

Community Council: Spittalfield and District

Spittalfield and District Community Council is a rural area to the north of Perth and incorporates a number of villages including Spittalfield, Murthly, Gellyburn, Meikleour, and Caputh. The River Tay and A9 trunk road both run through the area.

A place standard session was held in Murthly. A total of 7 people attended an event or responded to the place standard survey. The Spittalfield and District Community Council is currently not active.

1. Moving Around (-)

There are concerns raised about traffic speeding around Murthly primary school as well as the narrow path to the school from the village. Driver behaviour negatively affecting people cycling in the area is also highlighted.

Suggested improvements include additional/improved walking/cycling routes including to the primary school, to Stewart's Tower, and to Taymount/Five Mile Woods.

2. Public Transport (-)

Public transport options are highlighted as being limited with lack of a link to Dunkeld/Birnam and irregular services. A number of respondents note that they don't/rarely use public transport as a result.

Suggested improvements include reopening train station at Murthly to connect with Perth and Dunkeld.

3. Traffic & Parking (-)

Speeding in the village including near Murthly primary school is highlighted as a concern, as well as the impact of additional traffic from new developments in the area. Cyclists and farm vehicles can also cause dangerous situations on surrounding rural roads.

A suggested improvement for the area is to create dedicated cycle paths.

4. Streets, Squares & Buildings (-)

The area is generally considered to be good in terms of condition of buildings, with residents taking good care of their own properties. The only derelict building highlighted was the old railway station building which could be reopened.

5. Natural Spaces (-)

The area is generally considered to be well connect to nature, with plenty of wildlife and opportunities for walking. The work of the West Stormont Woodland Group is highlighted.

Suggested improvements include leaving the wild places truly wild.

6. Play & Recreation (-)

The Druids in Murthly is noted as a good spot for playing. Generally the local area is noted as having great facilities however this is limited to those who have access to a car.

Improved public transport is highlighted as a good way to allow kids to access the new recreation ground in Dunkeld.

7. Facilities & Services (-)

The shop in Murthly is recognised as being good, with services generally accessed in Perth. The lack of things to do in Perth City Centre is noted, as well as having to use the car to access services in Dunkeld. Improved services in Murthly is also suggested from those aged under 12.

Reopening the train station in Murthly is seen as a way to improve access to facilities and services.

8. Work & Local Economy (-)

Limited opportunities for younger people is highlighted as well as needing a car to access jobs and learning support opportunities in the area. Opportunities exist in Perth however this is changing as a result of working from home options which is impacting on the city centre.

Reopening the train station in Murthly is seen as a way to improve access to opportunities in Perth and Dunkeld.

9. Housing & Community (-)

It is considered the existing housing meets the needs of the community, however it is highlighted that any new housing developments will need to consider any necessary infrastructure upgrades.

10. Social Interaction (-)

Existing opportunities are considered to be good and it is highlighted that some people may be happy to travel to other places for socialising and enjoy the way the community currently works.

11. Identity & Belonging (-)

It is highlighted that people are proud to live in Murthly, with suggestions for improvement including improved Council grass cutting and weed control.

12. Feeling Safe (-)

It is noted that people generally feel safe in Murthly with anti-social behaviour/vandalism not being an issue in the village. Some note concerns around flooding around Druid Stones (path) and that they feel less safe than they did previously.

A suggestion is to have more police presence in the local area.

13. Care & Maintenance (-)

It is noted that there are some buildings/gardens that are unkempt with some limited evidence of litter and dog fouling in Murthly.

Suggested improvements include extra dog litter bins in the housing estate/near cricket pitch and re-opening the old railway station building in Murthly.

14. Influence & Sense of Control (-)

A comment is noted that the Council shouldn't assume that everyone uses social media as a way to reach people for consultation/engagement purposes.