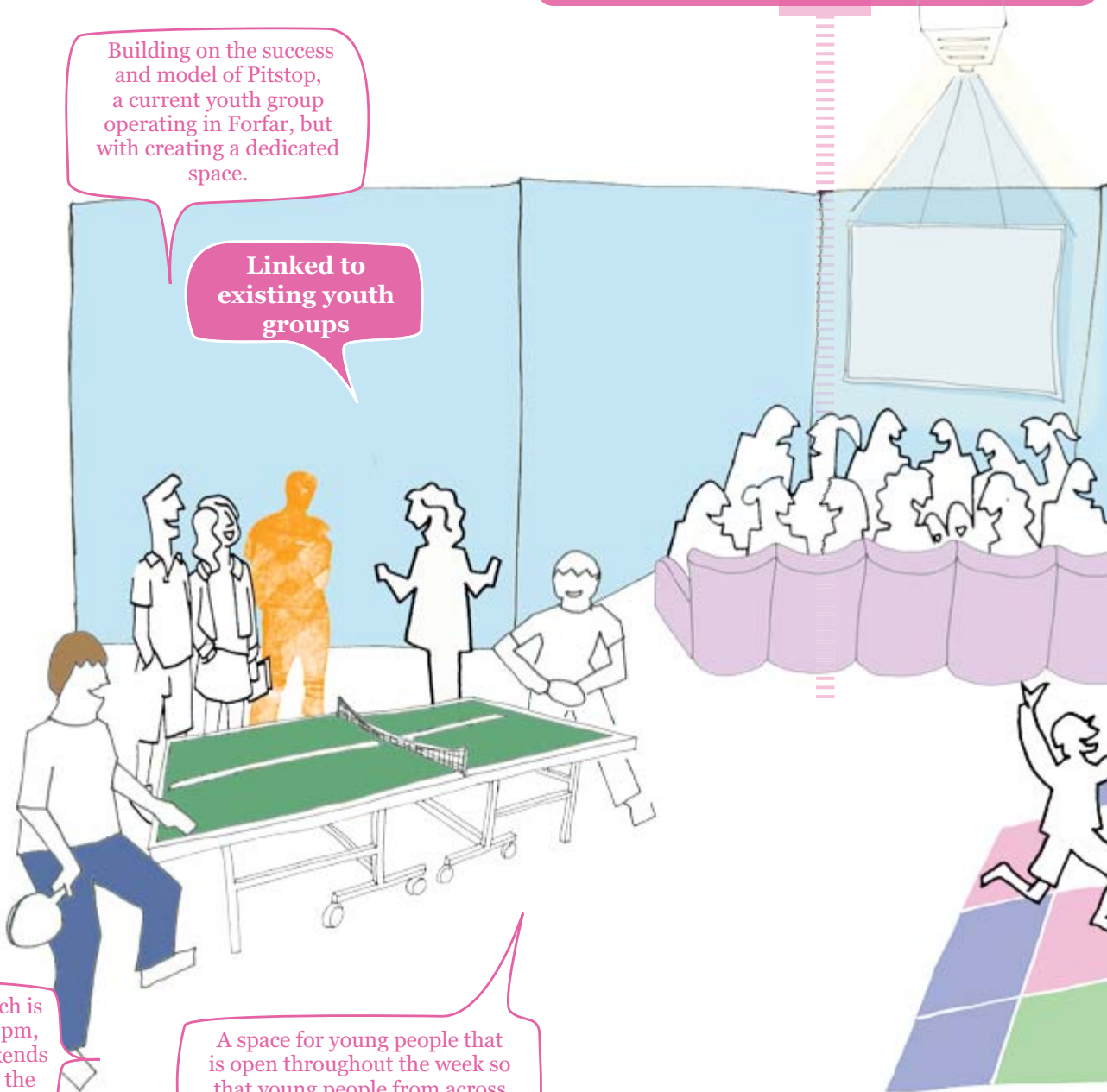
Building on the success and model of Pitstop, a current youth group operating in Forfar, but with creating a dedicated space.

Linked to existing youth groups

A space which is open past 8pm, at both weekends and during the week

Open in the evenings

A space for young people that is open throughout the week so that young people from across the community can meet up and hang out.



Summary Vision

- Somewhere on the High Street that helps to gather lots of activities
- Something that offers an evening space for a range of interests
- A place that is cool to hangout

Open in the evening

Run by young people

Welcoming and free

A vibrant and attractive space on the High Street which is active in the evenings

A range of activities attracting young people of all different ages

Feasibility study of what youth groups there are, and what spaces are currently available. What elements would be required to make it 'cool', wifi, warmth, furniture.

Feasibility Study

Action Plan

Short Term

- Try out pilot projects for Youth Spaces. (See strategies in Classy Streets and Shopfronts)
- Feasibility study to be undertaken documenting what groups exist in Forfar, and what community spaces are currently available. What would be required to make the space attractive?

Mid Term

- A youth facility open past 8pm there isn't anything else open that late for young people.
- Build on the success and model of Pitstop to create an attractive fun space on the High Street that is open and meets a range of young people throughout the week
- Try out pilot projects for Youth Spaces (See strategies in Classy Streets and Shopfronts)

Vision for Free Indoor Youth Space explained

Young people of school age have nowhere to meet in the town centre without spending money. The vacant spaces along the High Street or soon-to-be-vacated Access Office provide an opportunity to create a music and cultural hub for all generations. A dedicated creative space for young people could be built into a proposal, working in tandem with local social enterprises like Pitstop and DD8 Music. Other alternative opportunities may present themselves too.

(Refer to existing activities on pages 70-73)

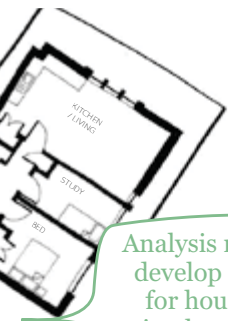
Town Centre Living

Visual Brief



Easy to Access

Affordable to Rent & Buy



Analysis required to develop a strategy for housing that suits the needs of the people of Forfar

Flexible and appropriate flats for a wide range of people at a variety of sizes

Action Plan

Short Term

- Re-establish Community Council to allow greater input for Forfar residents in planning matters

Mid Term

- As part of CARS/THI application, develop incentives for reusing upper floors of shops for housing. Analyse how could they be developed to better suit the needs of people in Forfar
- Encourage and support developers to access funding for new homes in the town centre
- Feasibility study to diversify housing options in town centre
- Establish community energy co-op to retrofit and upgrade existing town centre homes

Long Term

- Make available more homes in the town centre
- Make available a greater range of homes to suit more diverse needs in Forfar

ing together
Community
Networks

Summary Vision

- The local plan has capacity for 600 new homes in Forfar, on a variety of sites, over the next 10 years. To appeal to a wider variety of audiences, these new homes need to offer a range of types, a range of tenures and be focused on sites a short walk from the town centre
- Within the town centre, where upper floors of shops are not being used, they should be returned to housing, incentives should be available to assist owners with any necessary works
- More diverse options of homes are needed for younger and retired people who want to live in the town centre
- Taking care of existing housing stock is also critical
- Re-establishing the Community Council or development trust would be critical to having an input into the planning process.
- Having more people actually living in the town centre will make Forfar a more vibrant place and more active
- It will take time to introduce these changes into the housing plan

Vision for Town Centre Living explained

Whilst there is more housing planned for the town, principally on the periphery, residents do not feel that it responds to the needs of the town. There was a demand expressed for smaller homes for young people and more diverse options for retired people to live in the town centre. The local plan has capacity for 600 new homes in Forfar, on a variety of sites built over the next 10 years. To appeal to a wider variety of audiences, these new homes need to offer a range of types, a range of tenures and be focused on sites a short walk from the town centre.

Within the town centre, where upper floors of shops are not being used, they should be made available for housing, incentives should be available to assist owners with any necessary works.

Whilst there are options within the town for social rented homes and homes to buy, this range is not sufficient to retain the younger and older populations. New applications that are brought forward should be encouraged to consider a variety of housing models including mid-market rental, shared equity and encourage smaller units to be sold under the government's 'Help to Buy' scheme. Re-establishing the Community Council would allow the town's residents further input into planning matters.

Re-establishing the community council or establishing a development trust would offer the opportunity to consider the options for community housing development such as collective housing for older people, assisted

self build plots or co-housing proposals for younger adults in the town. There are a variety of possible sites and financing models for this type of development which could be explored in detail. This would give the community complete control over the availability of housing for specific groups. Ensuring people are attracted to live in the town centre also means taking care of the existing homes, a body such as a development trust could attract support for a cooperative energy efficiency works such as insulation, new innovative heating systems or community energy generation.

(See pages 84-85 for context of LDP)

Supporting Consultant Analysis

It emerged during the charrette that there were local aspirations for more lower cost 'affordable' homes for local people. In discussion, it was clear that whilst there is a considerable supply of new homes for ownership on sites identified in the Local Development Plan, there is demand locally for smaller homes (houses and possibly also flats) for rent or low cost ownership.

This aspiration is not yet backed up by evidence of quantitative demand. However, the Council will shortly start to refresh its Local Housing Strategy and we understand that officers will look to the charrette to inform its content. We recommend that the research for the Local Housing Strategy should look seriously at the level and nature of demand for affordable homes and consider the potential contribution that the town centre could make to supply, either through conversion of existing property or new build.

It is clear that homes are being built in Forfar. The discussion in the charrette was that these were principally outwith the town centre and focused on Dundee commuters with the notable exception of the Academy site. The main issues identified at the evening workshop were that of a lack of specific types of homes, homes for the elderly and homes for young people. This was linked to the themes of creating footfall and buzz about the town by bringing more people who depend on the local services within a short walking distance of the town centre and retaining a younger population

in the town instead of it 'leaking' to Dundee. Within the group, the younger people said they would like to have the option to live in Forfar and study in Dundee; they feel that option is not currently open to them.

The charrette spent a significant amount of time discussing a community owned or operated body which could run a number of facilities and projects. Elsewhere in Scotland, a Development Trust type vehicle has been effective in developing niche type housing projects which are unpalatable to developers or social housing providers. This has included homes for the elderly, such as projects in Kirknewton and Findhorn, and smaller homes to retain younger residents.

Alternative Mechanisms for Housing Delivery

Based on the discussions at the charrette, the consensus was that there is a very polarised range of affordable new housing options in Forfar. Based on this we have considered how to diversify the delivery of new housing to increase the range of types and options, including more niche demands, discussed at the charrette. We considered a number of options for the delivery of housing in the town centre. These options, applied to some of the vacant sites, would assist in achieving the aims of increasing footfall, retaining younger members of the community and supporting a new 'buzz' in the town. The delivery mechanisms include:

- Developers who are able to bring significant investment into mainstream housing for sale. Many developers can also promote shared equity and sales under Scottish Government's LIFT scheme which

can address the affordability issue. Sites for future private housing in the town centre should be identified through the local plan process.

- Housing Associations are able to bring social rented and mid market rent accommodation to Forfar. They can also bring specialist housing types (such as elderly and particular needs) if there is significant local demand. The charrette did not investigate the demand in Forfar, but the Local Housing Strategy should consider the potential for delivering new social housing within the town centre and the regeneration effect this might achieve.
- Collective self-build housing is where a community body, such as a Community Council or Development Trust work with identified local residents to develop their own affordable housing. This type of housing is still relatively uncommon but where it has been achieved, the social and community benefits are significant. It also allows a more creative approach to housing types and affordability.
- Incentivising use of upper floors. There are a number of examples of THIs that have incentivised the redevelopment of under-used floor-space in town centres and achieved private or social letting. The THI can help this process by promoting the town centre living and helping market the rental properties. Its also worth noting that the rise in Airbnb type rental options give owners significant flexibility and should be encouraged as part of the planning / incentive process.

- The local housing strategy, planning process and local bodies such as the community council and potential THI or development trust should consider how they can control, promote and steer development on a number of the town centre sites in order to achieve this diverse range of affordable housing options.



above: Typical developer led option

top right: Example of town centre retrofit of shopfronts with housing above by John Gilbert Architects, Caledonian Mansions

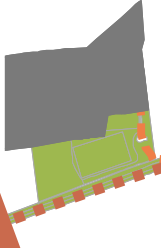
bottom right: Example of Collective self-build housing by John Gilbert Architects, East Whins Eco Village

(See page 84 for context of LDP)



Surrounding Countryside:
 Local produce
 Bed and Breakfast
 Footpaths
 Cycleways
 Railway walks
 Landscape
 Wildlife

Padanaram



- contaminated land
- LDP existing employment
- LDP allocated employment
- LDP existing housing
- LDP allocated housing

Z3

Z2

Z1

Forfar Loch
 Country Park
 Caravan Site
 Camping Site

Forfar Loch

Community Can...

