

TRANENT & ELPHINSTONE

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

2014 - 2019



COALFIELDS
COMMUNITY
FUTURES

CONTENTS



2 INTRODUCTION

3 OUR COMMUNITY NOW

5 LIKES

6 DISLIKES

7 OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

8 MAIN STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES

10 ACTION

14 MAKING IT HAPPEN



INTRODUCTION

300 COMMUNITY VIEWS SURVEY FORMS WERE RETURNED FROM **1000** HOUSES.
20 STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS AND INTERVIEWS WERE HELD WITH LOCAL GROUPS,
 BUSINESSES, AND SUPPORT ORGANISATIONS.
120 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN THE STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS
 AROUND **300** PEOPLE ATTENDED THE COMMUNITY FUTURES EVENT.

The plan will
 be our guide for
 what we
 - as a community -
 try to make happen
 over the next
 5 years.

TRANENT & ELPHINSTONE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

This Community Action Plan summarises community views about:

- Tranent & Elphinstone now
- the vision for the future of Tranent & Elphinstone
- the issues that matter most to the community
- our priorities for projects and action.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART

– It's a really good
 response and gives weight
 to the priorities identified
 in this community
 action plan

TRANENT & ELPHINSTONE COMMUNITY FUTURES STEERING GROUP

The preparation of the Action Plan has been guided by a local steering group which brings together representatives of the Tranent & Elphinstone Community Council, Recharge Youth Facility, the Fraser Centre Trust, the Moyra McNeil Fund, Muirpark Tenants & Residents Association, Elphinstone community groups, and other interested local residents.

LOCAL PEOPLE HAVE THEIR SAY

The Action Plan has been informed by extensive community engagement carried out over a five month period from September 2013 to January 2014.

The process involved:

- a community views survey, which was delivered to a 1,000 house sample across the Tranent & Elphinstone area;
- stakeholder interviews and meetings with different groups and individuals representing all aspects of the community;
- a youth survey carried out at Ross High School;
- preparing a community profile detailing facts and figures about the community;
- a Community Futures Event.

We welcome
 continued
 involvement from
 the whole community
 in taking forward
 this Community
 Action Plan

OUR COMMUNITY NOW

We have summarised below some of the main facts and figures from the Community Profile - a report produced by the Steering Group to give a picture of Tranent & Elphinstone as it is now.

TRANENT & ELPHINSTONE COMMUNITY PROFILE SUMMARY

LOCATION

One of the most ancient towns in East Lothian, Tranent lies 10 miles east of Edinburgh and 7 miles from Haddington. The smaller village of Elphinstone lies two miles south-west of Tranent on the B6414.

POPULATION

The population of Tranent has grown extremely rapidly over the last few years. The current estimated population of Tranent, according to East Lothian Council, is 12,582. In the 2011 Census the population was 11,642, and 8,892 in the 2001 Census. The population of Elphinstone has not changed much over the same period, going from 514 in 2001 to 520 in 2011. In Tranent, 19% of the population is aged over 60 compared to 32% of the population in Elphinstone. Conversely, 21% of the population in Tranent is aged under 16 compared with a Scottish average of 17.3%.

HOUSING

There has been a huge growth in housing with the new estates of Windygoul and Muirpark accounting for an increase from 3722 households in 2001 to 4788 in 2011.

Housing tenure has also changed over the period. 63% of housing in Tranent is now owner occupied (compared to 56% in 2001), and 23% is rented from East Lothian Council (compared to 33% in 2001). In Elphinstone, 53% is owned and 31% rented from the Council with a further 13.7% being rented from housing association.

LOCAL ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

Tranent was once an important mining town and coal was first worked there in the 12th century. Now many of the local population work in Edinburgh, Macmerry or Haddington, where East Lothian Council is the major employer. The biggest local employers are the local supermarkets and care homes.

Unemployment is slightly below the national average, although statistics show that this varies greatly across the area with unemployment in some data-zones as high as 27%, and as low as 5% in others. Elphinstone, unlike Tranent, has a high percentage of retired people.

Tranent High Street has also changed over the years. There are 14 take away food outlets, 9 hair-dressers/barbers, 3 pubs and 3 bookmakers. There are only 6 food shops, and another 19 non-food shops. The Co-operative is the main supermarket, and there is now planning permission for a new supermarket.

Elphinstone has also lost a number of shops over the years and now has one village shop.





