

Logiealmond Primary School

Community Drop-In Session

27 September 2017

**Overview of comments received at Community
drop-in session and Online Questionnaires**

Online Questionnaire Feedback

- 44 questionnaires submitted online – 27 completed, 17 partially completed
- 18% (7) of responses from parents, 25% (10) were from the other family members, 20% (8) of responses were from 'other', 33% (13) were from the wider community and 5% (2) responses from neighbours.
- 4 people gave no indication of their relationship to the school
- 19 questionnaires were submitted without any comments
- 59% (16) of responses preferred option 1 and 41% (11) preferred option 2
- 17 questionnaires submitted gave no indication to their preferred option
- Questionnaire closed on 6 October 2017

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 1 - Catchment areas of the schools are reviewed to determine whether this would increase the occupancy at both schools and ensure their future sustainability. If sustainable, refurbish Logiealmond Primary School and Methven Primary School to improve condition at both schools.

Comments

- Most logical. There are 18 young children under school age within the current catchment. As a large local employer it is important to us to have a local education establishment for young children.
- Maintaining wider choice of educational provision for pupils and parents.
- This seems a sensible option so the council is at least informed. The school has thrived in the past few years and the numbers have grown.
- Logiealmond is an excellent rural school and local families benefit enormously from its existence.
- I believe there is great benefit in having smaller, quality schools than combining pupils in larger, less accessible settings.
- Logiealmond is closer to me as a potential parent and is well known for its excellent education for the children.
- My children have benefitted greatly from the education provided at Logiealmond PS. They all, now aged -, continue to do very well at school and I attribute this in significant part to their early schooling. The location of the school is a bonus, and a very good thing, and enhances the quality of the learning experience. Some children - mine included - undoubtedly do better in a smaller school environment and this should rightly be included in the educational provision plan of the Council.
- In an isolated, rural area the catchment is always going to be variable - gathering more pupils from more densely populated areas would be sustainable and beneficial. Possibility to reduce strain on Methven and boost Logiealmond by offering an element of shared catchment in the Methven area. Likewise, in the Crieff catchment there are pupils who may feel culturally more connected to the rural community of Logiealmond than the urban one of Crieff. Look into a shared catchment in that region too. Important not to infringe upon the Logiealmond catchment as it stands however - it must be maintained intact or the purpose would be defeated.
- I believe the school is an important part of the community and a link between families.
- Both these schools are part of the local community and closure of either would cause unnecessary travel for children on country roads
- Either option one or two would allow Perthshire to sustain a rural development programme, without overreliance on cars/roads/congestion,; both these issues should feature a lot in C21st planning, (particularly with Huntingtower

development, as there may be need for room for growth-look at Abernethy school which was too small even before it opened)

- Great education at Logiealmond which has transformed confidence and learning of my niece who would otherwise be quite isolated from her peer group where she lives. Provides wonderful resource and centre for local community which would struggle to interact with communities further afield.
- Closing rural schools is a terrible idea. The idea should be to sustain and promote rural living by making moving to the countryside a viable option. One key parameter for parents is schooling, if you have to drive your children to Perth then why would you move to the country?
- My preference for Option 1 is based on the following main reasons: a) I am extremely satisfied with the high quality of educational services provided to my eldest child at Logiealmond Primary School and wish to see the school remain open, and I look forward to enrolling my other child at the school in 2019; b) Enrolment at Logiealmond Primary School has been steadily improving on average over the last ten years and there are many more pupils set to enrol in coming years, as such the expansion of the school's catchment area would enhance this existing positive trend; c) Logiealmond Primary School has been rated with "A" suitability and should receive proportionate financial support to enable a sustainable future for the school's teaching services; d) Logiealmond Primary School provides a vital social and cultural hub for the surrounding local community in Glenalmond and neighbouring areas, through a programme of regular community events and extracurricular groups, such as the baby and mother play days, with additional plans for a new after-school care group; e) Logiealmond Primary School also provides good value of service through extra in kind volunteering from parents and community members making significant contributions to the school's success and sustainability, which should be acknowledged and encourage renewed sustainable financial support for the school's services and condition; f) Logiealmond Primary School's building is shown on the 1866 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of Perthshire and should be acknowledged as a historic asset, and therefore the condition should be refurbished in partnership with the own to ensure a sustainable and appropriate future for the school; g) Logiealmond and Methven Primary Schools should both remain open to avoid any negative impact on either communities.
- Vital link between isolated families in the community. Logiealmond offers a fantastic quality of education.
- As new parents who live within 2 miles of the Logiealmond School we would like to see a review of the catchment area of both schools undertaken to ascertain which school I will be able to take my son too. As local residents we have heard nothing official, only gossip from neighbours regarding the schooling situation. How about you knock on some local's doors and at the very least find out exactly how many school aged children live within the

