

# Torry's **Vision**

Spring 2017



## In this issue:

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LIVING STREETS  
PARTICIPATORY  
BUDGETING  
DOLPHIN WATCH

[www.shmu.org.uk/press](http://www.shmu.org.uk/press)

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## Editorial

Welcome to the Spring edition of Torry's Vision community magazine. Read on for news from RSPB Dolphin Watch, Greyhope Bay and the Participatory Budgeting team in Torry.

If you would like to get involved and join the editorial team or if you have ideas for the community publication, you can easily get in touch with us. The staff at SHMU are able to support and train anyone living in the area who is interested in developing their ideas and skills in either writing, photography or proof reading. So please don't be shy, this is your magazine written, edited and designed by the good folk of Torry.

If you live in Torry and would like to come along to the editorial meetings or submit an article then get in touch with Laura at SHMU on 01224 515013 or you can email her on [laura.young@shmu.org.uk](mailto:laura.young@shmu.org.uk).

You can also view this magazine alongside previous editions on the SHMU website [www.shmu.org.uk](http://www.shmu.org.uk) then click the 'PRESS' option.



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## New school for Torry gets the green light

Aberdeen City Council's Education and Children's Services committee have approved a new primary school for the Torry area.

The new school which would include early learning and childcare facilities and a Community Hub is scheduled to be built on the site of Torry Academy. It is expected to be operational for the start of the 2020/21 academic year in August 2020.

The plan follows a review of education provision in the Torry community, recognising the rising school aged population resulting from new housing developments and increased birth rates in the area.

Councillor Angela Taylor, Convener of the Education and Children's Services committee at Aberdeen City Council said: "We recognise that Torry is a close knit Aberdeen community that has its own distinct identity and so a new purpose built Community Hub is vitally important to the area".

The news follows a period of public consultation which also included seeking comments on proposals to re-zone the existing zone south of Balnagask Road from Walker Road School to Tullos School from the start of the 2017/2018 academic year re-zone some areas currently in the Tullos and Walker Road School boundaries into a new zone which will be serviced by the new, third Torry primary school by August 2020.

The new school will also help Aberdeen City Council meet national plans to expand early learning and childcare entitlements across the country by 2020.

## Arrested Development

The first homes on a former prison site will soon be completed.

Twelve 2-bedroom houses for mid-market rent in Torry, Aberdeen will be allocated to key workers. The much-needed properties will provide affordable accommodation for those employed in the public sector.

A total of 124 homes are under construction on land once occupied by HMP Craiginchies. An

£8 million grant from the Scottish Government made the £21 million project possible.

Minister for Local Government and Housing, Kevin Stewart MSP, cut the sod for construction work to begin last September. Homes will be handed over in clusters as soon as they are ready.

The final homes on the prison site will be completed in early 2018.

## Balnagask Community Centre

The centre has spaces for new members in the following two classes.

### Keep Fit Class

This class runs on a Tuesday at 10am and is open to the over 50s. They want to keep people active and have a bit of fun. The session costs £1.50 and you get a cup of tea or coffee beforehand.

### Zumba Class

These classes are open to over 50s and run on a Friday afternoon at 1:15pm. This class costs £2 per person and again this includes a cup of tea or coffee.

**For more information give Hazel a call on 01224 871206.**

# LIVING STREETS FOR TORRY VISION

We have just finished working alongside Living Streets and Torry residents to complete a Community Street Audit. Living Streets is an organisation dedicated to creating a walking nation. We started off this project by completing a residents survey. We spoke to residents of the identified area to get their feedback and views, good or bad on living in the area. From here we gathered a group of interested local people and held a Community Street Audit (CSA) on Monday the 6th of February. Due to its popularity, we held both a morning and an afternoon session. The CSA brought the groups out to canvas area from Tullos Primary School to the Hen Hooses and then on to Old Torry Community Centre with clipboards to note areas

for improvement. This included missing handrails, incorrectly placed tactile paving, tripping hazards and dog fouling.

Residents noticed that there was lots of green space but more could be done to maintain it. There were also suggestions to improve accessibility for people in wheelchairs or families with prams. Recommendations included planting new bushes, lowering kerbs and improving ramps.