SCHOOLS & CHILDCARE

We have three primary schools in Tranent – Windygoul, Sandersons Wynd and St Martin’s – all have nursery classes as well. Elphinstone also has a primary school.

Tranent Playgroup has recently closed, due to lack of volunteers. It used to meet in the Town Hall every morning and we are trying to get it running again. There is a playgroup every morning and mother & toddlers 2 days a week in Elphinstone. Sandersons Wynd Primary also has an “early years centre” for ages 2 – 3 and The Hub which provides facilities and education for children with special needs from across East Lothian.

Ross High School provides secondary education for pupils from Tranent, Elphinstone, Ormiston, Pentcaitland, Macmerry and Saltoun.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

There is no actual Community Centre in Tranent. The Town Hall run by East Lothian Council is available for community use, as is the community wing at Sanderson’s Wynd Primary School. A new library and small meeting room is housed in the George Johnstone Centre in Tranent. The Church Hall on Church Street holds community events, and Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.

The Fraser Centre is owned by the Fraser Centre Trust, who are converting the old cinema back into community use.

Recharge Youth Facility offers space and activities for teenagers.

Elphinstone has a Community Centre which is owned by East Lothian Council and Elphinstone Miners Welfare Club.

SPORTS & RECREATION

The Loch Centre Sports Facility, run by Enjoy Leisure, has a swimming pool, café, gym, sports hall and a small soft play area. Meadowmill Sports Centre has a golf practice facility and cricket pitch. Forester Park has synthetic sports pitches for hire and a climbing wall in the pavilion.

Polson Park has a football pitch, bowling green, clubhouse and tennis courts. There is a new play area for children in Polson Park and smaller play areas in housing estates.

The sports clubs in Tranent area are members of the Tranent & District Sports Club – members include Tranent Cricket club, Tranent Amateur Swimming club, Ross High Rugby Club, Ross High Hockey Club and Tranent & District Football Club.

HEALTH & CARE

Tranent Medical Practice provides GP services, Practice Nurses, a variety of clinics and outreach services. There are 2 dentist practices, a drop in day care centre for elderly people and two private care homes. Elphinstone has no health services.

ENVIRONMENT

There are many paths and access into the countryside, including access from Elphinstone onto the Pentcaitland Railway Path which is part of the National cycling network. Wildlife to be seen includes hares, yellow hammers and buzzards and there are magnificent views of the Firth of Forth.

HERITAGE

People born in Tranent are known as “belters”. One theory is the name comes from the time when there was a tannery in the town where leather belts were made. The Tranent History Group has been in existence since 1989 – they have a small but regular membership, collect material and have a small archive.

Sites and buildings of historic interest include:

- Tranent Wagonway – first railway in Scotland, built in 1722
- Tranent Tower- dating from the 16th century
- Statue of Jackie Crookston – commemorates the Massacre of Tranent in 1797
- The Doo’cot – built in the late 16th century
- Tranent Parish Church – built in the 1800’s
- The Heugh – monks mined coal here in the 12th

OUR COMMUNITY NOW

LIKES



COMMUNITY VIEWS SURVEY

Friends, family and community	39%
Strategic location and connections	27%
Community services, amenities and facilities	27%
Environment and access	20%
Nature of the community	15%

What people said:

Community spirit, especially when things need doing – like the gala committee or helping out neighbours

I live in Elphinstone and when I moved here ten years ago I was made to feel welcome

Tranent pulls together when we have community things going on in the town

Good community spirit, knowing neighbours and keeping an eye out for your property

There is a good community spirit with lots of volunteers running groups to cater for all ages and covering different areas

It is in the ideal location – hills to one side, sea to the other and in quick reach of an international city - so you can live life as quietly or as lively as you like

It's location, within easy reach of the city of Edinburgh and beautiful East Lothian coastline on the doorstep

It is a handy town for Edinburgh with express buses for fast links for work and leisure

I stay in Windygoul. It's modern it's friendly it's not far from Edinburgh, but also in the countryside

Lovely primary school

Gym, swimming etc and library close at hand, as are medical and dental services

School facilities and sport clubs

The new library in Tranent is great. I like that Elphinstone has a community centre

While people generally complain about number of Fast Food Shops there are shops to provide nearly everything else required

Close to beautiful countryside and good network of paths

The improvement in the grass areas with the beautiful flower planting especially near the doctors

Plenty of options for cycling

Nice town to live in

Peace and quiet

300 responses were made by local residents in our Community Views Survey. Here is what people said they like about the community now...