catchments of both schools. As far as I understand there are 17 new-borns in the catchment over the last year, not including our own. Your projected figures are wrong.

- It is an excellent school and offers great opportunities for local children. Extending the catchment area would make Logiealmond viable and reduce strain on Methven.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 2 - Reduce capacity of Methven Primary School through a review of accommodation – including refurbishment of the school to improve condition. Logiealmond Primary School remains open – refurbish the school to improve condition.

Comments

- My daughter would be attending Logiealmond Primary School in 3 years' time. Methven for us is not an option. I am a teacher myself and the pupils at Logiealmond are well rounded, well-educated and well mannered. The condition of a school is not important to me and as such, place the monetary funds into Methven if it means Logiealmond can stay open. Should Logiealmond close we will need to move home.
- Because Logiealmond school is wonderful.
- I am keen for Logiealmond to remain open and this option appears to be the only one that will definitely keep it open.
- I firmly believe that it is vital for Logiealmond to be kept open for the sustainability of life in the countryside, the excellent education it provides for our children and the important part it plays in the local community with its annual events and open mornings, the Stay and Play group for babies and their carers, the regular shows performed by the pupils to which the community is invited, the annual Halloween party open to all, etc. Whether this means that catchment areas are reviewed or capacity at Methven Primary is reduced either way I believe it is vital that our vibrant and excellent school remains open. In order for children to understand how to live in the countryside they have to experience it, and the situation of Logiealmond Primary makes this happen. We need to ensure that there are future generations who understand life in the countryside in order to prevent the demise and ultimate death of this important environment. Logiealmond Primary plays an important part in this process and must therefore remain open, not least to allow other families to move to the area and into some of the many properties available for rent on the nearby estates.
- It is important for the community that Logiealmond stays open. It offers an excellent education to the families in this rural location and a centre focus for the community as a whole. If Logiealmond were to close, it could potentially be harmful for the rural community. Logiealmond is a lively, vibrant school in the heart of a rural community. It not only offers primary education but it is a meeting place for pre-school parents and their children.
- If adjusting the catchment area does not increase the occupancy of the school to the level demanded by the council in order to keep it open, then Logiealmond P.S. would, I assume, be under threat of closure again, and I really don't want that to happen. Further, continued threat to the school status

only puts off potential students and their parents. We, as new parents to the area, were very wary of putting our child to Logiealmond because of the review the school was going under previously. Other parents were put off outright, and I have no doubt this is still an issue. Glenalmond College has a very large number of teaching staff (and their consequent families), and if Logiealmond were to be refurbished it would make it much more desirable as an option. Option 2 allows for the refurbishment of the school, without the threat of closure dependent on occupancy. The teaching standards, beautiful location away from busy roads and warm feeling amongst the students make it a lovely school and an incredibly important addition to the community. With attention from the council, it could be a real example to other rural primary school, much like Glenlyon is.