ORCHARDBANK

Gateway to Forfar:

McDonalds
 KFC
 Angus Council
 Future Hotel



Lunanhead

Railway Paths

Forfar
Town
Centre

Core Paths

Kingsmuir

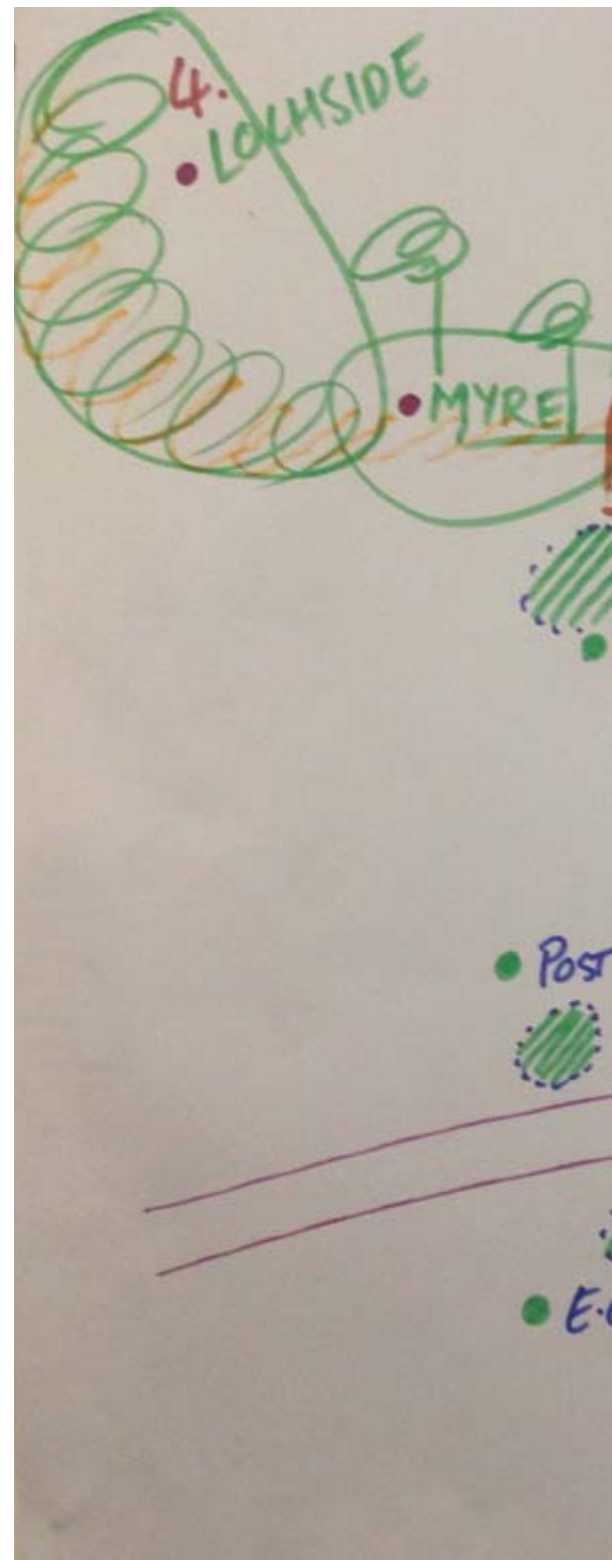
Section 5

3. Consolidate the Centre

There was a strong desire from charrette participants to make the town centre more of a focus for the local community. This includes creating a central place for the community to meet and call its own, an important concept but one which needs more detailed work. Complementing that is a year-long town centre events programme and, in the long term, focussing future growth and investment on the town centre.

Consolidating the Centre will require focusing on the following:

- Central Community Hub
- Events Programme
- Town Centre First





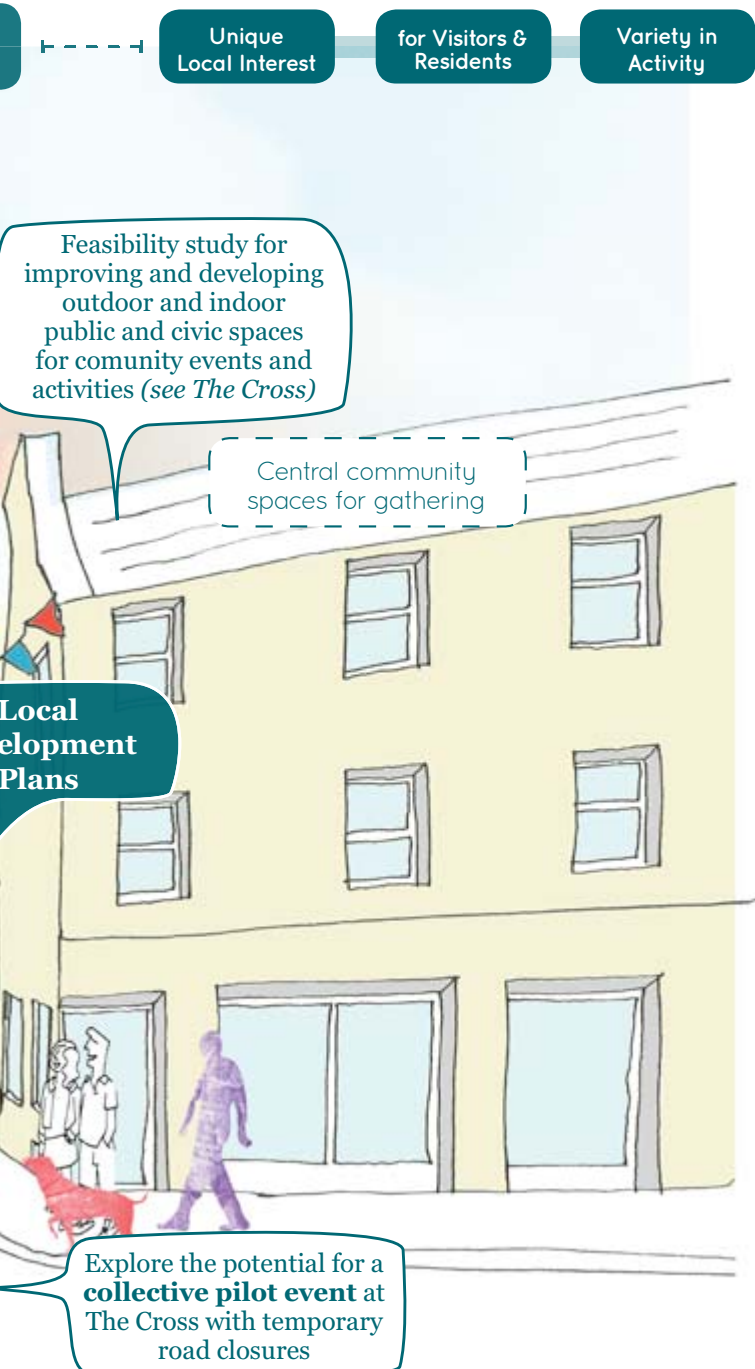
Central Community Hub

Visual Brief



Summary Vision

- There was a strong sense that the community needed a central space
- A feasibility study should be taken forward on what the community hub could offer, exploring suitable town centre spaces such as the Access Office
- A year long events program is needed
- More things like Forfar Festival
- Christmas Lights switch on and new activities that tip into the culture & heritage:
 - A witches burning
 - Guide Dog Puppy Festival
 - Air Guitar Festival
 - Re-routing heavy traffic & vehicles for these events: helping character



Action Plan

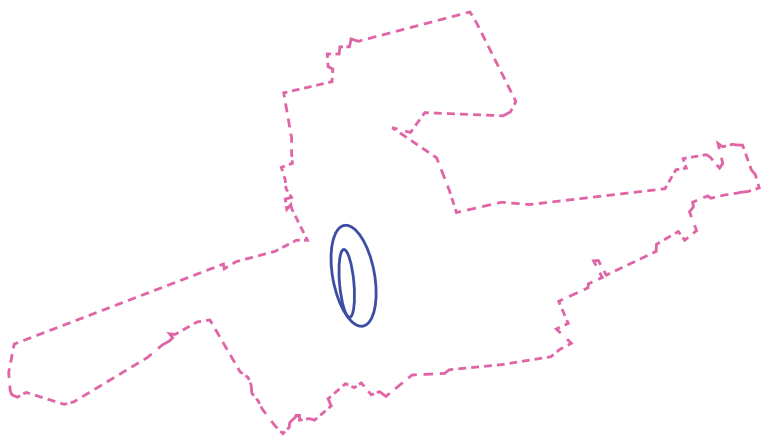
Short Term

- Identifying the community champions to take forwards a series of events. (See activity map of Forfar for a list community groups.)
- Explore the potential for a collective pilot event at The Cross, where the road is closed off. (also see comments on The Cross)
- Develop and sustain annual events programme
- Town Centre First Planning Strategy
- Review Local Development Plan and Community Planning policy to place the town centre first

Mid Term

- Establish a Community Steering Group for the Community Hub
- Feasibility study for outdoor and indoor public space for community events and activities (see also *The Cross*)
- Create a sustainable business plan for a Community Hub
- Fundraise for the Community Hub

Community Planning Policy



Central Community Hub Vision explained

Charrette participants made clear that the town lacks an affordable central place for the community to come together. Of course, there are lots of places where people meet at the moment: for example shops, cafes, pubs, churches, schools, the library, football club, Reid Hall and the new Campus. But what is missing is a central place that the community can call their own.

We spent some time at the charrette trying to work out exactly what that central place might be. It might serve a range of purposes: suggestions included a venue for music, art and weddings, as a place for young people to meet, space for local food, arts and crafts workspace and display, premises for business startups, affordable space for community groups to meet.... and there will be other ideas too.

The ideal combination would be a mix of a number of those ideas, combining indoor and outdoor space. This would allow events and activities to spill out and 'activate' the street outside. Put this together with the widespread perception that the West side of Castle Street at The Cross is the heart of the town centre, and a space like the soon-to-be-vacated Access Office begins to emerge as the natural home for this Central Community Hub.

Although this emerged as a clear priority at the charrette, the charrette format did not offer sufficient time to drill down into what the idea might look like. What would be the exact combination of uses? What would be

the split of responsibility between Council and community in terms of ownership and management? What would be the outcomes for the community?

These questions need further work, through the means of a feasibility study. It should be taken forward in full consultation with the local voluntary and social enterprise sector.

Please note that this action should be progressed in tandem with The Cross.

Events Programme Vision explained

During the charrette, a year-long calendar of activities was built up which showed how the space at the Buttermarket in front of the Access Office could host activities throughout the year. Some of these would be regular community events like music and dance, others would be bigger annual events like the Forfar Festival, band competitions and the Christmas lights switch-on. New events can of course be added, not only traditional events like Burns Night, but also new ideas - something really eye-catching like a World Air Guitar Festival, which could attract thousands of people.

For Those About to Rock in Forfar!

A way of attracting the YouTube generation online and creating the physical buzz that attracts festival goers to the town centre of Forfar would be to celebrate that it is the hallowed birthplace of Bon Scott. An Annual Air Guitar Competition (note there is not one in UK) would attract extensive online audiences and visitors to the town.

Working with DD8 Music who are behind the annual Bon Scott music festival in Kirriemuir to produce the festival this would be an instant hit. The air guitar championship in Forfar would work well to boost the visibility of their existing projects.

The World Air Guitar Championships are massive events, the Guitar Hero generation have lifted this activity and made it a Global phenomena.

see [http://www.](http://www.airguitarworldchampionships.com/)

[airguitarworldchampionships.com/](http://www.airguitarworldchampionships.com/)

Town Centre First Vision explained

In line with Scottish Government guidance, future Local Development Plan planning policy should drive all public and private sector development investment to the town centre unless there are over-riding reasons not to.

The aim should be to ensure that big future investments of the scale of the Campus and Orchardbank business park would be directed to sites in or around the town centre.

For 'committed' future developments like the Campus, Orchardbank and major housing sites identified in the Local Development Plan, connections to the town centre should be as easy and prominent as possible. This means looking at convenient public transport options and attractive cycling and walking routes, combined with other aspects of the overall strategy including Events programme and What's On Forfar.



above: image from World Air Guitar Championships

below: images from Porthcawl Elvis Festival

<http://www.southwales-eveningpost.co.uk/pictures/Viva-Porthcawl-58-photos-Elvis-Festival-Wales/pictures-27876809-detail/pictures.html>



Central Hub at the Cross

Examples of Activities



above: existing image of The Cross.
below: example of The Cross being used as
a venue for local weddings.





above: The Cross being used for a Marathon.
below: The Cross being used for Christmas Fair



Section 5

4. Communication

Forfar has a lot going on, but not everyone knows what events and activities are available to them. To revitalise the town centre, residents need to know what there is to attract them into town. Community groups, businesses, social enterprises, the Council and its Community Planning Partners need to share and co-ordinate what they're doing. And, beyond all that, Forfar needs to communicate what it has to offer the wider world. The purpose? To create and share the buzz!

Better Communication involves focusing on the following:

- Local sharing and coordination
- What's on Forfar
- Tapping into tourism?
- Creating that buzz!

The 10th Berwick Upon Tweed Visual Arts Festival

10th Anniversary Film & Events Programme

Wed. 17th September

Opening Film Sponsored by Arch
The Hidden Child

International Premiere
19:00 Forfar Cinema | Sweden | 2013 | 105min | Sub
The Millings Cinema **FREE**

Set in a seaside village in Northern Sweden, the successful author Erica Falck's parents are killed in a car crash. A year later a man steps into Erica's house claiming to be her half-brother and she discovers dark secrets from her mother's past, suspects that someone is lying very hard to keep hidden... The latest in a wave of incredible thrillers to come out of Scandinavia - this one based on a novel by bestselling crime writer Camilla Läckberg.

Shaving with
The Case
World Premiere
Cecilia Blomdahl | UK | 2013 | 8min
A short film shot on location in Berwick, inspired by Scandinavian thrillers. The Case draws on actual recorded conversations of the town, bringing together scenarios from a fictitious police Commissioner in partnership with Berwick Visual Arts Festival.

Also this evening
Installations Preview
The Gymnasium Gallery
We invite you to join us for a reception at The Gymnasium to celebrate the opening of ten new commissions by Sissal C. Matt Hultén (see overview).

Thu. 18th September

Festen
12:00 Thomas Vinterberg | Denmark | 1998 | 106min | Sub
The Millings Cinema **FREE**

The ultimate, awkward, family dinner party drama, set in rural Denmark. Often referred to as "Dogma #1," Festen launched Vinterberg's and Lars Von Trier's movement inspiring a whole generation of Scandinavian - and British - cinema. Screened from original 35mm print.

Sponsored by Yellow Book
The Fifth Season
English Premiere
17:30 Peter Brosens & Jessica Woodworth | Belgium / The Netherlands | 2012 | 95min
The Millings Cinema **FREE**

In a village deep in the Ardennes Forest, the seasonal cycle seems to stop: spring doesn't come, the annual bonfire celebrating the end of winter fails to burn and the seeds don't grow, the bonds between neighbours start to break. A cinematically arresting fable.