COMMUNITY VIEWS SURVEY

Poor quality of High Street	40%
Anti social behaviour and community safety	25%
Lack of and inadequate services	23%
Too few social activities	17%
Growth and development	11%

DISLIKES

... and what they were
not so keen on!

What people said:

The High Street makes it one of the worst looking towns in the county

The poor state of the High Street, not only in appearance but the lack of any decent shops

Traffic congestion on Tranent Main Street

Too many pubs and takeaways on the High Street and not a nice area to be after dark
The lack of decent shops – it's all pubs, bookies and fast food outlets

Tranent is filthy, littered with dog mess, empty drink cans, mainly of the alcoholic variety, and just general litter

I don't feel safe walking through the high street in the evening due to the many teenagers and vocal drunks

It seems to get the raw end of the deal from the council as there are very few community facilities in comparison to Prestonpans, we don't even have a community centre!!!!

Lack of good flexible childcare makes it hard for both parents to work - after school clubs for local villages would be good

Health centre needs more doctors to allow for increased population

Difficult to get to Tranent (from Elphinstone) with existing bus service– cannot get to doctors and can now take 4 hours to get to an appointment and back

There needs to be more community based activities/ events other than firework display and gala week, e.g. markets and concerts

For weekend activities and events we spend most of our time out of Tranent

Town is full of children but there are few amenities for them

There is not enough for the children, teenage kids and elderly to do. There doesn't seem to be any groups either for them to attend

Lots of new estates and no grass areas or parks for children to play

There is not enough nature, there are no wooded areas where you can walk your dog or take a quiet walk through its all pavements and roads, it's very uneasy and artificial!

The encroachment of housing from Tranent to Elphinstone



TRANENT & ELPHINSTONE

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

This statement has been prepared to summarise the main aspirations for the future as expressed by local people and organisations.



Tranent will have an attractive and busy town centre with improved shopping and social facilities and a sense of history and place -

People will want to use the High Street - it will be a welcoming meeting place and a pleasant shopping experience for locals and visitors. The history and identity of Tranent and Elphinstone will be celebrated - with displays, signage and events.

Tranent and Elphinstone will be green, clean, active and healthy -

There will be better traffic management in the town, improved roads and pavements to make it safer and well signposted paths and cycle routes into the country and between towns and villages.

Getting between Elphinstone and Tranent will be easier and safer – either on foot or by bus.

Facilities and services will have developed and be equipped to keep pace with the population growth –

Community, sports and youth facilities, schools, child care, elderly care & health facilities will provide the places and services we need to create a safe and vibrant community that cares for everyone who lives here.

There will be a strong sense of community, integration and pride –

There will be lots of activities for all ages, and events to bring the community together. People will be proud to say they live in Tranent & Elphinstone.





MAIN STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES

These are the main strategies and priorities the community will work towards achieving in partnership with public agencies and other supporters

THEME 1: LOCAL ECONOMY & HERITAGE

The town centre of Tranent is the issue that gives most concern to people - a limited range of shops, dominance of fast food takeaways, the run-down appearance and the lack of places to meet or eat all contribute, as well as concerns over traffic management. These issues have already been highlighted in a Planning for Real exercise undertaken in 2011, and an audit of the High Street undertaken in 2013, but so far there has been little improvement. As well as physical improvements, Tranent needs more in the way of events to encourage people to use the town centre and we can promote our heritage to regenerate interest and community pride.

Main priorities:

- Revitalise the High Street
- Improve traffic management & road safety
- Community events
- Develop & display heritage information

THEME 2: SPORTS & RECREATION

Sports and play facilities are very important, particularly for children and young people. The new play area at Polson Park is much appreciated, although with the large increase in population there is still a need for more indoor and outdoor play opportunities in local areas. Teenagers themselves are very keen to develop a skateboard/bike facility, supported by youth leaders, police and community wardens.

Main priorities:

- Play areas – indoor and outdoor
- Skateboard/bike park
- Improve facilities at Polson Park
- Better access to sports centres & schools

THEME 3: COMMUNITY / YOUTH FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES

Although there are some local facilities that can be used by the community for events, classes and meetings, Tranent is the only main town in East Lothian that does not have a community centre and there is a strong desire for a community hub as a focus for social and recreational activity. The Fraser Centre Trust is working hard to renovate the old cinema as a community arts and entertainment venue, with full support from the community. Recharge Youth Facility is well used and highly regarded, but needs to have a more secure future.