- Option 2 is also very sound and positive. Schools and their communities look to the council to support them in their efforts to provide the very best education for young people. Option 2 suggests the council want to be ambitious, proactive and supportive.
- Sustaining and supporting rural areas adequately is vital for all parts of Scotland to thrive and this includes keeping open and improving small local primary schools, particularly those, like Logiealmond, with a high rating.
- Logiealmond is a great wee school and every effort and investment should be made to ensure it remains open.
- Logiealmond Primary School should remain open, but this should not result in the reduction of services at Methven Primary School as per Option 2.
- I feel the closure of Logiealmond Primary School would have a massive impact on my child's well-being, his academic attainment and the wider community in terms of its availability to meet the educational needs of local children and the focal point it offers for the community.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 3 - Mothball Logiealmond Primary School and move pupils to Methven Primary School – refurbish the school to improve condition.

Comments

- Your questions feel very much as if you are pitting schools and parents against each other. Is mothballing really appropriate language?
- Other options of mothballing or closure are the last thing any of the Logiealmond parents and students want. Closing the school would have a terrible effect on the whole community spirit and would damage it irrevocably.
- I strongly disagree with options 3, 4 and 5 because in my opinion these will have a very negative impact on the local community in Glenalmond and significantly reduce the quality of teaching for pupils at Logiealmond Primary School.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 4 - Reduce capacity of Methven Primary School through a review of accommodation – including refurbishment of the school to improve condition. Consider closing Logiealmond Primary School and move pupils to Methven Primary School.

Comments

There were no comments made online for Option 4.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Option 5 - Consider closing Logiealmond Primary School and move pupils to Methven Primary School – refurbish Methven Primary School

Comments

- Close the school if necessary, but make sure there are adequate facilities in place for the increasing school aged populations.
- Closing Logiealmond would be a mistake as a) it's a great learning environment and b) it would put further strain on Methven.
- The irreversible step of closing the school would be very sad and would diminish the vibrancy of the community on that side of the glen and in the village of Harrietfield.
- I disagree completely with Logiealmond being closed. The education it provides for our children is excellent. My children are engaged in their learning, growing in confidence and maturity, enjoy learning and are taught by experienced and dedicated staff who understand their individual needs. I would therefore be extremely reluctant to have to move them to another school. Stability is important and our children love their school. Whether catchment is reviewed or capacity at Methven is a council decision, but I feel strongly that Logiealmond should remain open.
- The parents of children currently at Logiealmond would not be happy uprooting their children and forcing them to go to Methven primary (a community of which they are not part). If this was the only option for the children in the Logiealmond catchment area, it would cause families to move away from the area. It is important to have a choice and have a local primary school in the community where you live.
- Would be terrible to see the school closed. It encourages community spirit.
- I would not close the school as it is too premature a decision, and at present it works very well in the community.

Online Questionnaire Feedback

Are there any other options/proposals that have not been considered?

Comments

- Increase the pupil roll of Logiealmond by ensuring that all children in its catchment area go to the school rather than to Methven primary.
- Establishing a nursery/pre-school on site at Logiealmond would be the most beneficial option. This would provide a vital service in the area which currently does not exist in any form and it would guarantee an increased pupil roll in the future. Currently, if pre-school provision is found elsewhere - in Crieff or Perth usually - we find that pupils stay there for school. Offering this at Logiealmond would be the best option for the community and for our young people.
- Creating more provisions for pre-schooling at Logiealmond as there is a good demand for it.
- Consider perhaps outreach community work for preschool/mixed ages, such as afterschool/weekend events?
- Preschool provision in Logiealmond area would be popular and would support numbers in the primary longer term as increasing numbers of younger families have moved or are moving to the area.
- Perhaps the council could consider using Logiealmond as a pre-school facility in addition to a regular primary. Last time I was in the Glenalmond area a number of parents told me this would be a good idea. Increased and sustainable investment in Logiealmond Primary School in partnership with the Parent Council to support the already high quality of service, provide a sustainable future for the school's condition and encourage continued increase in enrolment of new pupils. There could have been an option for "none of the above".
- Offer a pre-primary education for younger children.
- Split the catchments for Logiealmond between Bankfoot and Methven. Auchtergaven will be closer for some families and is a good school.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 1 - Catchment areas of the schools are reviewed to determine whether this would increase the occupancy at both schools and ensure their future sustainability. If sustainable, refurbish Logiealmond Primary School and Methven Primary School to improve condition at both schools.