In addition to this, we also held a School Route Audit where Living Streets staff came in to work with a group of nine pupils from the area over two mornings. In the first session we used giant maps to map out where the pupils lived and their route to school before using stickies to write down the good and

bad points of their journey. In the final session, we took to the streets to conduct a mini audit. Each of the young people had a role to play, pretending to be a parent with a pram, an older person or a visually impaired person and taking time to think about how they would be affected by things like obstructions to pavements or tripping hazards. We also had 'bingo spotters' where the young people had to tick things they noticed, each time they noticed them.

Living Streets have now taken all the information they have gathered during this time to collate into a report. This report will be inclusive of a list of recommendations for improvements in the area which will be available to stakeholders and local people.

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## TORRY OLDER PEOPLES' HEALTH AND WELLBEING NETWORK

The Network has survived its first year and is looking forward to expanding our aim of reducing social isolation for older people in Torry. Our meetings are currently held on Friday mornings in the foyer of Balnagask House 10:15am to 12 noon on Friday mornings and everyone is welcome to come along.

Last year we enjoyed a number of information and training sessions about issues that may affect us as we get older, including the impact of alcohol, domestic abuse, coping with dementia, fire safety etc but

we are much more than just a 'talking shop.'

We met with residents of Brimmond Court and as a result were instrumental in helping to re-establish weekly armchair exercise sessions for the residents.

Our Halloween Tea Party was a great success and two more tea parties are planned for 2017. Our Action Plan is updated at our weekly meetings and we spread the word of our activities and plans within our community.

We have submitted funding bids to continue our group and more

excitingly, to conduct a feasibility study into the possibility of developing a community orchard in Torry. We believe that a project like this can help encourage older people to get involved and take part.

If you are an older person, living in Torry and aren't busy on a Friday morning, please come along and help us turn our plans into action – if you are a Torry Man this includes you too.

**For more information  
contact Balnagask House  
on 01224 871158**

# Is the St Fittick Rotary Club Torry's best kept secret?

Each Rotary Club has a recognised area. Ours is Torry and we get involved in various activities for the benefit of the Torry community.

Here, we look back to what we have been up to in recent months and look forward to some exciting activities ahead.



## Litter pick at Torry Battery

In November, we joined our young friends at Rotaract (Rotaract is the branch of Rotary for students and younger people) at a litter pick the Torry Battery. As we all know this area is getting more popular and more used by the dolphin watchers. It certainly looked better after several bags of litter and other rubbish were collected and disposed of on the day.

Our next pick is at the riverside beside Victoria Bridge in May.



## Shoeboxes

Shortly before Christmas each year St Fittick joins forces with the

schools for our annual Shoebox appeal.

Boxes were delivered to the schools in September. Five of our Schools took part this year, Kirkhill, Abbotswell, Walker Road, Charleston and Torry Academy.

With the enthusiastic and generous support of the pupils, staff and parents, the result was a record year with an incredible 186 boxes filled (not to mention a Star Wars helmet that was too big to fit in a box!).

All the filled boxes were packed on pallets by Dyce Transportation ready for transportation to Eastern European countries ready for Christmas.

A framed certificate was awarded to each school that has taken part, thanking them for their efforts.



## Purple Crocuses

As well as working closely with local communities, Rotary worldwide takes on major challenges.

For over 30 years, Rotary and its members have been committed to fighting to eradicate polio across the world. The amount of polio-endemic countries has dropped from 125 to just three, with over 2.5 billion children receiving vaccinations thanks to the help of Rotary.

With eradication now closer than ever, Rotary International

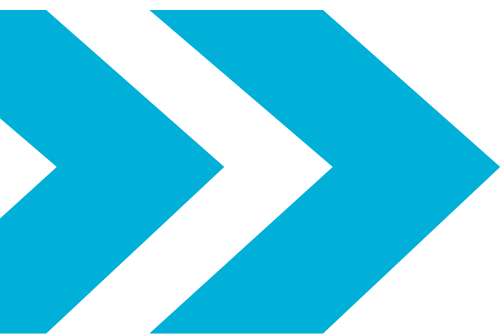
in Great Britain and Ireland's latest campaign, Purple4Polio, is designed to unite communities to engage in activities as part of the final push to eradicate polio for good. The purple crocus is a symbol of Rotary's worldwide campaign to eradicate polio, with its colour representing the purple dye used to mark the finger of a child who has been immunised.