Unlike Tranent, Elphinstone does have a community centre, and the Miner's Welfare Club, but both could be used more – particularly with activities for children and elderly people.

Main priorities

- Develop the Fraser Centre
- More activities for young people
- A community centre/community hub for Tranent
- Community activities and facilities in Elphinstone





MAIN STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES

THEME 4: ENVIRONMENT & ACCESS

With the development of thousands of new houses, Tranent is in danger of becoming a concrete jungle, with the only sight of grass being football pitches! People get in their cars to take children to experience the countryside elsewhere so a priority is to develop areas closer to home which encourage wild-life and responsible recreation, and improve access to the countryside.

The walking route between Tranent and Elphinstone is a real concern – the pavement is narrow, there are no lights and the speed limit is 60mph – and with the bus service being so limited, people feel they are taking a risk by walking or cycling to access school and other services in Tranent.

Main priorities

- Develop outdoor, natural areas for recreation
- Improve & promote walking & cycling routes
- Safer walking between Tranent & Elphinstone
- Allotments and community gardens

THEME 5: PUBLIC SERVICES

The bus service between Tranent and Elphinstone has been greatly reduced in recent years. There is now only a 2 hourly service and no buses on a Sunday. There is no dedicated school bus for children in Elphinstone who attend Ross High in Tranent – they have to get the normal bus service which doesn't always come and does not wait for children – giving them a 2 hour wait for the next bus home. The Police Station in Tranent has been kept open, for the time-being, and statistics show that crime is decreasing. However, there is a concern that anti social behaviour is still a problem and the police presence needs to be maintained.

Main priorities

- Better public transport for Elphinstone
- Policing & dealing with anti social behaviour

To assist in partnership working we show below how the themes in this Community Action Plan relate to the main themes identified by East Lothian Community Plan

EAST LOTHIAN PARTNERSHIP SOA STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES

Sustainable Economy

- A growing sustainable economy
- Cycle of poverty is broken
- Adapting to climate change

Safe & Vibrant communities

- East Lothian is an even safer place
- High quality natural environment
- Quality sustainable housing
- Stronger, more resilient, supportive, influential and inclusive communities

Resilient People

- Young people are successful learners, confident individuals, responsible citizens
- Children have the best start in life
- People lead healthier, more active independent lives

TRANENT & ELPHINSTONE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN THEMES & PRIORITIES

- Local Economy & Heritage (Revitalise the High Street)
- Public Services (improve public transport)
- Environment & Access (improve paths & cycleways; develop allotments)

- Public Services (policing and anti-social behaviour)
- Environment & Access (develop natural outdoor play areas; improve & promote paths and cycle routes; safer walking between Tranent & Elphinstone)
- Community & Youth facilities & activities

- Community & Youth facilities & activities (more youth activities; drop in community facility/cafe)
- Environment & Access(improve & promote paths & cycle routes)
- Sport & Recreation



ACTION

A guide to the first steps for action to be taken and who should be involved.

THEME 1: LOCAL ECONOMY & HERITAGE

PRIORITY	REVITALISE THE HIGH STREET <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a Tranent Traders group to help take this forward • Encourage High Street businesses to improve their shop fronts • Develop and launch a “shop local” campaign • Look at opportunities for floral displays/hanging baskets • Explore the potential for a community run enterprise using empty premises
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Businesses, East Lothian Council</i>
PRIORITY	IMPROVE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT & ROAD SAFETY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the priority recommendations from the “Living Streets” High Street Audit carried out in March 2013 • Review further measures needed for parking and traffic management
<i>Action by</i>	<i>East Lothian Council, Tenants & Residents Associations, Tranent & Elphinstone CC, Police Scotland</i>
PRIORITY	COMMUNITY EVENTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop the Gala Festival Week • Continue to develop the Elphinstone Summer Fair • Organise a number of events throughout the year that encourage wider community participation. Suggestions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community sports day - Baking & produce show - Farmers market - Car boot sale
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Gala committee, Elphinstone Community group, Tranent and District Community Sports clubs, schools, local businesses</i>
PRIORITY	DEVELOP & DISPLAY HERITAGE INFORMATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support & promote the Muirpark Tenants & Residents Heritage Park project - “A Place of Great Importance” • Organise an “air and share” event for everyone to share their interests in local history, digitising photographs etc • Develop a project for volunteers, schools & young people to research the heritage of Tranent and record the information • Create a heritage display or leaflet using research information and photographs
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Muirpark TRA, Tranent History Society, Schools, Recharge</i>