Shaving with
Clutching at Straws
Leaves Gessley | UK | 2012 | 6min
Berwick Film Society presents
The Festival



Sat. 20th
September

Sponsored by Simpson's Matt
Live Event: Field Music - Drifters
Festival Commission
20:00 John Grierson | UK | 1929 | 49min |

Grierson's seminal silent documentary follows the working day of a herring fishing fleet as they set sail from the Shetland islands to battle the elements of the North Sea fishing grounds. Presented with a newly composed, live score from Mercury Prize-nominee Field Music.

Showing with

Granton Trawler
John Grierson | UK | 1934 | 11min

Musikkvideo Party
21:30 Kazimiro's Café |

Following Field Music's live performance we head round the corner, for a night of more music, drinking, and perhaps a little dancing. Having teamed up with Berwick's upcoming Frontier Festival, we bring you an evening of music videos from across the North East and Northern Europe. 'Slak'

Acting for Camera [Workshop]

The Maltings Studio
A hands-on workshop on acting for camera - take on a role, film each other, and see yourself on the big screen. Learn about how film acting is different to stage acting - and how much fun it can be! Led by Dummy Jim actor, Samuel Dore.

10:00 - 12:00: ages 8+ / 3
13:00 - 15:00: ages 14+ / 18
Free outside or to book, call:
The Maltings on 01289 330099.



Make Your Own Soundtrack [Workshop]
12:00 - 17:00

The Maltings Studio
A chance to create your own score for a film, and to make some noise! Bring your own objects from home, or pick up a number of items here in the studio and work with others to create a rich soundscape. Workshop led by Dummy Jim director and sound designer, Matt Hulse. Free, drop in workshop for all ages - no experience or booking required.



Sponsored by National Youth Film Academy
Young Filmmakers Showcase

13:00 Various | UK | 2012 - 2013 | 99min |

The Maltings Cinema
A celebratory showcase for young filmmakers from across the region. At stake is a cash prize, donated by the family of the late Chris Anderson.

Open Door Film Club presents

Kauwboy

15:00 Boudewijn Koole | The Netherlands | 2012 | 81min |

The Maltings Cinema
The story of a young boy named Jojo and the relationship he builds with a baby jackdaw bird he finds after it falls from its nest. *Kauwboy* has an amazing storyline. Winner of the Best First Feature Award at Berlin International Film Festival, and selected by Berwick's Open Door Film Club.

Children's Film
Moomins and the Comet Chase

11:00 Maria Lindberg | Finland | Dubbed in English | 2010 | 73min |

The Maltings Cinema
Moomin Valley is threatened by a comet from outer space. With the help of his father Moomin Valley is threatened by a comet from outer space. With the help of his father Moominpappa, Moomintroll and his worried friends build a raft and embark on a challenging journey to the observatory! Listen out for the opening song by Björk.



Bravehearts

17:00 Karl Anne Moe | Norway / Sweden | 2012 | 118min |

The Maltings Cinema
Sara, Henrik, Håkon and Johanne represent four different political youth parties, each preparing for the Norwegian election campaign in 2011. On 21 July, Johanne boards the ferry to the AUF summer camp on the island of Utøya. This documentary portrays the generation marked for life by the massacre of 22 July 2011. Followed by a Q&A with the director.

Closing Gala

Too Good to Perish

20:00 Paul Wright | UK | 2013 | 93min |

The Maltings Cinema
Set in a remote Scottish fishing community, Aaron is the lone survivor of a boat accident that claimed five lives, including his older brother. Spurred on local folklore and superstition, the village blames Aaron for this tragedy, while he sets out to recover his brother. Featuring Kate Dickie (Red Road, Prometheus) and followed by a Q&A with lead actor George MacKay.

Installations

Thursday 26th - Sunday 29th 11:00 - 18:00
Unless otherwise stated.



Thursday 26th - Friday 27th 11:00 - 17:00

Zimmerfrei

The Hill
UK Premier
Denmark | 2011 | 41min, looped |
The hill that covers the Sports Hall in Nærbro in Copenhagen sets the stage for an imaginary portrait of an area.



Lok Katalo
Mountain in Shadow

UK Premier
Spain / Iceland | 2012 | 14min, looped



Friday 27th 16:00 - 18:00
Saturday 28th 11:00 - 18:00

On The Precipice

UK / Belgium / Canada / France / Germany
The Netherlands / USA | 2012-13
80min, looped |
The Big M - IIGI Arts inflatable mobile cinema

Sponsored by Simpson's Matt
Wickie and the Treasure of the Gods

13:00 Christian Ditter | Germany - Dubbed in English | 2011 | 96min |

The Maltings Cinema
When the mighty Viking Halvar suddenly disappears, his clever but timid son Wickie must lead the Vikings on a dangerous journey to rescue his father from the evil Ginn, and go in search of the legendary treasure of the gods. A comedy action adventure - by longboat!

Special Event

Dummy Jim

19:00 Matt Hulse | UK | 2012

87min |

The Maltings Cinema

In 1951, a profoundly deaf Eastman called James Duffie cycled solo to the Arctic Circle. Fifty years later, filmmaker Matt Hulse received a copy of Duffie's journal, chronicling his bizarre journey, and was inspired to tell his story. Thirteen years later the project was complete. Followed by a Q&A with Matt Hulse and actor Samuel Dore. BSL-interpreted for the deaf.

Avalon

17:30 Axel Petersen | Sweden

2011 | 79min |

The Maltings Cinema

After serving time with an ankle tag, 60-year-old party promoter Janne travels to the small coastal

Example of programme for Berwick film and media arts festival.
<http://www.berwickfilm-artsfest.com/>

Communication

Visual Brief

Local Sharing

Creating that buzz!

Working with local businesses to celebrate the best of Forfar

Developing and highlighting the local events and festivals identified in this report

Pulling everything together and watching it happen!

Create a Forfar informal online chat forum for local people to share their views and ideas

Encouraging local businesses in the town centre to work together and promote one another

What's On in Forfar?

Try Forfar FIRST - encouraging local people to shop and socialise in Forfar before choosing to go to Dundee or other nearby cities

Initiate a shared online calendar as well as more collaborative events and festivals

Develop
c

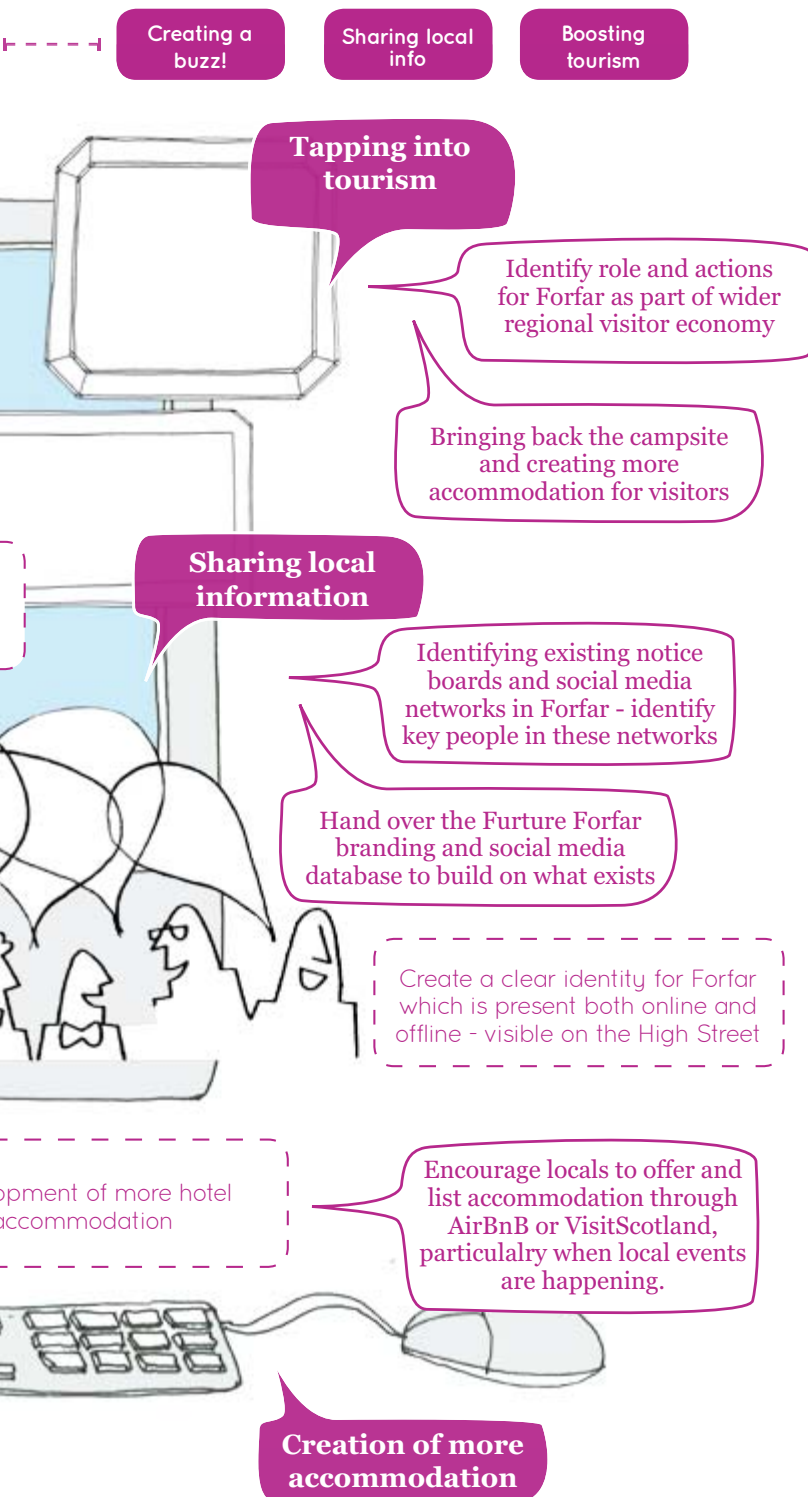
Summary Vision

Planning & Coordination

- Town centre businesses need to be helped to establish a representative action group that can work on behalf of the business sector
- A Community Planning Partnership could start off working with a small group of businesses on a pilot project

What's On in Forfar

- A website is needed to inform residents & visitors about what is happening in the events programme
- An electronic notice board & signage at key gateways would be useful



Action Plan

Short Term

- Build a picture of the existing notice boards and social media networks in Forfar
- Initiate shared online calendar, collaborative events/activities marketing, town centre business collaboration
- Identify the key people who are good at using social media
- Create a Forfar informal chat forum. Build on the energy of the people that engaged with Future Forfar.
- Build on the now familiar Future Forfar visual identity and social media platforms to keep the audience growing

Mid Term

- Create a clear set of messages that confidently convey a sense of how the town sees itself and how it wants to be seen by others
- Develop branding to consolidate an identity for Forfar that takes the form of an online presence (website/ social media) as well as a presence on the High Street (signs/ notice board/ banners)

Local sharing and coordination

Businesses, social enterprises, community groups, the Council and its Community Planning partners need to share and coordinate information on:

- Space availability – which, at its most basic, might be a shared online booking calendar of all spaces available for local organisations to hire.
- Properly coordinated and resourced What's On Forfar marketing of events and activities, based around an annual year-long events programme.

Town centre businesses need to be helped to establish a representative action group that can work on behalf of the business sector, in order to help deliver a number of the proposals contained in this report. We suggest that the Community Planning Partnership should start small, identifying a number of businesses who would like to see positive change (such as those who attended the charrette) and working with them to see how to take things forward. The CPP should be prepared to make a commitment to those businesses, perhaps a small pilot project agreed with them, as the first step towards collaborative working.

What's On Forfar

As part of promoting what the town centre has to offer to all generations, residents and visitors need to know what is happening. This should include a properly maintained and updated town centre website and social media, electronic noticeboards/signage in and at key gateways to the town centre (see Getting About), all linked to an events programme would be a good start. These channels should be dynamic, providing constantly updated information about all that is happening in the town centre: cultural and sporting events, music, shopping, heritage, arts, food and drink etc.

The Scottish Government's Town Centre Toolkit has good examples of online and print publicity from other Scottish towns, many of which are led by local businesses. More ambitious initiatives like loyalty cards and local currency can bring commensurate increases in town centre footfall and trade.



Follow guidance in Scottish
Government Town Centre Toolkit
[http://www.gov.scot/
Resource/0047/00475185.pdf](http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0047/00475185.pdf)

Tapping into tourism?

Forfar needs to be realistic. It is not a big tourist destination, nor will it be in the next five years even if good progress is made with the initiatives contained in this charrette report. However, if good progress is made, in five to ten years Forfar should be looking to encourage more people to visit the town as part of their day trip or short stay in Angus or Dundee, as well as tapping into people passing through on the A90.

The question is, what will attract people to Forfar? We believe that the answer will lie in the town's distinctive character and events programme. If the town centre is made more attractive and active through these initiatives, the town centre will have something genuinely distinctive to attract day visits: local food, culture, activities and events set in a pleasant historic environment.

VisitScotland, the Council and Community Planning Partners have a role to play here, encouraging Forfar to tap into the regional visitor offer. Improving the quality of the Forfar 'product' – events, shopping, culture, etc – will largely be the responsibility of local organisations, potentially with funding support from LEADER and other funders.

Create that buzz!

Creating a buzz is the overarching aim of all the proposals. When put together, everything under the four strategic themes will create a buzz in the town centre. More events and special occasions like weddings, more local food and culture, more places to eat and do things in the evenings, more shops and cafes spilling outside their doors. In short – more opportunities to do things and get involved in the town centre. The four themes together are designed to make these aspirations a reality.