We joined forces with Walker Road Primary School and gardeners from the Council to plant some 5000 crocus corms on an area of grass next to the roundabout as you enter Torry on the Queen Elizabeth Bridge. Good fun was had by all. Hopefully, by the time you read this, you should be able see a dazzling show of colour to brightening up this much-used entrance into Torry.

We say "thank you and well done folks" and we're ready for the next piece of ground wherever it is!

**If you think we can help you with anything you are doing or planning, get in touch. Also, we are always looking for enthusiastic new members to help us help others. For more information check out our Facebook page, our website [www.StFittick.rotary1010.org](http://www.StFittick.rotary1010.org) or get in touch, [rotarystfittick@gmail.com](mailto:rotarystfittick@gmail.com).**





# **U Decided Torry – U Sure Did!**

## **This is the beginning not the end.....**

**U Decide came to a dramatic close in March with £82,500 being awarded to projects the people of Torry voted for! In-fact over 1000 Torry residents voted – a whopping 10% of the entire population!**

U Decide was launched at the Our Place, Our Priorities event last September as a fund for any project, individual or group with an idea that linked to the priorities that were identified by the community. The criteria was further shaped by a local steering group who managed the process from start to finish.

The response has been amazing 55 bids were put forward, totalling £420,000, ranging from speeding signs, new signage for Torry and a community orchard to name but a few.

At the start of the voting period an opening event took place on the 25th February where all bidders had a stall and hundreds of voters stopped by for a chat, There was a decided buzz as residents grilled stall holders before they cast their vote. Following this, a 2-week roadshow visited venues such as sheltered housing, schools local shops and community centres. Our aim was to be as inclusive as possible. Voting took place online and offline.

The final event was held on Saturday the 11th March, where the winners were announced:

- **Dance Club, Walker Road Dancers, £3,925**
- **Family Fun Day and Fundraiser (Dolphin Centre), £15,000**
- **Maths Camp, Torry Academy, £5000**
- **Support Big Noise Torry! £15,000**
- **Torry Academy Year of Celebration, Torry Academy, £15,000**
- **Extreme Summer, Transition Extreme, £13,640**
- **Youth Club, Jesus House Torry, £14,935**

There were so many positive ideas generated a list of potential funders has been circulated to all the bidders. A networking event has been planned for April to bring all bidders together with funding experts.

It is so exciting to see such community action against the priorities of the Locality Plan, if you enjoyed this process and want to get further involved why not consider joining the Locality Partnership? Please read on...

We need your skills enthusiasm and experience! We need you!

Do you want to see change in Torry? Do you want to work in partnership to deliver action?

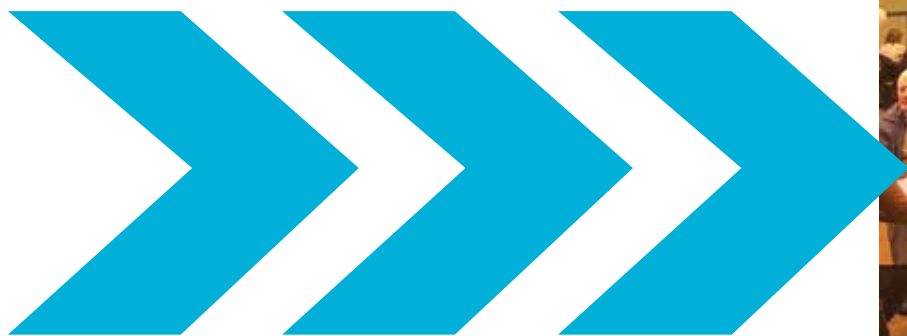
Do you live in Torry?

If the answer is YES then read on and put your name in the hat!

We are looking for committed residents to join a new Locality Partnership which will oversee the delivery of a 10 Year Improvement Plan for Torry. This will involve local meetings in Torry and a commitment to work with the community, third sector, private and public services to make change happen

### **THE LOCALITY PLAN**

During 2016, Community Planning Aberdeen started drafting a Locality



Plan for Torry, which sets out the vision of local people for the area. Identifies the priorities of the community and early ideas for making improvement.