Comments

There were no comments made on Option 1 on the questionnaires completed at the drop-in session.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 2 - Reduce capacity of Methven Primary School through a review of accommodation – including refurbishment of the school to improve condition. Logiealmond Primary School remains open – refurbish the school to improve condition.

Comments

- General area too sparsely populated for option1 to have any significant effect. Logiealmond small, rural style is an option. I would desire for my children. Part of community and sense of belonging given location. I/we are not really part of Methven community. Closure is a final nail in the rural life/community coffin through black & white financial decisions rather than consideration of the bigger picture. Education given at Logiealmond is superb and is a CFE class leader.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 3 - Mothball Logiealmond Primary School and move pupils to Methven Primary School – refurbish the school to improve condition.

Comments

There were no comments made on Option 3 on the questionnaires completed at the drop-in session.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 4 - Reduce capacity of Methven Primary School through a review of accommodation – including refurbishment of the school to improve condition. Consider closing Logiealmond Primary School and move pupils to Methven Primary School.

Comments

There were no comments made on Option 4 on the questionnaires completed at the drop-in session.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Option 5 - Consider closing Logiealmond Primary School and move pupils to Methven Primary School – refurbish Methven Primary School

Comments

There were no comments made on Option 5 on the questionnaires completed at the drop-in session.

Questionnaires were provided at the drop-in session, the feedback is as follows:

Are there any other options/proposals that have not been considered?

Comments

- Reduce capacity of Logiealmond.

Community Drop-In Session

Drop-in session ran from 3pm – 7pm on 27 September 2017

- 25 attendees at the session
- 16% (4) of attendees were neighbours/wider community
- 44% (11) of attendees were parents
- 32% (8) of attendees were past/prospective parents
- 4% (1) attendee was a pupil
- 4% (1) attendee was a Councillor

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 1 - Catchment areas of the schools are reviewed to determine whether this would increase the occupancy at both schools and ensure their future sustainability. If sustainable, refurbish Logiealmond Primary School and Methven Primary School to improve condition at both schools.

Comments

- Bertha Park a possibility to include in catchment?
- It is all fine and well to review catchment areas but this will only work if the areas are populated!
- Maintain the integrity of local rural school by enhancing the catchment
- Not sure this would help. Catchment areas do need reviewed so all children should be at Logiealmond are able to attend/transport etc!
- This is the obvious solution to keep the communities together and be able to accommodate the new influx of children and others to come.
- Every effort should be made to increase occupancy, which benefits teacher job security and the breadths of school roll. Concerned level of cost of school refurbishment would be deemed cost prohibitive – condition is B for main building which is reasonable
- Some rural areas towards Crieff are much more linked to Logiealmond than Crieff but kids go to Crieff. Think rural communities could benefit from Logiealmond Primary. SHARED catchments with Crieff, Methven & Madderty would be an exciting option.
- Review catchment areas – families have chosen to move to rural Scotland & chosen rural schools for their children. City schools/Methven was not an option. Don't lose families from rural Scotland.
- Save Logiealmond
- This is a possibility – talk to the estate about refurbishment or help with it. I am sure the estate would like the school to stay open.
- Country school for country people
- 48 would be a ridiculous number for this school
- I am planning on moving into Logiealmond with my young family both my children will be going to the school. I don't understand why PKC would upgrade the for a young family (affordable housing scheme) to then plan to close the school. While the has work done could you not do the school at once
- An increased catchment would be a great thing. There are families who would like to come to Logiealmond but need transport so have to be in catchment. Larger catchment would certainly increase pupil roll.
- Make it easy for parents from other catchments to come to Logiealmond for a special, more individual experience.

- Not sure this would improve numbers at either school and would involve a reasonable financial input, money which could be spent on dining hall.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 2 - Reduce capacity of Methven Primary School through a review of accommodation – including refurbishment of the school to improve condition. Logiealmond Primary School remains open – refurbish the school to improve condition.