KIRRIEMUIR
7 Miles

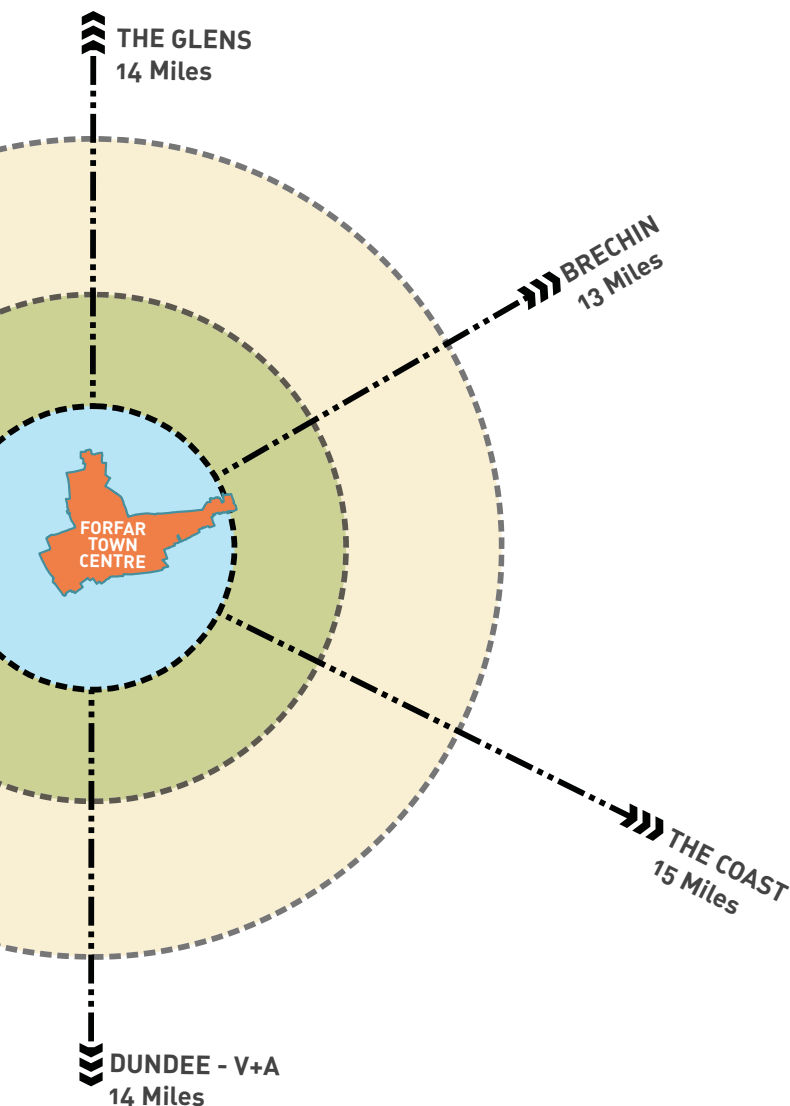
GLAMIS
5 Miles

Summary Vision

Tapping Into Tourism

- Forfar's greatest opportunity is to tap into the Angus day trip
- If Forfar succeeds in making itself a vibrant active town centre with plenty of buzz then it will be through enhancing its distinctive character and an exciting events programme attracting even more visitors

Diagrammatic plan showing the components of the regional tourist offer that Forfar needs to tie into.



Action Plan

Short Term

- Bring back a campsite to provide accommodation for visitors
- Identify role and actions for Forfar in wider regional visitor economy
- Coordinate locals to offer and list bed space through Airbnb or VisitScotland and link in to What's On Forfar
- Work with local businesses to celebrate the best of Forfar

Mid Term

- Working with local businesses to celebrate the best of Forfar
- Better coordination of locals to offer and list bed space during festivals using Airbnb, or VisitScotland
- Get local businesses working together to celebrate the best of Forfar
- Develop and highlight events and festivals identified in the report. Use cohesive visual identity as highlighted above in the short term communication action plan
- Put everything together and watch it happen!

Long Term

- Development of more hotel accommodation

Distinct Character **Section 6**

The Cross & Surrounding Spaces

Community led programme of short term events held around the Cross

Audit current organisations: where they meet and what their aspirations are

Feasibility study for outdoor and indoor public space for community events and activities (see also [Central community hub](#))

Community to apply for funding and create a sustainable business case for the proposal

Develop series of cultural events, for example:
Sculpture trails
Annual Guide Dog Event
Air Guitar Festival!
Car festival

Connect The Meffan Museum and Art Gallery to community activity around The Cross.

Conduct a review of the collection and create an active arts and heritage strategy based on the focus of the collection.

A wide community survey to understand how to attract more visitors.

Focus the Museum's programme to meet the needs and wishes of local community across all generations.

Communicate the programme clearly.

Classy Shopfronts & Streets

Increase activity through pilot shop front schemes such as:

Made in Stirling
www.creativestirling.org/mis/about

Start Up Street
<https://startupstreetstirling.wordpress.com>

Somewhere To
www.somwhereto.com

Living Window
<http://www.pidginperfect.com/index.php/10-participation/32-cumbernauld-living-windows>

Secure regular funding to establish most successful pilots as core initiatives

Restore the old town character of Forfar:

Take inspiration from the Angus Archives

Old Time Festival: stalls, food, entertainment

Support businesses to submit funding applications to improve their shop fronts

Submit funding application for THI/CARS to enhance historic character of buildings and streets in heart of town centre

East High Street

Celebrate East High Street as an important entry point to the town centre.

Extend the Green Pockets initiative to East High Street

Improve the quality of the bus stops on East High Street

Link the transport network to the new Community Campus

Improve the quality of the street scape on East High Street to create small civic spaces

Long-term
5 - 10 years

Local Partners

External Partners

	<p>Angus Events Network/ Tenants Residents Groups/ Identifying Local Champions</p>	<p>Community Grants Scheme Stalled Spaces Programme</p>
<p>Improve the quality of the streetscape environment</p>	<p>Angus Events Network/ Tenants Residents Groups/ Identifying Local Champions</p> <p>CPP, local business consortium, community groups, social enterprises</p>	<p>Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, other grant funders Rotary Foundation Funding</p>
	<p>The Meffan Museum and Art Gallery Forfar Academy Forfar Primary Schools Forfar Elderly Groups</p>	<p>Creative Scotland Visit Scotland</p>
	<p>CPP, local business consortium, community groups, social enterprises, artists, Scottish Wildlife Trust</p>	<p>Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, Scottish Government, Architecture and Design Scotland and other grant funders</p>
<p>Improve the quality of the streetscape and built environment whilst preserving the unique character of the town centre</p>	<p>CPP, businesses, Angus Council</p>	<p>Angus Council core spend on maintenance of streets.</p> <p>Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, THI/CARS</p>
<p>Reconfigure the East High Street roadway to create a single narrower lane in each direction separated by a median strip that would make it easier for pedestrians to cross the street along the examples of Ashford in Kent, Poynton in Cheshire and Fishergate in Preston.</p>	<p>CPP, businesses, Angus Council</p>	<p>Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland, THI/CARS</p>

Action Plan

Short-term 6 - 12 months

Mid-term 1 - 5 years

Distinct Character

Green pockets

Map the potential sites for green pockets in the towncentre, using knowledge from Forfar in Flower and the local council planters as a guide for these sites.

Develop and build on Community Growing Spaces initiatives.

Detailed design work for network of pocket greenspaces around the town centre

Run design workshps to include local organisations and volunteer groups that could aid with construction and planting.

Work together to build funding applications

Council to undertake a greenspace audit and strategy as well as an active travel audit and strategy

Make links for walking from housing areas into town centre

Getting about

Identifying communities and walking groups.

Map Community and Heritage Assests.

Organise a Beat the Street where residents get involved in running, walking or cycling.

Upgrading signage with clearer signage that communicates walking distances and times.

Create interpretive signs that link to the built and natural heritage.

For All Generations

Sustain what you have

Maintain support for community groups and social enterprises in town centre more effectively.

Generate more forums for networking sessions. Encourage more local sharing and coordination. (To be read in connection with actions for Better Communications.)

Free indoor youth space

Try out pilot projects for Youth Spaces. (See strategies in Classy streets and shopfronts)

A youth facility open past 8pm there isn't anything else open that late for young people.

Build on the success and model of Pitstop to create an attractive fun space on the High Street that is open and meets a range of young people throughout the week.

Feasibility study to be undertaken documenting what groups exist in Forfar, and what community spaces are currently available. What would be required to make the space attractive?

Town centre living

Reestablish community council to allow greater input for Forfar residents in planning matters

As part of THI/CARS application, develop incentives for reusing upper floors of shops for housing. Analyse How could they be developed to better suit the needs of people in Forfar.

Encourage and support developers to access funding for new homes in the town centre.

Commission feasibility study on options for collective and co housing to diversify housing options in town centre.

Establish community energy co-op to retrofit and upgrade existing town centre homes

Long-term 5 - 10 years

Local Partners

External Partners

Create a community led network of green pockets

CPP, community groups
The Men's Shed
Boys Brigade
Girl guides

Architecture & Design Scotland Stalled Spaces

Create a strategic links to the network of green pockets

Angus Council

Detailed design work for direct walking routes around town centre, signage, Myre and East Greens car park improvements

CPP, elected members, businesses, community groups

Angus Council core spend on signage improvement.

Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland

CPP, businesses, community groups

Angus Council, CPP, community groups, social enterprises

Angus Council, CPP, community groups, social enterprises

Angus Council, CPP, community groups, social enterprises

To be determined through feasibility study

CPP, businesses, community groups

Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland

CPP, businesses, community groups

The Empty Homes Fund.

Community Council / Development Trust vehicle

AC, DTAS, to be determined through feasibility.

Community Council / Development Trust vehicle

ECO funding, Energy Savings Trust, Retrofit Scotland

Make available more homes in the town centre

Angus Council housing, private developers

Make available a greater range of homes to suit more diverse needs in Forfar

Action Plan

Short-term
6 - 12 months

Mid-term
1 - 5 years

Consolidate the Centre

Central community hub

Identifying the community champions to take forwards a series of events. (See activity map of Forfar for a list community groups.)

Explore the potential for a collective pilot event at the Cross, where the road is closed off. (also see comments on The Cross)

Feasibility study for outdoor and indoor public space for community events and activities (see also [The Cross](#))

Establish a community Steering Group for the Community Hub

Create a sustainable business plan for a Community Hub

Fundraise for the Community Hub

Events programme

Identify the community champions to take forwards a series of events.

(See activity map of Forfar for a list community groups.)

Explore the potential for a collective pilot event at the Cross, where the road is closed off.

(also see comments on [The Cross](#))

Develop and sustain annual events programme

Provide strategic support to key events programme.

Town Centre First

Create Town Centre Planning Strategy

Review Local Development Plan and Community Planning policy

Embed culture of Town Centre First Planning Strategy

Run workshops and CPD's on best practice

Communication

Local sharing and co-ordination

Build a picture of the existing notice boards and social media networks in in Forfar.

Identify the key local champions who are good at using social media.

Create a Forfar informal chat forum. Build on the energy of the people that engaged with Future Forfar.

Build on the now familiar Future Forfar branding and social media database.

Brand and consolidate a clear identity for Forfar that takes the form of an online presence (website/ social media) as well as a presence on the High Street (signs/ notice board/ banners).

This should give a sense of how the town sees it self and how it communicates this to others.

What's on Forfar

Try Forfar FIRST

Initiate shared online calendar, collaborative events/activities marketing, town centre business collaboration

Develop and maintain website and social media, detailed design and locations for noticeboards and signage

Tapping into tourism

Bring back a campsite to provide accommodation for visitors

Identify role and actions for Forfar in wider regional visitor economy

Creation of more bed spaces in the town centre

Coordinate locals to offer and list bed space online through sites such as AirBnB and VisitScotland

Create that buzz!

Get local businesses working together to celebrate the best of Forfar.

Develop and highlight events and festivals identified in the report.

Put everything together and watch it happen!

Long-term
5 - 10 years

Local Partners

External Partners

Establish well used and self sufficient
Community Hub

CPP, community groups, social
enterprise

To be determined through feasibility
study

To be determined through feasibility
study

Long term self sustaining events
programme.

CPP, community groups, businesses,
social enterprises

To be determined through feasibility
study

CPP, businesses, social enterprises,
community groups

CPP, businesses, social enterprises,
community groups
Angus Alive

VisitScotland, CPP, local businesses and
organisations

Development of more hotel
accommodation

VisitScotland, CPP, local businesses and
local developers

Everybody

Points of contact

Community Planning Partners

AC COMMUNITY PLANNING

Anne Mollison, Strategic Community Planning Service Manager

Rachel Green, Community Planning Engagement Officer
Meeting 2.11.15

Sarah Kettles, Communities Manager
Meeting 3.11.15 (with Pauline Meikleham)

AC COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

Bob Myles, Service Manager
Telecon 26.10.15

AC CONNECTING SCHOOLS/EMPLOYERS PROGRAMME

Lesley Watson
Telecon 9.11.15

AC CREATIVE LEARNING TEAM / CAMPUS ETHOS GROUP

Pauline Meikleham, Creative Learning Team / Campus Engmt, Ac
Meeting 3.11.15 (With Sarah Kettles)

AC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Alison Smith: head of service
Fiona Cameron: skills, land, employability
Meeting 9.11.15

AC EDUCATION

Pauline Stephen, Head Of Schools And Learning
Telecon 28.10.15

AC ESTATES

Ian Cochrane, Head of Technical and Property Services - telecon 10.11.15
Christina Ludlow, Estates Surveyor - telecon 26.10.15

AC HOUSING

Ian Kennedy, Community Housing Team Manager (Forfar And Kirriemuir)

Catherine Johnson, Strategic Housing Team Manager
Meeting 3.11.15

AC LEISURE SERVICES

Ron Johnson, Leisure Services Manager (Devt And Strategy)
Meeting 3.11.15

AC LIBRARY SERVICES

Fiona Dakers, Libraries Manager
Telecon 9.11.15

AC LIBRARY SERVICES AND ACCESS OFFICE

Sylvia Main, Children & Families Community Development Co-ordinator
Clare Tracey, Facility Co-ordinator for Forfar

Christine Sharp, Adult & Community Development Co-ordinator
Meeting 3.11.15

AC PARKS

Kevin Robertson, Allan Allardice
Meeting 2.11.15

AC PLANNING

Kate Cowey, LDP Team; Ed Taylor, DM Team
Meeting 9.11.15

AC ROADS AND TRANSPORT

Walter Scott (design/flooding), Graham Harris (traffic), Lesley Millar (transport), Douglas Hill (maintenance)
Meeting 9.11.15