The priorities have been developed in partnership with Torry residents who have put forward their views and ideas through a range of events, consultations and focus groups over the last couple of years.

The plan is very much a draft and will be developed further through discussion and debate in the community over the coming months and taken forward by the Locality Partnership. Please contact Anne Marie Steehouder Ross for a copy.

#### LOCALITY PARTNERSHIP

The Locality Partnership will manage and oversee the plan and ensure it delivers change for Torry, by working in partnership with the community and a range of third sector, private and public services partners. Together we can make a real a difference, together we can take action.

We want at least 50% of the Partnership to be members of the community and are appealing to you to get involved. Please contact Anne Marie Steehouder Ross, [asteehouder@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:asteehouder@aberdeencity.gov.uk), 01224 498167



## SHMU Tullos greenspace update March 2017

The Tullos Greenspace Participatory Budgeting project is now well underway! Local tenants and residents are involved in developing and making decisions on the best ideas to develop the overgrown space for community use.

We have gathered ideas from local residents, with a community wildlife garden and growing space coming out as very popular. Although a playpark was also on the list of top ideas, due to planning restrictions and ongoing maintenance a traditional playpark will not be able to be considered for the area at this time

Some Initial cutting back has taken place during February to enable the local group and those involved to begin to make some design ideas for the site which will be taken out to be voted on by local residents.

Surveys of the local wildlife, trees and plants are also taking place to enable us to take care of what is already there but also help guide us in opening up the area to have some functional usable open spaces.

There are lots of exciting options to be explored including low level wooden ground structures, bird houses and willow structures, seating areas and pathways, along with bug mansions and community growing areas!

We hope to have a decision on the most popular design in the next couple of months and the development hopefully finished with the target of summer this year.

If you would like to get involved in the project or would like to know more please get in touch with

Anne-Marie Steehouder-Ross on [asteehouder@aberdeencity.gov.uk](mailto:asteehouder@aberdeencity.gov.uk) or 01224 498167.

## Torry Community Christmas Fun Fair 2016 – A Huge Success

Torry Children Christmas Party 2016 was an awesome time on the 10th December 2016. This was a great time for all Children in Torry Community, as over 200 children gathered for the biggest party ever. Every child had lots of fun, received gifts, free lunch and had entertainments. Each family left with a gift basket. Feedback from Parents and children shows this community Christmas time together was a huge success. We look forward to Torry Community Christmas Party 2017.

### JESUS HOUSE TORRY HOSTS RESIDENCE OF TORRY TO BREAKFAST

As we continue to impact lives and bring joy to our community, we have launched a new Jesus House Torry project in 2017. We now provide free morning breakfast for all the residents of Torry. This is open to everyone in the community to come along at the following times:

**Tuesdays: 9am – 11am**

**Thursdays: 9am – 11am**

**Venue: Jesus House Torry,  
191 Victoria Road, Aberdeen.**

All classes of breakfast are served, well prepared, hot or cold are served to attendees. Anyone and everyone is welcome.

### ONGOING PROJECTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

#### FOOD BANK SERVICES

Food Bank services are available at Jesus House Torry. The services are open at the following times:

**Sundays: 1pm to 2pm**

**Tuesdays: 10am – 12pm**

**Thursdays: 10am – 12pm**

Items in the food bank include groceries, fridge/freezer foods, etc. It is open to everyone in Torry Community and beyond. Community members are encouraged to come in and pick up the items available.

#### COMMUNITY LESSONS

Are you looking for a teacher to assist your child in Mathematics and English?

Jesus House Torry organizes extra lessons for children from ages 4 – 12. We assist in Primary School Mathematics and English using online resources. Our trained and friendly volunteers are there to assist your child if you need assistance in a particular topic in Mathematics. The classes hold every Saturday from 1700 – 1800. To register your child and for more information, call the Church Office on 01224874158/07456896999 or email [realheroes@jesushousetorry.org](mailto:realheroes@jesushousetorry.org)

### SUMMER PICNIC

Activities during the picnic will include music concert in the park, dance and prayers for the community. Also, gift materials would be shared, there will be free barbeque and free lunch served to all participants. It shall truly be a moment of sharing love.

