

## Community Council: Dull and Weem

Dull and Weem Community Council area sits to the north of Aberfeldy and includes a number of villages/hamlets to the north of the River Tay including Dull, Weem, Boltachan, Camserney, Coshieville, and Keltneyburn. The area is connected to Aberfeldy as the main service centre, as well as Kenmore/Loch Tay/Glen Lyon to the west, Rannoch to the north and onward connections to the east via the A9/A827.

Two comments were received for the Dull and Weem Community Council area, as well as issues for the area raised by children at the primary school session at Breadalbane Community Campus. A Community Action Plan is being developed for the Community Council area.

### 1. Moving Around (-)

Difficulty to move around and access services in Aberfeldy for those living more rurally including Dull, Weem, Coshieville and Camserney. Concerns raised about ease of using Wade Bridge, with no traffic lights for pedestrian use. Not many children walk to school which can make school drop off and pick up times busy.

Cycling can be difficult and unsafe due to road surfaces, topography, and traffic. Suggestions for improved opportunities for off-road cycling connecting up the villages, improving access across Wiggly Bridge and working with Forestry Commission/Community Council to extend existing user path to multi-user.

### 2. Public Transport (-)

Bus service provision not serving wider rural community sufficiently, with need for integrated public transport system. Lack of safe bike storage in Aberfeldy discourages use of public transport.

Suggestions for more local buses, 'demand-led' buses and bike storage in Aberfeldy to support reduced car use.

### 3. Traffic and Parking (-)

Evidence of speeding on local roads and large vehicles on narrow rural roads e.g. tractors, HGVs, logging lorries. Parking for local trails can also be an issue for some.

### 4. Streets, Squares and Buildings (-)

No comments.

### 5. Natural Spaces (-)

Mixed feelings around access to nature with some noting good paths with other comments suggesting improvements needed including parking and improved path network. Recognition is made that the area is of high natural quality surrounded by woodland and farming land.

### 6. Play and recreation (-)

Living rurally means that you have to drive to access facilities. Weems woods is highlighted as not having formal play opportunities but recognised that there aren't many residents in the local area. Swimming at the north end of Tay at Wade Bridge highlighted as a good spot.

## 7. Facilities and Services (-)

Poor broadband and mobile signal highlighted as a concern for those living rurally. In terms of community groups there is so much for people to do but there are lonely/isolated people where we should be providing support.

## 8. Work and Local Economy (-)

Key concerns raised include the difficulty for business start-ups and lack of housing to support workers, including young people who want to stay in the area. Poor quality internet is highlighted as an issue with improvements sought. Providing affordable housing for young people – both of local origin and from further afield who have necessary skills – is suggested as a way to support the local economy.

## 9. Housing and Community (-)

Fuel poverty and lack of affordable housing highlighted as key issues in relation to housing. The gap between earnings and housing affordability also noted as an issue. Suggestions to help address the situation including restricting/controlling second home and short term let accommodation, and providing more - and prioritising - affordable housing e.g. smaller homes.

## 10. Social Interaction (-)

There are a range of activities in village halls however opportunities outwith Aberfeldy are noted as limited. Suggestion for improvement includes relaxing planning rules to make it easier for people to start and grow new initiatives/enterprises.

## 11. Identity & Belonging (-)

Generally there is a good sense of community and belonging in the local area. This includes being proud of the surrounding natural environment and the sense of community.

There are a number of respondents who highlight concerns including instances of non-inclusive behaviour towards certain groups of people and the Taymouth Castle development showing that the community is not as united as it thinks.

## 12. Feeling Safe (-)

The area is generally considered safe with exception of cycling on the roads with the suggestion for safer walking and cycling routes. There are noted instances of non-inclusive behaviour towards certain groups which the police should take seriously. Closer links to local policing also suggested, underpinned by a feeling that whilst the area is not unsafe this is despite a negligible presence of 'law and order'.

## 13. Care & Maintenance (-)

With dog fouling an issue, more bins are suggested especially over Wade's Bridge towards Weem.

## 14. Influence & Sense of Control (-)

Shortcomings in the Community Council highlighted by respondents with no engagement highlighted and concerns around the election of members not being democratic and therefore potentially not reflecting views of residents accurately.