AC 'TRANSFORMING ANGUS'
PROGRAMME
Gordon Cargill, Transforming Angus Service
Manager
Meeting 2.11.15

AC WASTE MANAGEMENT
Graeme Dailly, Service Manager
(Environmental - Waste)
Telecon 6.11.15

BARNARDO'S
Jo Holmes, Children's Services Manager
Telecon 9.11.15

DEPARTMENT OF WORK AND PENSIONS
Pamela Nazarov, Arbroath Office
Telecon 28.10.15

DUNDEE & ANGUS CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE
Alison Henderson, Chief Exec
Telecon 4.11.15

DUNDEE AND ANGUS COLLEGE
Grant Ritchie, Principal
Telecon 4.11.15
Wendy Winchester, Forfar Learning Centre
Telecon 27.10.15

HISTORIC SCOTLAND
Steven Robb
Telecon 4.11.15

NHS TAYSIDE / ANGUS COMMUNITY
HEALTH PARTNERSHIP
Freda Stewart, Health Improvement
Manager, NHS Tayside / Angus C.H.P.
Sally Wilson, Locality Integration
Programme Manager, NHS Tayside
Meeting 2.11.15

POLICE SCOTLAND
Steve Main
Telecon 2.11.15

SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE
Gina Ford
Telecon 27.10.15

SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE
Gillian Macphail
Email 9.11.15

SEPA
Scott Leith
Telecon 4.11.15

SCOTTISH FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
Grant Nicoll
Meeting 30.10.15

SCOTTISH WATER
Steve Scott
Telecon 28.10.15

TACTRAN (regional transport partnership)
Eric Guthrie, Partnership Director
Telecon 27.10.15

TAYSIDE BIODIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP
Catherine Lloyd
Telecon 27.10.15

VISITSCOTLAND
Jim Clarkson
Telecon 21.10.15

Community Groups & Representatives

Many of the groups engaged with were informal conversations with businesses and the public. The following are the formal arranged engagements.

GLENVIEW COMMUNITY GROUP

Lorraine O'Brien

Meeting 23.10.15

VOLUNTARY ACTION ANGUS

Sharon

Meeting 23.10.15

PANDAMRAM ACTION GROUP

Eleanor Feltham

Meeting 23.10.15

FORFAR IN FLOWER

Eleanor Glendhill

Meeting 23.10.15

ADULT LEARNING OFFICER

Mark Johnston

Meeting 23.10.15

ADULT LEARNING OFFICER

Maureen McGinlay

Meeting 23.10.15

PITSTOP & SCOUTS

Stuart Mackie

Meeting 24.10.15

OAP SOCIETY FORFAR

Isabella Ross

Meeting 24.10.15

FORFAR DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Martin Mackay

Meeting 24.10.15

DD8 MUSIC

Graham

Meeting 02.11.15

SAINT MARGARETS CHURCH

Rev. Maggie Hunt

Meeting 02.11.15

Councillor Lynne Devine

Meeting 02.11.15

ADULT LEARNING OFFICER

Kathleen Shepherd

Meeting 02.11.15

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Gordon Grewar

Meeting 02.11.15

YOUTH WORK OFFICER

Ashley Leith

Meeting 3.11.15

PRIDE IN PLACE OFFICER

Jennifer Anderson

Meeting 3.11.15

ANGUS CYCLING CLUB & CTC TAYSIDE

Meeting 3.11.15

FORFAR FATHER'S PLAY GROUP

Meeting 3.11.15

PITSTOP YOUTH GROUP

Meeting 11.11.15

STRATHMORE MOTHERS COFFEE

MORNING

Meeting 12.11.15

ANGUS CRAFT FAIR

Meeting 21.11.15



Appendices

Contents

Material from the charrette period:

- Post Cards to Future Forfar
- Values and Aspirations
- Gathering Impressions
- Timelines of life in Forfar

Mapped layers of information on Forfar
Town Centre:

- Base Map
- Designations
- Accessibility
- Heritage

Pre-charrette Conversations with Community
Planning Partners

(confidential in attached document)



Dear Future Forfar Activity 1
Activity output from returned responses

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is Saturday at Scavias folk, (FASC) FORAR MARKET (the early years)

My favourite place in Forfar is FORAR LOCH because is a great open space

I hope that in the future Forfar will maintain a vibrant town centre, good transport services, job opportunities

Lots of Love from CAEW

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is walks down Forfar Loch and up Balmshakerrie

My favourite place in Forfar is the Meith Museum because it tells a great history of Forfar and is interactive and has a fantastic gallery!!

I hope that in the future Forfar will have more historic grades that the community can get involved in!

Lots of Love Sharon

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is history to music from the Banisters in the Reid Park

My favourite place in Forfar is Schmashanger because of the stunning views!

I hope that in the future Forfar will remain a thriving and welcome destination.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is Monday, 22nd Nov Home and Cowie taking me to the festival

My favourite place in Forfar is Forfar Loch/Bank because it seems an area with something for all ages and abilities

I hope that in the future Forfar will thrive without losing its character - manufacturing/industry growth?

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is parties in Ottavos (now Old Reid Park Bar) - met loads of people.

My favourite place in Forfar is The Loch because it's a good place to walk the dog.

I hope that in the future Forfar will have more things going on in the streets and town centre to bring people together.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is BEING AT SPITTING PARK (FREEZE ATHLETICS) EVERY TIME AEGEOTH VISIT

My favourite place in Forfar is BRIGHTEON STONE (MARKET) because I THINK I MAY HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE OF BEING THE CAUSEWAY TO FORFAR AFTER ATTENDING A MEETING AT WINDMILL BARRIS SYMPOSIUM IN 2010

I hope that in the future Forfar will Have some big industry coming that employs hundreds of people (preferably Brits than Eastern Europeans)

Lots of Love David Dwyer

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is having my first Chinese meal as a teenager! ☺

My favourite place in Forfar is in the loch because it's a beautiful place to walk

I hope that in the future Forfar will become better at attracting tourists to enjoy the town & surrounding areas.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is hunch - nice places to eat - "Stray" "Queen Street Tavern"

My favourite place in Forfar is body community garden beside Myrtle Car Park because beautifully designed, nice stay behind it. Nice place to sit & relax, meet folk.

I hope that in the future Forfar will offer one unique retail attraction that makes it a destination from Dundee & further.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar Activity 1
Activity output from returned responses

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is that it is a beautiful Historic Town

My favourite place in Forfar is Forfar Loch because X
it is beautiful - and has great wildlife X

I hope that in the future Forfar will Remain a Historic Town
with no (cheap) shops (i.e. no supermarkets)

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is It's great when community events are organised to bring out people of Forfar such as the Gumpiestorch.

My favourite place in Forfar is the centre because although people outside Forfar may be unaware, there is a great variety in independent retailers, offering bespoke shopping experiences

I hope that in the future Forfar will attract visitors outside the town to help support the local high street

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is The Loch - walking around the loch with my children, no rain by myself. Also the Jubilee Roger walks around the loch

My favourite place in Forfar is Balmashanner because the view across Forfar both day/night is superb

I hope that in the future Forfar will develop the outdoor facilities, create the Forfar & Blair regeneration

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is walking and walking around the loch shopping in unique shops in Forfar

My favourite place in Forfar is Chaco, Tom & Bob's because different and always like

I hope that in the future Forfar will be a vibrant, fun, a place you want to visit and bring if a family to

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is days out with friends in the cafes and parks of Forfar

My favourite place in Forfar is Balmashanner - Balfour because there are a real great wild and quiet places to sit

I hope that in the future Forfar will develop more as a community and offer more opportunities for young people

Lots of Love Aaron

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is Family walks and picnics up 'Bummy' or round Forfar Loch

My favourite place in Forfar is Forfar Loch because I have so many happy memories from there

I hope that in the future Forfar will continue to flourish and be a friendly and welcoming town

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is The Fife Jameson Maternity Hospital - excellent service + wonderful food

My favourite place in Forfar is Forfar Loch because we walk there often - great space from the dogs. Is it for people?

I hope that in the future Forfar will Bright, lively, filled with greenery + people less traffic. Resources would be plentiful, clean, less dogs

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is Services and acts of people. RNLI each other - a community. + House as a cold drink. Balmashanner

My favourite place in Forfar is THE LOCH because GREEN

Age NO 24 weather IN THE SUN area

I hope that in the future Forfar will REMAIN THE IDENTICAL AND BEING THE BESTEST AREA AND KEEP THE SAME AND REMAINING

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar Activity 1
Activity output from returned responses

Dear Future Fofar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is INevy nights out!

My favourite place in Forfar is high st because nice
little independent shops

I hope that in the future Forfar will be a vibrant town with
niche shops & good selection of places to eat
local food.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is _____

My favourite place in Forfar is Palmerston because _____
there are lots of lovely walks

I hope that in the future Forfar will _____

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is XMAS LIGHTS

My favourite place in Forfar is Loch because _____

I hope that in the future Forfar will Prosper

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is Sabbath meals, etc. Family visits
Hillhead in the course

My favourite place in Forfar is Tilnam because it's a
nice cafe with good food

I hope that in the future Forfar will continue to prosper without
needing to compete with nearby

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is Xmas lights on the snow

My favourite place in Forfar is CASTLE ST because _____
more shops, things to look at

I hope that in the future Forfar will look better, support retailers (shops)
& restaurants

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is STATION (WORK AS A BOY)

My favourite place in Forfar is FAST HOLE GRAVEYARD because _____
HISTORY OF "FOUNDING FAMILIES"

I hope that in the future Forfar will ATTRACTIVE FOR TOURISTS
VIBRANT EVENING & YOUTH EVENTS

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is WATERLOO - MOTHERS' SERVICES
at Forfar Loch in 1972

My favourite place in Forfar is THE MUSEUM because OF
ANCIENT HISTORY

I hope that in the future Forfar will EMBRACE ITS HISTORY AND
WELCOME VISITORS FROM AROUND THE WORLD.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is MEMORIAL BUILDING WHEN WITH MY
CHILDREN BECAUSE IT BECAME A DANCE HALL

My favourite place in Forfar is Historical museum because it's a museum
(1) with a museum (2) with a museum

I hope that in the future Forfar will to open & stop in the way of
shops that are really used.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar Activity 1
Activity output from returned responses

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is Attending a hospital Just staying there.

My favourite place in Forfar is Forfar Academy because I enjoy working there and the community

I hope that in the future Forfar will Have more place to go and you will get bigger

Lots of Love Kev Murray

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is My first visit to the town.

My favourite place in Forfar is Forfar Academy because I enjoy working there and the community

I hope that in the future Forfar will flourish.

Lots of Love Melwyn

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is Station Park, attending a fupa At V Dundee with 1989

My favourite place in Forfar is Wat Erms Hardware shop because it had everything!

I hope that in the future Forfar will a thriving, vibrant inclusive community with happy people!

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is Everything!

My favourite place in Forfar is the shops because you can get a lot of nice things

I hope that in the future Forfar will be better with the shops

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is FORFAR ATHLETIC AS A BOY.

My favourite place in Forfar is ELST LODG CERTIFICATE because OF THE HISTORY

I hope that in the future Forfar will VIBRANT AND DEVELOP TO BE A PLACE THAT VISITORS CHOOSE TO VISIT.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is playing cricket at Lockside Burn (Strathmore Cricket Club)

My favourite place in Forfar is Reid Park because it is an incredibly peaceful place with outstanding views

I hope that in the future Forfar will be a bustling and thriving town (festivals/markets etc)

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is Everything

My favourite place in Forfar is the shops because you can get a lot of nice things

I hope that in the future Forfar will be better with more shops

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar

My fondest memory of Forfar is ONLY BEEN HERE 13 YEARS.

My favourite place in Forfar is TOWN CENTRE because I enjoy meeting people in shops & library etc not a pub

I hope that in the future Forfar will include a space that can be used as theatre/cinema

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 10 10-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar Activity 1
Activity output from returned responses

Dear Future Fofar

My fondest memory of Forfar is BEVERLY & GREENOCKS AT GRAHAM CRESCENT. (LOVE THE PUB!)

My favourite place in Forfar is FARFAH LOCH because IT'S BEAUTIFUL - CHANGES ALL THE TIME - GREAT FOR A WALK & CYCLE

I hope that in the future Forfar will KEEP A VIBRANT TOWN CENTRE - BEING BUSY & ACTIVE WITH LOTS TO DO ALL THE LEISURES.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar

My fondest memory of Forfar is walking up Bunnice with the kids & having a picnic

My favourite place in Forfar is Bunnice/Loch because the countryside is right on the doorstep

I hope that in the future Forfar will still be a friendly place where the younger generation want to stay.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar

My fondest memory of Forfar is SPENDING TIME AROUND THE LOCH.

My favourite place in Forfar is GOLF CLUB because STILL ACTIVE

I hope that in the future Forfar will PEDESTRIANISE TOWN CENTRE WITH OUTDOOR (SEATING) CAFE/BAR FACILITIES.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar

My fondest memory of Forfar is Walking on 'Bunnice' with our children.

My favourite place in Forfar is East's Old Church because We've made lots of friends at the many events there

I hope that in the future Forfar will have an inviting vibrant town centre & plenty of employment to support it.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar

My fondest memory of Forfar is Sleeping under covers the night Tony Blair was elected in 1997 - it was a long night!

My favourite place in Forfar is Forfar Loch because it's an area of natural beauty and is part of the town

I hope that in the future Forfar will be a viable tourist "stopover" place

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar

My fondest memory of Forfar is staying in the Red Pack

My favourite place in Forfar is Forfar Loch because it's a nice place to go for a walk/cycle with friends

I hope that in the future Forfar will be a bigger town with more things to do ie Cinema, Restaurants, etc.