### CHILDREN SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITY 2017

This Summer holiday activity for kids is aimed at bringing them together to have fun, learn through different exciting mini projects, thereby increasing their wealth of holiday experience. Snacks and meals will be served free and other wonderful freebies to go home with. Date is from 24th to 30th of July 2017. Time is 9am to 1pm daily. Parents are encouraged to register their interest now, as there is limited spaces.

#### ABOUT JESUS HOUSE TORRY

The Redeemed Christian Church of God (RCCG), Jesus House Torry is a church located at 191 Victoria Road, Torry Aberdeen. The vision and driving principle of the charity is "Impacting Lives, Restoring Hope, Bringing Joy" to Torry Community. The Church meetings are as follows:

**Sundays: 11am – 1pm**

**Tuesdays: 6.30pm – 8.00pm**

Everyone is welcome. The Church is always open to the need of the community members on Mondays to Fridays 9am to 4pm. Kindly contact us on t:01224-874158; e:[info@jesushousetorry.org](mailto:info@jesushousetorry.org)



## Torry United

Torry United is a transition programme working with all 3 Torry schools, Walker Road, Tullos & Torry Academy. The programme is funded through the participatory budget which is money allocated in certain areas, voted by local people. The programme is ran by Aberdeen FC Community Trust, Aberdeen FC's charity partner. AFCCT coaches pick up 10 primary 7 pupils from both primary schools and walk them up to the academy. The primary school pupils are then met at the school by up to 10 1st year pupils who are 'Young Leaders'. All the pupils then take part in an educational session which is based around healthy

lifestyle choices and team building. All pupils then take part in an hour long football participation session at the academy.

The programme runs on a Monday after school as Monday as youth crime rates is at its highest on a Monday night. AFCCT are in constant discussion with all 3 schools trying to tackle local issues which may arise. If you are interested to find out more information about the programme or AFCCT in general please visit [www.afccommunitytrust.org](http://www.afccommunitytrust.org) of contact Community Projects Officer Dean McBain, dean.mcbain@afccommunitytrust.org



## TEA BREAK READING - 30 SECOND TIP BITS Written by Mandy "The Quine fae Torry"

A wee read whilst you take yur Tea Break:

- Students, some wee handy hints – Do you need to cram? The best way to study is 30 to 50 minutes at a time with a 10-minute break. Furthermore, did you know by writing down your worries before taking an exam has been proven to actually boost test scores!
- Thinking of going to College or University? Did you know if you go to Chegg.com, you could rent expensive textbooks online for a semester instead of buying all at the bookstore!
- Looking to go on holiday this summer? Well on Tuesdays at 3.00 pm (15.00 hrs), six weeks before your flight, is when tickets are the absolute cheapest.
- If you are looking to buy headphones / speakers, test them with Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody, as it has the complete set of highs and lows in instruments and vocals.
- If the wee one has been sick and you can clean up the sickness by putting ground coffee on it first, not only does it takes away the smell but also dehydrates it so that you can clean it up easier.
- Did you know? The expiration dates on the water bottles you buy is for the bottle and not the water!

# ABERDEEN'S AMAZING DOLPHINS

## RSPB Dolphinwatch returns to Torry for fifth year

Did you know that Aberdeen is one of the best places in Europe to see bottlenose dolphins?

I'm sure you did, since Torry Battery is a dolphin watching hotspot. It's particularly unusual to see dolphins so regularly, so close to a city centre, but the battery car park offers the perfect vantage point from which to watch their amazing behaviour.

The opportunity to showcase this special wildlife spectacle was too important to miss and in 2013 we started Dolphinwatch. Regular visitors to Torry Battery will know that dolphins can be seen all year round but humans tend to struggle with the winter temperatures so we run Dolphinwatch from April until August! Over the last four years, we have seen dolphins on more than 88% of Dolphinwatch days, with a peak of 95% of the days in 2015.

### **That is truly phenomenal!**

Our aim is to inspire people to care passionately about nature and want to protect it, but we also hope

that the project is helping to put Torry, Aberdeen and the whole NE coastline on the map as a wonderful place to see wildlife. Over the last four years, we have recorded nearly 14,000 visits to Dolphinwatch, from regular visitors, to others from as far afield as Malaysia and Mexico.