Comments

- Definitely keep it open! The results of closure on Scottish rural communities have long lasting impact! Think of Beeching's closure of the railways. Our country has been known for its educational excellence in the past. All pupils do better in smaller groups – the Government is committed to narrowing the attainment gap – small units must be a part of this.
- This is the best option as it recognises the key part the school plays in the community. Investing in the school will show it has a long term future thus removing any concerns future parents may have at sending their children here.
- Include provision of nursery and after school care.
- Invest in Logiealmond – provide a nursery and after school care – I'm convinced there would be a waiting list!
- Sensible option. Refurb could be staged to spread cost?
- Best option.
- This is a very positive option. Both schools would benefit from this option and all young people in the area would be better served. Two excellent schools with good capacity could be ensured.
- Option 2, I feel in the main one that will benefit us. It means we will stay open! It also means we will get the improvement we need and cannot be held back from our ultimate capable abilities.
- Definite preferred option. Fully support Logiealmond staying open. It serves the community well and can into the future if council support is there.
- This is the best option for both schools as Methven is overcrowded and in need of a refurb! Logiealmond is a well-educated school with polite pupils. Just needs the catchment area reconsidered as this may help its number. It will be a shame to know it down! (SAVE LOGIEALMOND).
- This should be the only option.
- Option 2 I feel is the best option for both Logiealmond & Methven. Reducing capacity while refurbishing will ensure both areas retain their precious local school and identity.
- This is the most community orientated option. Both communities deserve a good school. Logiealmond/Harrietfield/Glenalmond/Little Glenshee only come together in this building. It provides an excellent education and benefits the children being taught in one class. The children are more considerate of younger pupils/friendly/caring.

- Local children really thrive in this school, we must maintain this opportunity
- Best option for the school! Logiealmond could be a real gem of a school – beautiful location, very happy students who love it, fresh air in the Perthshire countryside, strong community, caring staff offering excellent education.
- Logiealmond School must stay open. There are good reasons for small school to flourish and people move in with children who often benefit from smaller schools.
- Logiealmond should be invested in. it stands as an opportunity to exemplify why rural Scottish schools are so profoundly successful.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 3 - Mothball Logiealmond Primary School and move pupils to Methven Primary School – refurbish the school to improve condition.

Comments

- Mothballing not a good option for anyone.
- If the school is mothballed, I cannot foresee it opening again. Not an option in my opinion.
- There is no acceptable justification for mothballing a sector leading school because it does not meet available 'max roll' figures. It is flourishing and serving the local community to the highest standards.
- Mothballing: NO!!! The school just won't open again!!
- Children would have to travel a lot further if Logiealmond was to be mothballed. It would also leave a sad community to see it go!
- Concerned mothballing simply means closure at a later date since the pupils have moved and the culture/appetite for reopening has moved on.
- Not an option for my family. I would not send my children to Methven after the wonderful experience they had at Logiealmond.
- No point in "mothballing" – just the same effect as closure. Terrible idea.
- One of the more concerning options as would it be easier to close a mothballed school?!? Not a good idea.
- Closure by any other name. A drawn out process which would leave to much uncertainty for the whole community.
- This would be a very sad outcome. The location of the school is beautiful, safe & healthy for the children.
- Not an option – my children would not be sent to Methven.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 4 - Reduce capacity of Methven Primary School through a review of accommodation – including refurbishment of the school to improve condition. Consider closing Logiealmond Primary School and move pupils to Methven Primary School.