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar

My fondest memory of Forfar is hacking my horse up to the station

My favourite place in Forfar is the Loch because it's peaceful + my dog likes it!

I hope that in the future Forfar will stop growing!

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Fofar

My fondest memory of Forfar is STATION PACK (FOR THE ATHLETIC) BERRY TIME

My favourite place in Forfar is Coming to Dunichen's Lane because I may have been responsible for being this company to the town

I hope that in the future Forfar will

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar Activity 1
Activity output from returned responses

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is The Royal Hall

My favourite place in Forfar is _____ because _____

I hope that in the future Forfar will _____

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is going to Saddler's for cakes & a cuppy

My favourite place in Forfar is Balmashanter because it is good for views & walks

I hope that in the future Forfar will become more of a social place to come too

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is when the new community centre was announced to be built

My favourite place in Forfar is East end old church because it is always open to cater for all ages

I hope that in the future Forfar will cleaner and have more areas for young teens to hang out

Lots of Love *St Scott*

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is my first brodie from McLevans

My favourite place in Forfar is Forfar Academy because it's a great school

I hope that in the future Forfar will cater for the youth of the town

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is Being born in the Civic Services Hospital in Forfar

My favourite place in Forfar is FORFAR LOCH because ITS A NICE PLACE TO WALK IN ALL SEASONS

I hope that in the future Forfar will RETAIN ITS COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND REMAIN A FRIENDLY PLACE WHERE ALL AGES ARE CARED FOR. AMINAMO

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is Meeting my wife

My favourite place in Forfar is The Stool Park in Berrisfield because Walking The Dogs

I hope that in the future Forfar will bring together All people to work as One!

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is _____

My favourite place in Forfar is Fether Noddy Gumboing because it was a community base for all ages and a lot of it has been developed

I hope that in the future Forfar will _____

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is getting my first full-time job

My favourite place in Forfar is The Cross / Municipal Buildings because it feels as though its the historic core, where everything happens!

I hope that in the future Forfar will attract more visitors through better quality highend shopping/accommodation/having

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 16 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar Activity 1
 Activity output from returned responses

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is me + Serena.

My favourite place in Forfar is Serena's house because she is Dae and has chocolate biscuits.

I hope that in the future Forfar will milk for cereal + chocolate biscuits.

Lots of Love Demi + Serena

Age Range: Under 5 5-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75 00

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is The Forfar Marathon and The Gala.

My favourite place in Forfar is In the town because it makes me feel safe!

I hope that in the future Forfar will Get put on the map and becomes famous!

Lots of Love Keira McKinnea

Age Range: Under 5 5-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75 0

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is My first visit here with husband and 2-month baby when buying it properties - moving to Scotland from England

My favourite place in Forfar is The High Street because there are many independent shops + the sense of a community (although my knowledge of Forfar is limited)

I hope that in the future Forfar will Develop Forfar still further as a community

Lots of Love

Age Range: Under 5 5-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is growing up as a child with lots of happy memories in a friendly town.

My favourite place in Forfar is attending toddlers group because its a library community church (tidalynk).

I hope that in the future Forfar will be more child friendly, more open shops, entertainment in the various unused halls, parks.

Lots of Love Ram Young and all the kids at Ruis Young Street childminding

Age Range: Under 5 5-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Dear Future Forfar 

My fondest memory of Forfar is going to ~~the~~ dolguise With pit stop

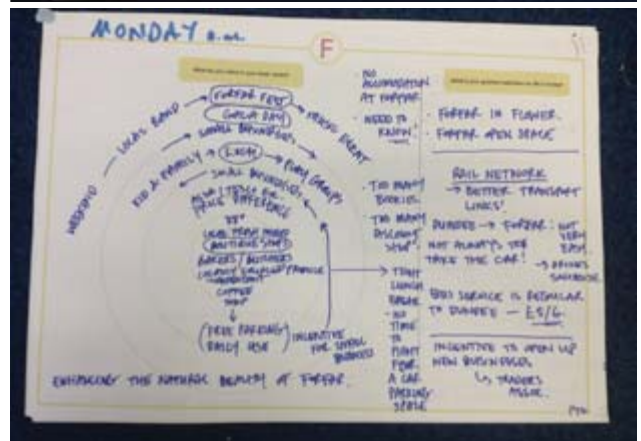
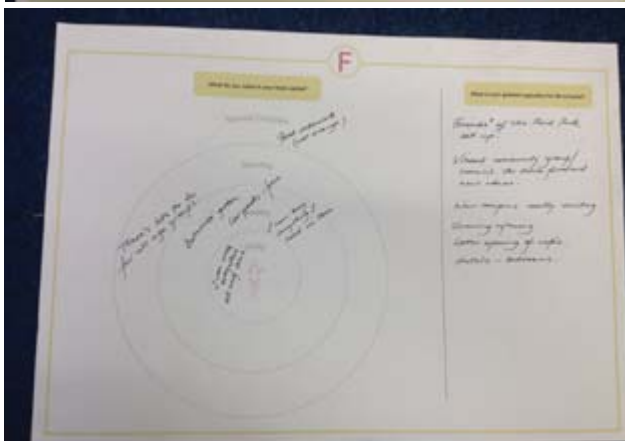
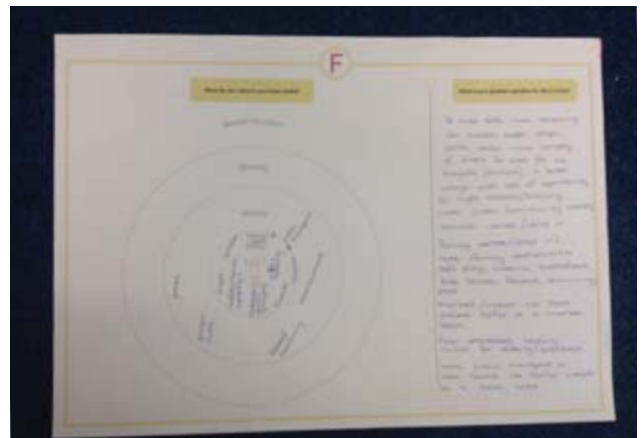
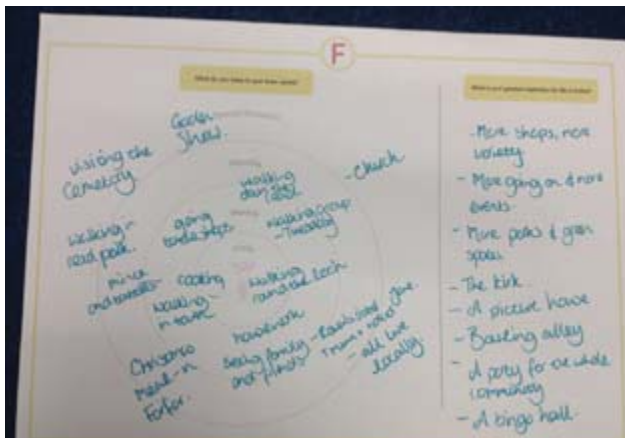
My favourite place in Forfar is Pit Stop because it is really fun and it is a good place to go

I hope that in the future Forfar will as fun as it is now & they have flying cars for kids

Lots of Love Anis Burgoyne

Age Range: Under 5 5-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 Over 75