The project would not be possible without the support of our partners, volunteers and visitors. Dolphinwatch is a partnership between RSPB Scotland, VisitAberdeenshire, Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen Harbour (through the Community Action Fund) and Whale and Dolphin Conservation.

### **Last year's success**

In 2016, the onsite staff had amazing support from a large volunteer team, who between them contributed 1209 hours of their time. 4751 visits were made to Dolphinwatch including Kevin Stewart MSP and Lewis MacDonald MSP who came for the second year running. Most visitors were not disappointed, with dolphins being seen regularly. It's hardly surprising

then that when visitors were asked for feedback 100% said they would recommend RSPB Dolphinwatch to friends and family.

### **This year's plans**

This year the Dolphinwatch team, Jenny and Amy, along with volunteers, will be at Torry Battery from 11am-6pm every Thursday to Sunday, from 7 April until 20 August. Armed with bags of enthusiasm plus binoculars and telescopes provided by Viking Optical, they will help visitors get the best views possible, so please pop by and say hello.

They will also be running events such as beach cleans and rock pool rambles and a big family fun day to celebrate the start of the school holidays on Sunday 2 July.

If you would like to find out more or volunteer with Dolphinwatch, please email [Dolphinwatch@rspb.org.uk](mailto:Dolphinwatch@rspb.org.uk), find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/RSPBNorthEastScotland](https://www.facebook.com/RSPBNorthEastScotland) or follow us on twitter [@RSPB\\_NEScotland](https://twitter.com/RSPB_NEScotland) (#RSPBDolphinwatch)



# GREYHOPE BAY

## DR FIONA MCINTYRE

Ours is the Granite City BY THE SEA and as such we are innately connected. From the seaside charms of Footdee, our golden beach stretching between the Don and the Dee, to the atmospheric drama of the haar rolling in. It is also in its imagery, that Aberdeen's prosperity from the sea is symbolised - in that iconic view of oil industry support boats dotted along the horizon.

And yet through its relationship to the sea Aberdeen has so much more to offer.

This, in particular, has never been truer for Torry. Torry's beauty in setting, heritage and wildlife is too often overlooked - its panoramic views from the historic battery, the powerful North Sea crashing against the breakwater, and the joyful near daily visits by our dolphins.

As the city looks to broaden its economic base to a future with a reduced reliance on oil and gas, Aberdeen's development is now being driven by a commitment to strengthen its tourism and cultural sector. It is through nurturing our marine heritage, culture and creative ambition that we can catalyse change for the city to attract visitors, change perceptions and reinvigorate the economy, the city and Torry.

Now is the time to elevate and enhance our connection with the sea.

One such opportunity is our proposed development at Greyhope Bay, a site with spectacular panoramic views of Aberdeen's coast and visiting wildlife.

Greyhope Bay is a charitable organisation with plans for an iconic build and destination centre that will provide a powerful educational experience and facilitate enjoyment and social connection with our marine environment. The centre will include marine science exhibits, theatre space, café and sea themed adventure play park. Nestled between the old and the new the centre will tell our story of innate, historic and future connection to the sea and provide a world class tourism product.

Since incorporation Greyhope Bay has created opportunity, raised finance, secured intent on the land for development, developed architectural designs, and importantly commissioned a consultancy with expertise in the culture economy to independently assess our case for the development.

Our next steps are to raise profile, engage funders and develop programmes of community engagement and as part of this we are planning an exciting weekend event on May 13th with a unique family fun day.

A temporary marquee will be built on site with glass panels to take

advantage of the panoramic views. The family fun day will include an immersive 3D virtual reality tour of the building designs, interactive marine education, a life sized minke whale (!), dolphin watching and heritage trail, food vans and entertainment from community groups.

The event aims to capture the quality, vibrancy, excitement and engagement that Greyhope Bay will provide for generations of visitors in Aberdeen for years to come. Save the date and see you on May 13th!



GREYHOPE BAY

# PATHWAYS

An Aberdeen charity is to carry out audits in the Torry area as part of a project aimed at helping prepare people for work.