Comments

- Especially not as Methven is also on a potential closure list!
- No way! I would NOT want to go all the way to Methven every morning!
- Compare the quality of education provided by the two intuitions – to close Logiealmond would work against the needs and interests of good education. Logiealmond is the local community. To close it is to deny rural society.
- Squeezing more pupils into Methven would benefit no-one. Our community would lose the central social focus it has and our children would suffer, longer term this option would lead to rural depopulation.
- We live up Little Glenshee so sending our son to Methven would make a long commute – potentially dangerous during the winter.
- Very concerning – a closure would lead to the death of rural communities. We are within walking distance at Glenalmond – Methven would mean busing in – not suitable in winter months!
- If it is an option to reduce the capacity of Methven then why can we not consider this in Logiealmond?
- If this is an option for Methven then this should be looked at as an option for Logiealmond.
- If Logiealmond school accommodation could be reviewed to move the dining room inside (use one of the classrooms) this would bring occupancy up and take the overall condition back up to at least a B.
- Wouldn't go to Methven Primary.
- Not a good option. Again I think this just means closure for Methven!!!
- Moving pupils to Methven would mean we would lose the rural, heart of the community. Pupils would lose their identity.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Option 5 - Consider closing Logiealmond Primary School and move pupils to Methven Primary School – refurbish Methven Primary School

Comments

- Not an option. I would remove my child from the system and home educate rather than risk winter travelling etc.
- Logiealmond is fantastic!!!!
- Not the most creative solution. May seem like an easy option but quick fixes often have long term unforeseen consequences. Keep our excellent small local school – appreciate it's worth.
- A very poor choice indeed. Are any of these decisions based on the quality of education provided for the individual child??
- I would not like this option since the school provides for a community focal point. The catchment is unique/distinctive and the atmosphere fostered there is very positive.
- I have been at Logiealmond for the past 7 years. I have always loved it and I would hate it if it closed down as it is a really good school.
- Agree with refurbishing Methven however the lack of focal point in the community for young families would be highly detrimental to the area. Would result in an aging remote population. Which is not in anyone's interest.
- The whole feel of the glen, its warmth and community spirit would be damaged irrevocably by closure.
- Keep Logiealmond open and don't even consider moving to Methven. Terrible idea!
- NO.
- NO I love Logiealmond.
- I love Logiealmond.
- This is not an option for us my children would not go to Methven.
- Really wouldn't like this option to go ahead. I feel we would be losing a very loved and vital part of our community.
- Logiealmond should be celebrated not threatened. It is an excellent school that provides a consistently quality education. Our community is centred on the school – it is how we know each other across this often isolated catchment. We would lose the educational benefit of a fine school, the social benefit of a great community asset and gain nothing.
- No way!
- Keep Logiealmond, it's the best.
- NO.
- This would be profoundly negative for Scottish rural society. The school is sector-leading and highlights all that is good about curriculum for excellence.

It has a low headcount because it has a sparsely-populated community (with a strange catchment size), not because of the education it provides.

Comments received at the drop-in session

Are there any other options/proposals that have not been considered?

Comments

- I support proposals to maintain and enhance the provision at Logiealmond Primary and would argue against any attempt to close Logiealmond Primary on these grounds: 1 the well-being of pupils and staff at Logiealmond. 2. The maintenance of parental choice by keeping a small, rural primary school. 3. The promotion of diversity and inclusion, recognising that provision should be made for those who choose to live (or are required to live) in remote and rural areas like Logiealmond.
- This is a wonderful resource which should be safeguarded – getting children into the countryside and out of doors is a drive for many early years' enhancers. If (as I hope) Scotland delays formal education to come in line with many western countries – this school is the ideal for our youngest pupils to thrive, before they encounter larger groups etc. a nursery, a nurture class or similar could easily be accommodated in this "A" type provision(suitability). This alongside local children if numbers are low, if numbers increase then the school might not have the capacity for additional purposes. Let's be creative and use what is an excellent provision rather than opt for even bigger schools.1. Community buy out. 2. Investment by the owner of the school building. Finally put something back into the area. 3. Open school up to wider community eg evening meetings, clubs, talks etc
- At least 18 pre-school children in the area so projected pupil roll is nonsense. Actual projection for 2021 should be in excess of 20-30, many more is school is adequately supported.
- Reduce capacity of Logiealmond by moving the dining room inside. This decreases the capacity – increasing the school roll and removes the stand alone dining room which moves the condition of the building from a grade C to B.
- The spare capacity could be used to provide care for 3-5 yr olds as recommended by the Commission on Rural Education.
- A nursery I feel would be a really good option for the school. Encouraging children to carry on up through the primary!!
- A nursery!! This would then limit the amount of local children who leave the area to attend nursery than form a connection to the school connected to nursery.
- Nursery/pre-school for younger children. After school clubs, out of school clubs sub-let area.
- We would like the council to be supportive and ambitious. Logiealmond is a tremendous school and we should be enabling more children to access its benefits.