Personal Values Activity 2
 Activity output from returned responses



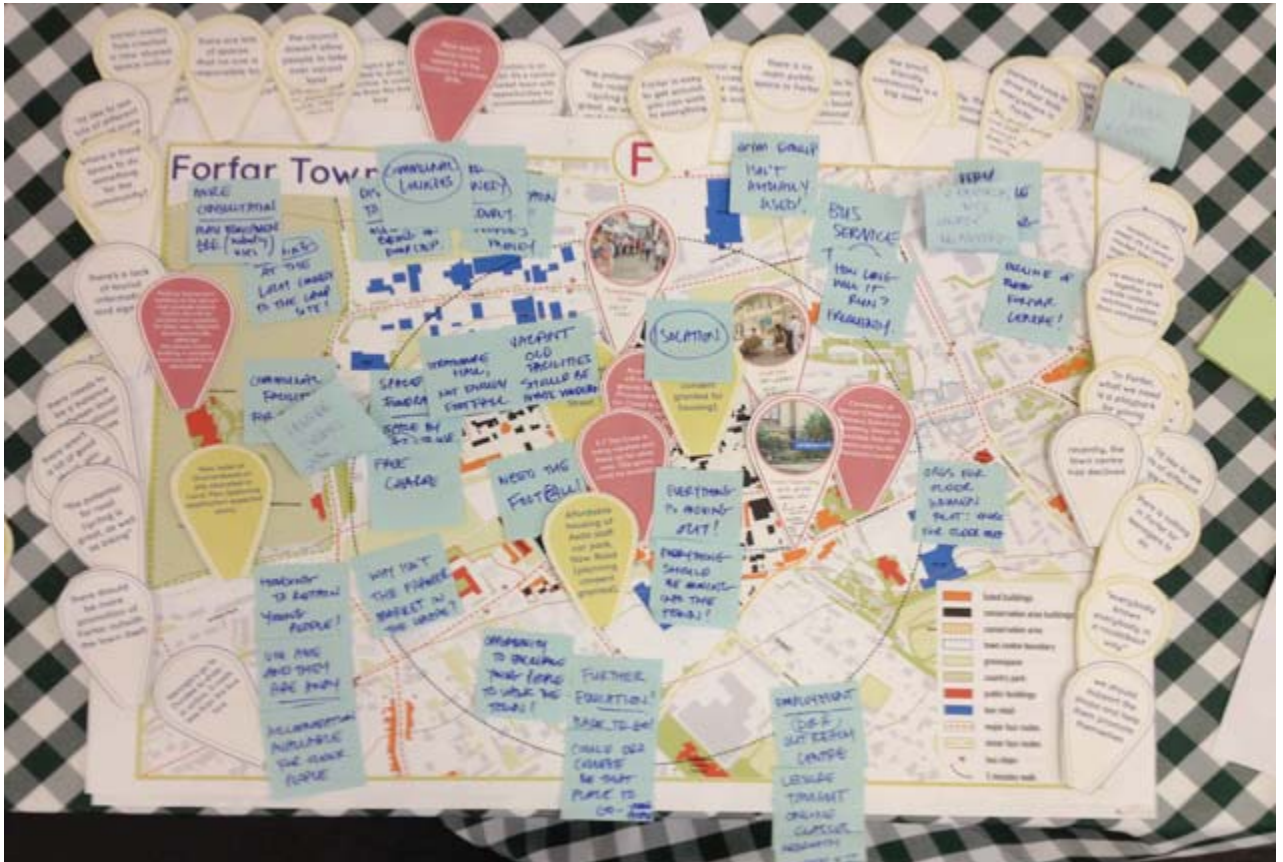
Mapping Activity 2

Activity output from returned responses

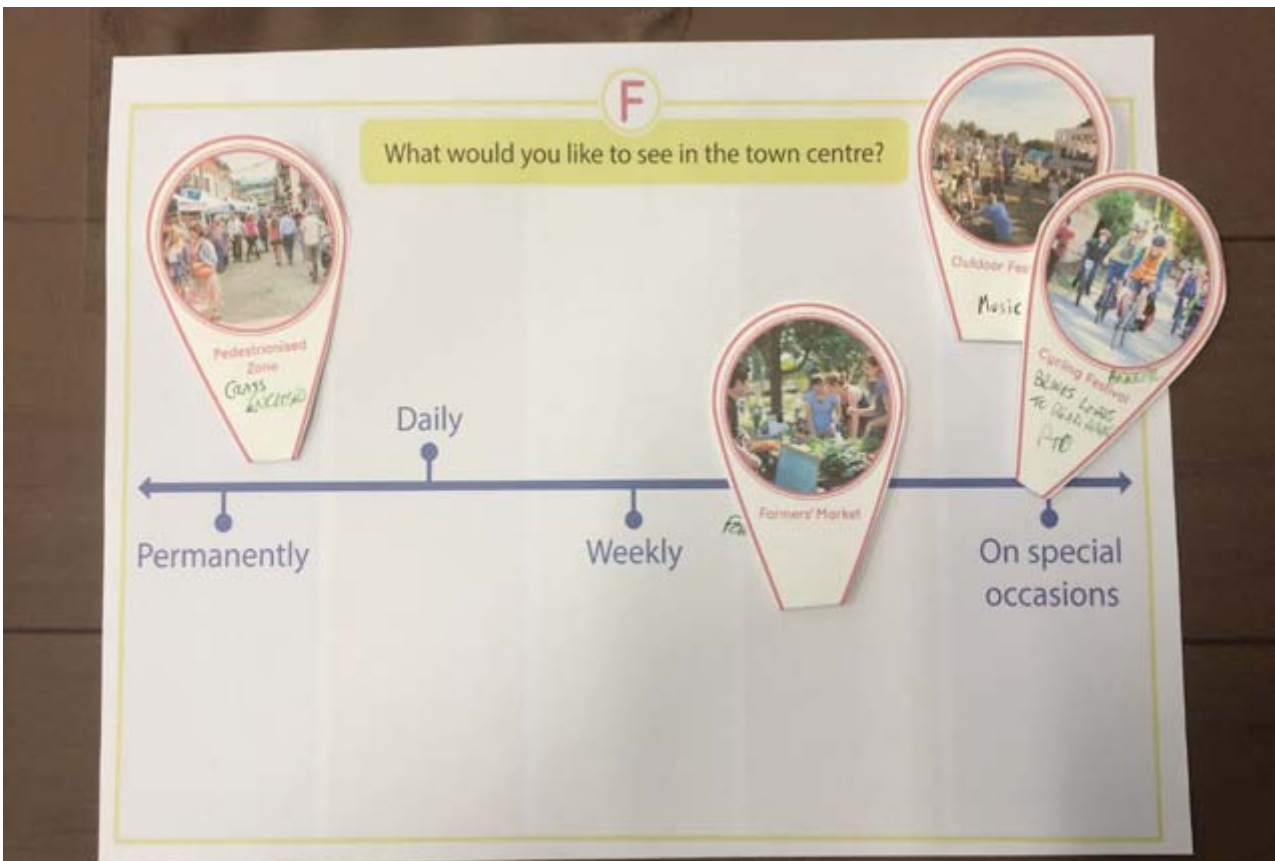
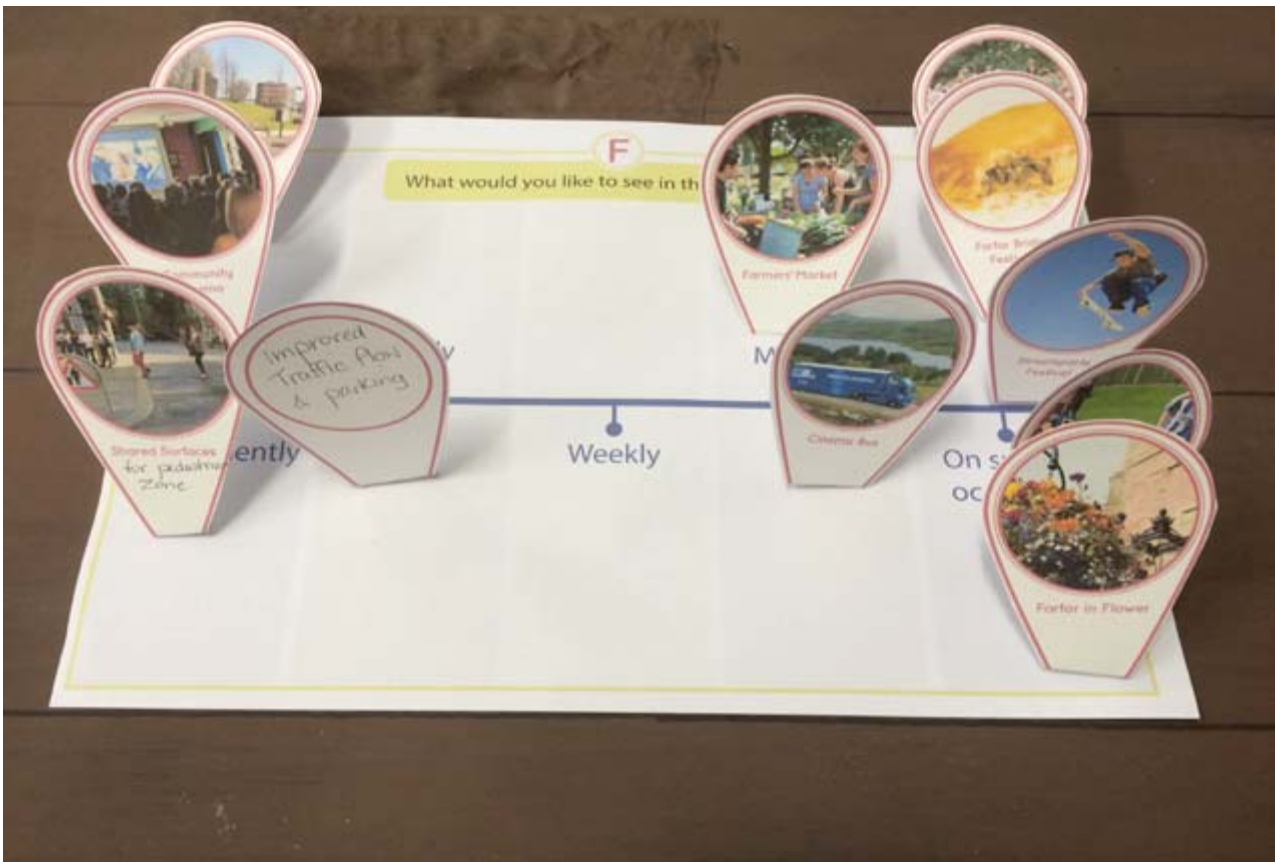


Mapping Activity 2

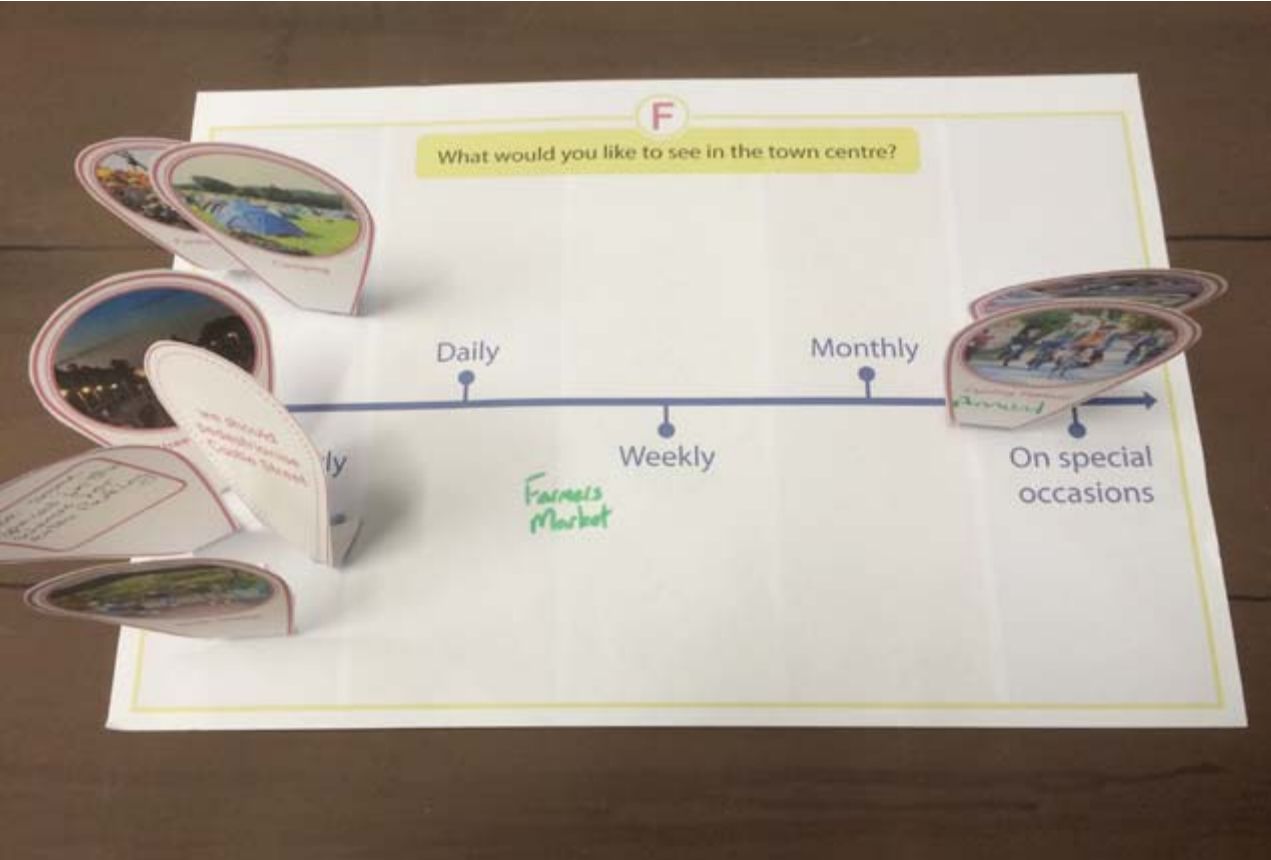
Activity output from returned responses



Development Timeline Activity 2
 Activity output from returned responses



Development Timeline Activity 2
 Activity output from returned responses



base map





70

Station Park

Whitehills
Primary School

Health and
Community
Care Centre

Newmonthill
Cemetery

Strathkyle
Primary School

Reid Park

Steele Park

Balmashanner Park

80

80

70

65

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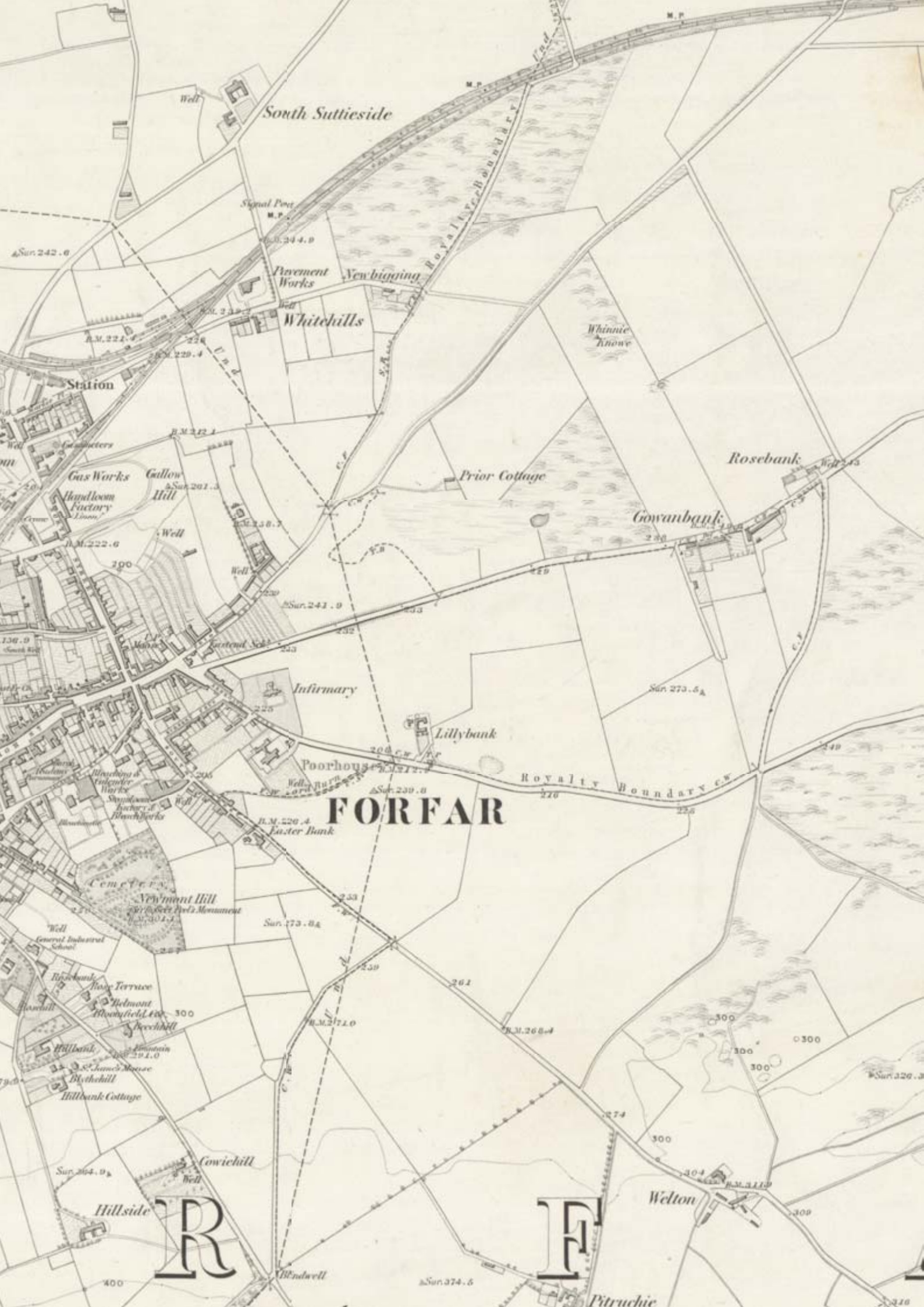
135

9



F

O



South Suttieside

Signal Post
M.P.