EARLY ACTION:
Coalfields Regeneration Trust has helped to fund:

- Bunting for the Gala Festival Week
- Radio Saltire signage & promotion project
- Community portable sound system



ACTION

THEME 2: SPORTS AND RECREATION

PRIORITY	PLAY AREAS – INDOOR AND OUTDOOR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to fundraise for a new soft play facility in the Loch Centre • Enjoy Leisure to implement & maintain soft play facility • Explore possibility of improving play facilities in north side of Tranent, around Sanderson's Wynd area
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Moyra McNeil Group, Enjoy Leisure, Community Council, Tenants & Residents Associations</i>
PRIORITY	SKATEBOARD/BIKE PARK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a group to take this forward • Visit other facilities to find out what is possible • Establish the best location for this to happen • Secure funding for design and development
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Young people, Recharge, support from Community Council, East Lothian Council</i>
PRIORITY	IMPROVE FACILITIES AT POLSON PARK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-establish Friends of Polson Park • Refurbish changing rooms/pavilion • Improve tennis courts • Continue to develop plans and improvements at Polson Park
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Tranent & District Community Sports Club, East Lothian Council</i>
PRIORITY	BETTER ACCESS TO SPORTS CENTRES AND SCHOOLS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with management at Enjoy Leisure to explore potential to introduce more accessible charges for families and children • Continue to negotiate for more affordable use of community schools • Develop cricket facilities at Meadowmill Sports Centre
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Enjoy Leisure, East Lothian Council, Tranent & District Community Sports Club, Tranent Cricket Club</i>

EARLY ACTION:

Coalfields Regeneration Trust has helped to fund:

- Soft Play equipment
- Meadowmill Cricket ground maintenance equipment
- Tranent Sporting Memories project





THEME 3: COMMUNITY / YOUTH FACILITIES AND ACTIVITIES

<p>PRIORITY</p>	<p>DEVELOP THE FRASER CENTRE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the Fraser Centre Cinema and community facilities in line with the feasibility study conducted in May 2013 • Continue to develop and expand the current events on offer • Promote community use
<p>Action by</p>	<p>Fraser Centre Trust, Community Enterprise</p>
<p>PRIORITY</p>	<p>MORE ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build on success of Recharge Youth Facility – develop more activities • Secure more permanent funding and facilities/premises for Recharge • Support efforts of other groups and organisations to offer activities for children and teenagers
<p>Action by</p>	<p>Recharge Youth Facility, East Lothian Council</p>
<p>PRIORITY</p>	<p>A COMMUNITY CENTRE/COMMUNITY HUB FOR TRANENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A separate facility is required and can be enhanced by working in conjunction with the Fraser Centre and Recharge • Set up a “Community Centre Action Group” to take this forward • Look into community ownership or lease of suitable empty property in Tranent
<p>Action by</p>	<p>Community Centre Action Group, Fraser Centre Trust, Recharge, East Lothian Council</p>
<p>PRIORITY</p>	<p>COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES IN ELPHINSTONE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up an Elphinstone Community Group to run the Centre, activities and events • Seek support from East Lothian Council to run more classes and activities in Elphinstone Community Centre • Refurbish Elphinstone Miners Welfare Club and encourage more community use • Promote both facilities to increase use
<p>Action by</p>	<p>Elphinstone Miners Welfare Association, East Lothian Council</p>

- EARLY ACTION:**
Coalfields Regeneration Trust has helped to fund:
- Fraser Centre improved entrance
 - Recharge Centre drop in night
 - St Martin’s Guitar Group
 - Refurbishment of Elphinstone Miners Welfare Club
 - Equipment for Elphinstone Playgroup