- A nursery – within walking distance of many people’s homes, reducing our carbon footprint and encouraging healthy children!
- Reduce school capacity as recommended for Methven and use that space for pre-school/after school care.
- Establish nursery/pre-school. Ensure after-school club. Both these options could guarantee greater pupil numbers. There is a desperate need for nursery/pre-school provision in the area as there is a lot of pre-school kids looking forward to a Logiealmond education.
- The area is crying out for pre-school care! If Logiealmond were able to provide a space for that, the increase in roll would happen straight away.
- Leave it how it is. It’s great. Don’t close it down!
- For there to be a nursery for the younger community.
- Pre-school/after school care – bound to increase the school roll.
- The building and space would be perfect for a pre-school 3-5 environment. Using the school house building and adding an after school wrap around programme term times only. There is an abundance of qualified staff and young children at Glenalmond/Crieff and 4 mile radius of the school.
- Adding a nursery environment/wrap around care for working parents. The school would reach capacity without a doubt. Keeping the rural school ethos, surroundings – but with up-to-date facilities.
- Keep it as it is.
- The school does not need to change as it seems as a highlight of primary education. Support its growth (after school provision etc) and it will continue to flourish. The projected rolls are simply not reflective of the potential of the local community.

Comments received at the drop-in session

How would you describe the community and what are your thoughts on Logiealmond Primary School as part of the community?

Comments

- Primary school is at the heart of our community – and well supported by local residents as well as parents. Our community needs focal points like the school to help to continue the great community feel and include our younger members of society to feel part of that.
- It is great and I really like it.
- Logiealmond is exceptional, community beetle drives, plant sales, Christmas shows – they all attract all the local community. It forms the heart of a rural society. To remove the school is to damage Scottish rural community.
- I have dealings with many children from various schools in the area (6+ schools). The pupils from Logiealmond stand out above the rest as the most confident, clever, well-mannered children. Always 1st to volunteer and help their fellow cub scouts with whatever is asked of them. This helped us decide we would like our son to attend Logiealmond PS when he is of age.
- Farming community and elderly retirees. Logiealmond School is the heart of the community.
- As a previous parent – the school is very much part of the local community as is Chapel Hill Hall/other local amenities. Rural schools are unique and specialised and should be preserved, bringing more young families into rural communities.
- Logiealmond is the lynchpin of this community. We would not know each other without it. In this area your closest neighbours can be miles away. We have a profound sense of community here and it is almost entirely due to the school and the connections it enables.
- Very popular stay and play sessions for pre-school kids are run at Logiealmond. Nothing else like this in the area. All kids attending are intending to go to Logiealmond Primary in due course.
- Vital. Great cross section of life is brought together. Closing the attainment gap.
- Logiealmond P.S. is the heart of an already fragile, rural, local community. The pupils who attend here are the most polite, well mannered, bright children you could ever hope to meet. The school is the focal point, hosting many a coffee morning and flower sale!
- Very important part of the community. Communication, friendships, community spirit. Good learning of life skills in so many ways!
- It is a rural community with a broad mix of people, incomes and jobs. The school provides the only place locally where children from these different backgrounds interact.