244.0

Pavement Works
Newbigging

Whitehills

Whinnie
Knowe

Station

Gas Works
Handloom
Factory

Gallow
Hill

Prior Cottage

Rosebank

Gowanbank

Infirmary

Lillybank

Poorhouse

FORFAR

Easter Bank

Cemetery

Wymont Hill

273.84

Belmont
Bloodyfield

300

Blythecill

Hillbank Cottage

Cowichill

Hillside

R

F

Welton

Pittruchie

Sur. 242.0

B.M. 222.4

B.M. 222.1

Sur. 201.3

B.M. 230.7

Sur. 243.0

Sur. 273.5A

Sur. 239.0

Sur. 173.84

B.M. 271.0

B.M. 268.4

274

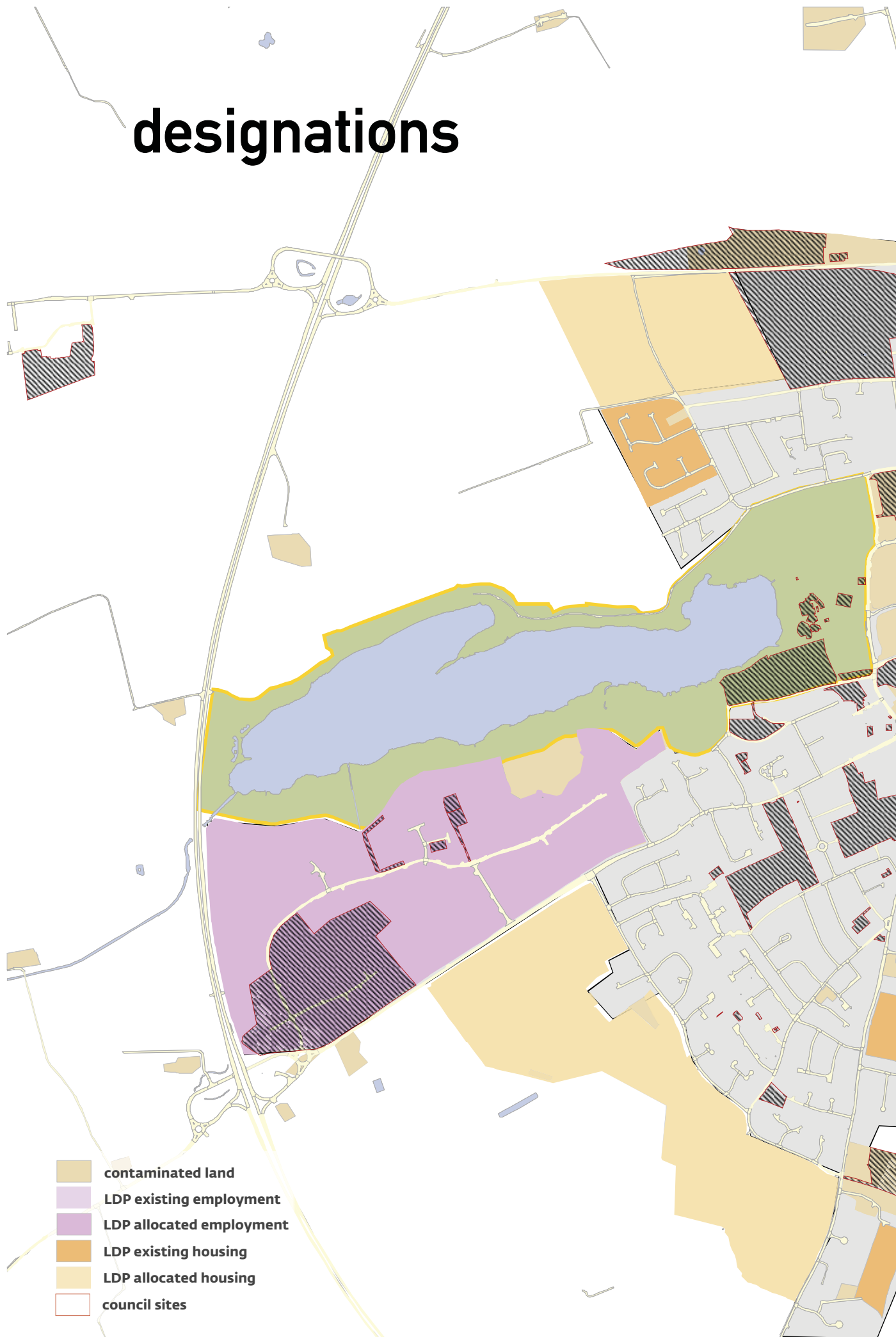
B.M. 311.0

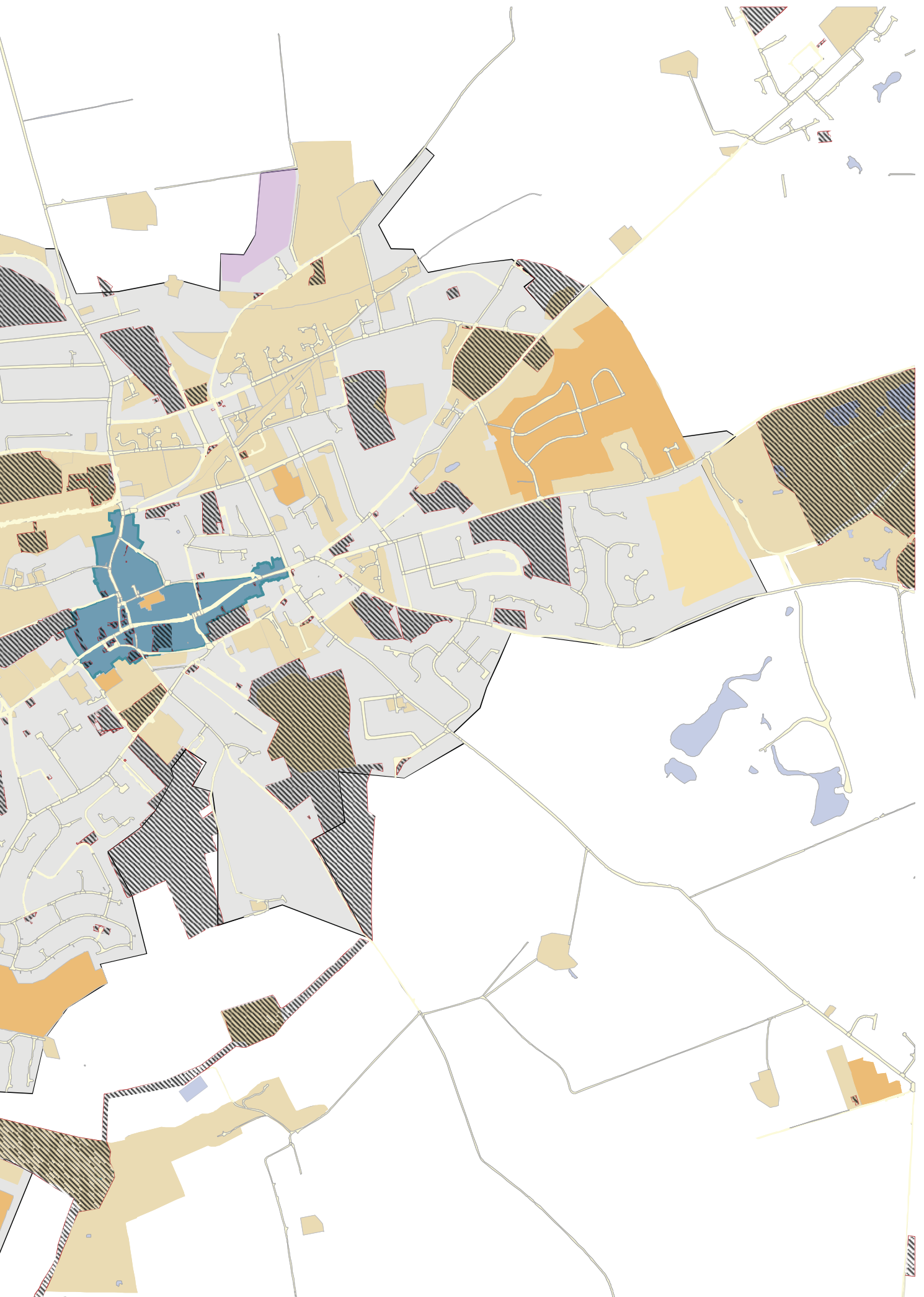
Sur. 274.6

Sur. 320.3

320

designations





Forfar Town Centre





Don Street

Tesco

Carseburn Road

Victoria Street

North Street

Bus Depot

Green Street

Abroath Road

Queen Street

East High Street

British Legion

South Street

East and Old Parish Church

Chapel Street

Academy Street

Co-op

ASDA

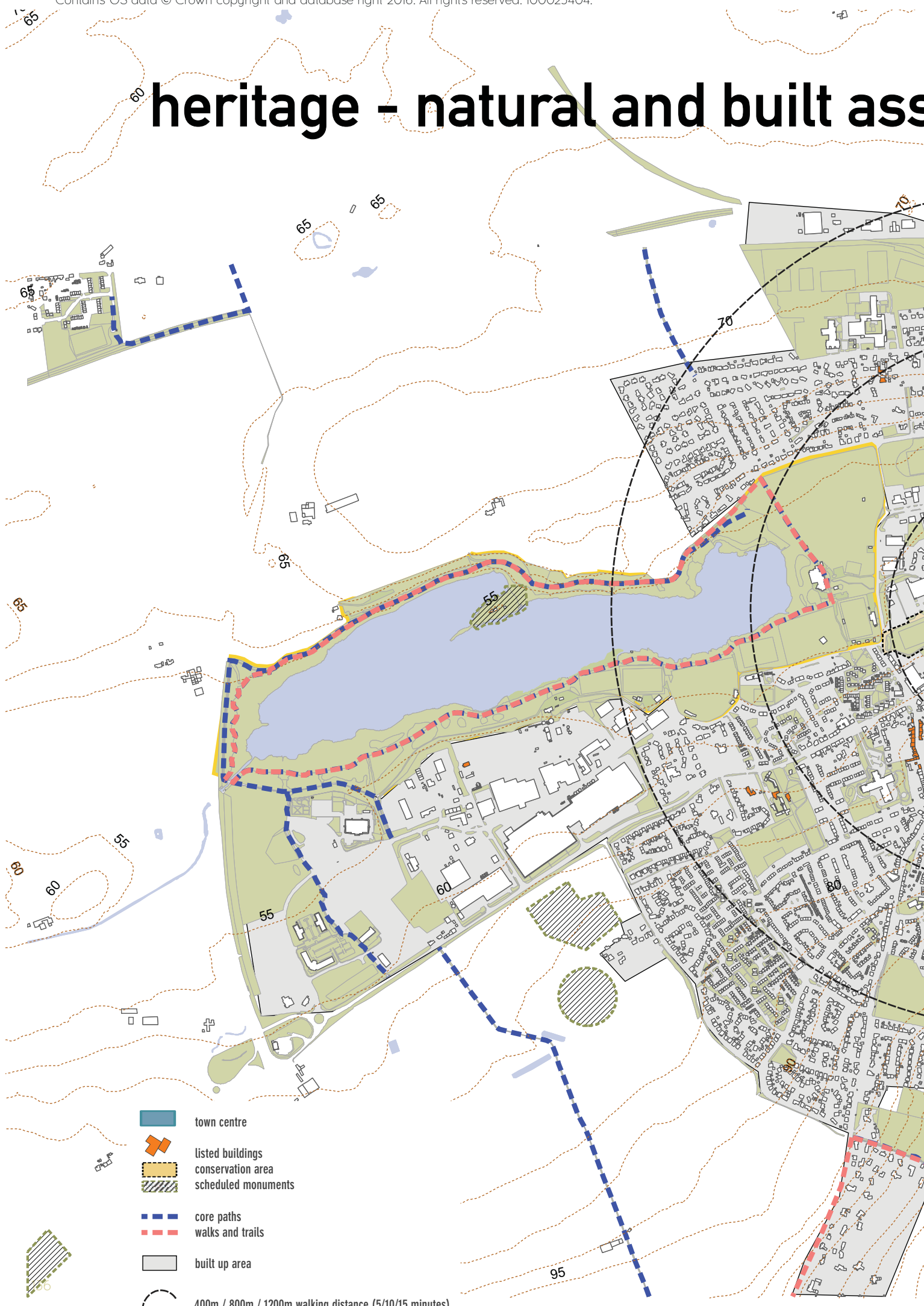
Newmont Hill Cemetery

Surgery

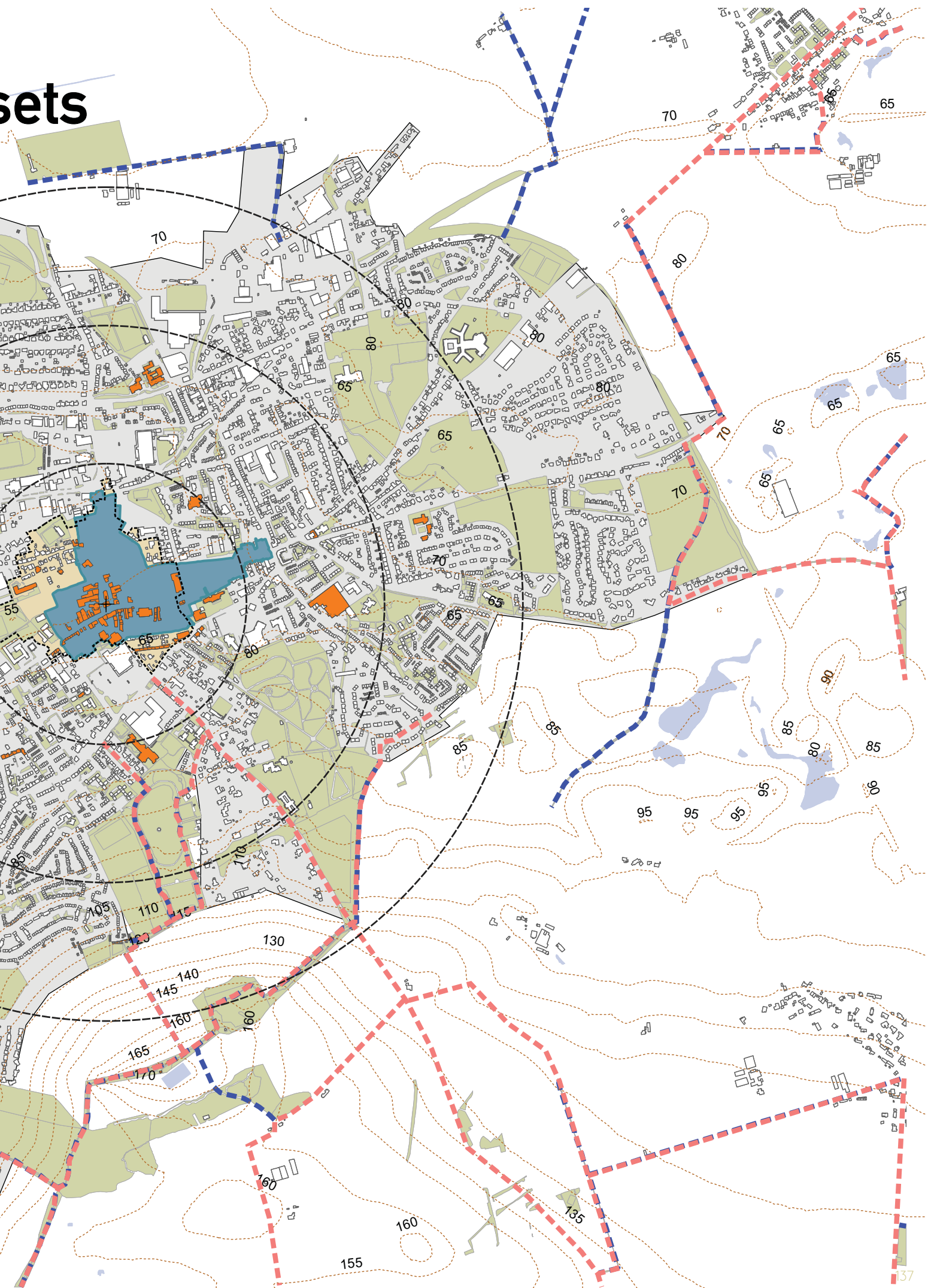
Lour Road

Strathmore Primary School

heritage - natural and built ass



sets



accessibility