THEME 4: ENVIRONMENT & ACCESS

PRIORITY	DEVELOP OUTDOOR, NATURAL AREAS TO ENCOURAGE WILDLIFE AND RESPONSIBLE RECREATION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an Environment & Paths Group to take this forward • Identify suitable areas – e.g. behind Windygoul Primary, opposite Elphinstone Primary • Visit other projects for ideas • Commission a feasibility study for identified areas • Raise funds & implement project
Action by	<i>East Lothian Council Rangers Service, primary schools, Parent Councils, community volunteers, Environment & Paths Group</i>
PRIORITY	IMPROVE & PROMOTE WALKING & CYCLING ROUTES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organise community clear up of core path 268 (Station path), leading from Tranent to Elphinstone • Continue community natural planting initiatives along existing footpaths • Enhance entrance to core path network off Elphinstone Road • Update and reprint East Lothian Council Tranent Paths Leaflet
Action by	<i>East Lothian Council Rangers Service, community volunteers, schools</i>
PRIORITY	SAFER WALKING BETWEEN TRANENT AND ELPHINSTONE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements required to lighting, pavements and traffic speed • Extend the Elphinstone footpath by 100metres to reach the playing field safely • Consideration of widening of existing footpath to include dedicated cycle lane
Action by	<i>Tranent & Elphinstone CC, East Lothian Council</i>
PRIORITY	ALLOTMENTS AND COMMUNITY GARDENS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop and promote allotments at Muirpark/ Steading View • Better lighting from Steading View to allotments • Consider other areas for small allotments or community gardens
Action by	<i>Muirpark/Steading View Tenants and Residents Association, East Lothian Council</i>

THEME 5: PUBLIC SERVICES

PRIORITY	BETTER PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR ELPHINSTONE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Try to get a more frequent bus service to/from Elphinstone • Try to get a school bus service for Elphinstone children
Action by	<i>Tranent and Elphinstone CC, Ross High School, East Lothian Council</i>
PRIORITY	POLICING & DEALING WITH ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Police to continue liaison with Community Council, schools, Recharge • Promote and encourage community attendance at Community & Police Partnership meetings • Work with Community Police and Wardens to deal with concerns over anti social behaviour
Action by	<i>Tranent & Elphinstone CC, Police Scotland, Recharge, East Lothian Council Community Wardens</i>



MAKING IT HAPPEN

This Action Plan is for the whole community and we hope that the whole community will get involved in making it happen.

PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT

Working in partnership is essential if we are to make progress. We have excellent support from East Lothian Council, both at an Officer and Councillor level and we will continue to develop partnership working. In particular, we will ensure that Tranent & Elphinstone has a strong voice in the Area Partnership for the Fa'side Ward through representation from the Community Council, Tenants and Residents Associations, and Parent Councils. This Action Plan will ensure that the communities' vision and priorities for the next 5 years are clearly represented and articulated.

GETTING INVOLVED!

As a practical way of getting things done and involving more people we will set up some "action working groups" to tackle specific priorities in the Plan. If you are interested in anything in the Action Plan – maybe improved play areas, getting more events going, or cleaning up the paths – this is a great way to get involved.

WHO TAKES THE ACTION PLAN FORWARD?

Initially the Tranent & Elphinstone Community Futures Steering Group will take on the co-ordinating role for the Action Plan and will consider if there is a need for a new organisation to be set up as an umbrella for the different action groups. This might be a community development trust, which could employ staff, own land or property, and raise funding for projects.

The Action Plan will be kept under review by the Steering Group, the Community Council and other groups. We plan to hold an annual "community forum" for all community groups and volunteers to come together and share their progress.

GET IN TOUCH AND GET INVOLVED!

If you are interested in getting involved in any of the projects or groups mentioned in the Action Plan, please contact us on either of the following emails:

tranentinfo@gmail.com

info@elphinstonevillage.org.uk



TRANENT & ELPHINSTONE

COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN
2014 - 2019

This Community Action Plan sets out the priorities for the development of Tranent & Elphinstone over the next 5 years as determined by the community through a process of extensive community engagement carried out over a four month period in 2013.

The Plan contains

- a summary of our Community Profile
- our main likes and dislikes as identified in our Community Views Survey
- Our Vision Statement for the future of Tranent & Elphinstone
- The main themes and priorities for action
- Information on how you can stay in touch and get involved.

The Plan is for the whole community and is jointly owned by all the organisations and individuals that took part in its preparation. We will be working together to ensure its implementation over the next 5 years.

Thanks to all those who took their time to share their views and take part, to all who gave their time voluntarily to participate in the Steering Group, to the **Small Town and Rural Development Group** for their guidance and support, and to the **Coalfields Regeneration Trust** for funding the work and providing the **participatory budget** which has allowed us to start developing some of our priority projects.



the coalfields
regeneration trust



STAR
DEVELOPMENT
GROUP



East Lothian
Council

We are grateful for funding from East Lothian Council for the printing of this Action Plan and for their ongoing support in taking it forward.

For more information on the Coalfields Community Futures Programme contact: Coalfields Regeneration Trust or the Small Town and Rural Development Group

www.coalfields-regen.org.uk
www.stardevelopmentgroup.org