- The school is a fundamental part of the local community, linking a disparate population. The community is mix of demographics. A blend of agriculture and other rural occupations and education.
- Really excellent resource for the community, which could have even more positive benefits if after school care. It would encourage more young families to the area and ae it a more sustainable community.
- The community is not well serviced – there is no local public transport, there is an issue about water, broadband is patchy or non-existent. The school is one of the few services remaining.
- To keep the community together it's imperative that the primary school is kept open.
- The community is to spread out and from very different backgrounds ie, academic from college, agriculture, from farms and other tourism related industries and services. The school brings these backgrounds together with wonderful results.
- Logiealmond is a very important part of the community. Without the school I would not know any other families in the area about Glenalmond College
- Logiealmond is friendly and it is good because it is small and you get to know your classmates really well. It is good because as it is small it means you get lots of help from the teachers.
- Logiealmond P.S. is vital to the community. It's like a home-from-home for our son and his friends. The school bus does a circular route round the glen and the children have a very strong sense of place and security. It's heart-breaking to see how potential closure saddens the children.
- School is essential part of the local community and for parents/children to mix with locals. Methven PS would not provide that opportunity.
- Events such as plant sales etc bring together the wider community.
- Important local employer
- It is a friendly community with lots of friendly faces. Everyone pulls together. The school is a great opportunity for the children to have a high standard of education.
- As a new mum to the area, the school has been absolutely fundamental in creating friendships with others in the community. Nativity plays @ Xmas, bonfire parties @ Halloween, coffee mornings, gardening, textile recycling and the toddler group are some of the many elements of the school that make it so important.
- Fun. Good.

Comments received at the drop-in session

What do you think are the reasons the school roll is low?

Comments

- Not many people have heard of the school.
- Parents may work out with the area so child may attend schools handiest for parents.
- Lack of available housing. Lack of decent housing. Lack of land to build housing. HOUSING.
- Elderly retirees' only ones to afford the few available houses. Ergo no young children.
- No infrastructure/amenities to entice new residents. Nothing for youth eg youth clubs. No incentive.
- The occupancy rate doesn't seem to correspond to the amount of inhabitants in the area.
- It is not low. It is a rural community with relatively few (compared to urban settings) kids. The roll has grown in the last 7 years because it is fantastic school. The school has had to compete against neighbouring schools with after-school provision. When Logiealmond gets this the roll will expand quickly.
- Rural area – not high density housing. Private house prices rather high so often bought by people who are older. New house building has attracted some younger people.
- Lack of pre-school provisions. There is an abundance of children local to the school that travel out with the area to nursery – they then form connections to the associated schools. As a parent of a baby I would love there to be a nursery @ Logiealmond, within walking distance of our home.
- Would like to have nursery at the school. I feel this would encourage children to stay right through. Especially now with mother & toddler and after-school club.
- High land and house prices reduce the potential for young families to settle here.
- Lack of nursery at the school. Children who start at other nurseries then tend to stay on at the school it is connected to.
- Many empty estate houses in catchment, no service bus route, no pre-school/after school care, not enough power cuts/single men.
- Empty estate properties not being let. Poor water quality problems may have put people off moving to the area (but note new borehole proposals might influence this medium term).
- The school has lost students in the past because of the constant reviewing of the school status. Refurbishing the school would make it v. desirable.
- Catchment areas need assessing! We need a bus route.

- Logiealmond needs a nursery or pre-school. There are many potential students but they go to nursery in Crieff/Perth and make a natural progression to the school attached.
- Preschool/nursery would help. After school care.
- The school roll is not low considering the number of houses in the catchment area. The school roll is increasing there are 15+ under 5's in the area.
- High rents at some of the properties leaving the properties empty.
- Parents want stability for their children and know of the past threat of closure so want to avoid the possibility of changing schools. Negative media coverage has contributed to this.
- No after-school provision. No pre-school/nursery. Ongoing threat to school from council.
- Demographics... set to rise with many young families starting families at Glenalmond.
- Lack of a pre-school provision, (where there is perfect space to expand – the school house) wrap around care. Catchment area should be expanded to further rural area where families have chosen to move to.
- Historically, past issues with catchments/boundaries means children went to Methven and then made difficult to increase/gain momentum.