Residents will be visited by Pathways Services as interviewers seek to speak to people about the Progress Through Positive Partnerships project and how it could benefit them. Up to 200 homes in each area will be visited.

An audit will be made up to help identify who may eligible to take part in the project and will build a clear picture of issues affecting the regeneration areas. As well as going door-to-door, the interviewers will visit community facilities to try to ensure everyone who meets the criteria has a chance to get involved.

Pathways Services manager Malcolm Pritchard said: "Pathways is delighted to be awarded the contract to carry out skills audits on behalf of Aberdeen City Council in each of the next two years. As an organisation which is committed to helping people of Aberdeen inform the funders of the types of service they feel can best help them to find work."

The project will also focus on specific groups, including: unemployed; those in low-paid employment; clients in recovery; women returners; care leavers; those for whom English is not their first language; ethnic minorities; people facing other disadvantages, including those with long term health issues, disabilities, alcohol or drug misuse issues; ex-offenders; and care leavers.

For more information please contact Pathways on 01224 643 697.

# GRAMPIAN CREDIT UNION

We are all about helping local people have safe accessible savings and access to fair affordable loans. Good money management is the way to make sure you have enough for the good times, and funds to fall back on when things need sorting out.

## **Make a Budget**

Making a budget is the first step towards good money management. You can work out exactly how much you have coming in, and how much you have going out every month.

It's very easy to remember the regular monthly bills like rent or electricity; but what about one-off annual costs like birthdays and Christmas? What do you spend each month just buying a newspaper and coffee on the way to work? Add up the weekly cost, multiply by 52 and divide by 12. You might be surprised how much you spend on the little things.

## **Monitor Your Bank Account**

Make sure you check your bank account regularly. You should check there is enough there to cover your household bills. If you can, have a separate account for household bills and transfer enough into it each month. Check your Direct Debits and charges to make sure you are not paying for a service you are not using.

## **Make Some Changes**

You don't need to make big changes to your lifestyle to save money. It is the little and often

expenses like cans of juice or takeaways that you can cut back on and save. If you spend £2 every weekday on a coffee you spend £250 per year.

## **Budget for Special Events**

Using cash can help control your spending. If you are having a day out, take the amount of cash you can afford to spend, so you are not tempted to overspend on your debit or credit card.

## **Deal with your Debts**

If you have debts and are struggling to pay them, get help. Contact the Citizens Advice Bureau, or speak to Cash in your Pocket for advice on who to contact.

## **Open a Savings Account**

You can start saving easily with Grampian Credit Union. All Credit Union members save as much as they can afford, starting from as little as £3.00 per week, or £12.00 per month.

Use some of the money you save by setting money saving goals to save now and in future.

Call us on 01224 576990, or go to [www.grampiancreditunion.co.uk](http://www.grampiancreditunion.co.uk) to learn more about opening a savings account with Grampian Credit Union.

Regular saving with Grampian Credit Union could help you get a loan in future. Loans are subject to status and affordability.

# INTRODUCING CHANGES TO YOUR WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES

Beginning in March, Aberdeen City Council has introduced changes to household waste and recycling services.

Residents will also start using a wheeled bin for their recycling, replacing the kerbside black box and white bag. All recyclable materials will be collected from a single wheelie bin so there will be no need to separate them, making the service even easier to use. You'll also be able to recycle a wider range of materials including plastic pots, tubs and trays, as well as food and drink cartons.

By introducing a convenient recycling service across Aberdeen, we hope that more people will be encouraged to recycle. The Council's Waste and Recycling team will deliver new, slightly

smaller general waste bins to households. Brown bin collections for recycling food and garden waste will continue unchanged. As well as your garden waste, your brown bin can also take all cooked and uncooked food waste.

The simple act of recycling has enormous benefits for the environment and for Aberdeen:

- It reduces waste which can damage our environment;
- It means that the council spends less on waste disposal and treatment; and
- It allows the materials to be turned into new resources.

You can find out more about the changes at [www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/mixedrecycling](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/mixedrecycling).

## YOUTH WORK IN TORRY

We are a service that uses informal learning to help young people aged 10-25 years to make positive changes in their lives and take action in their communities.

Aberdeen Streetwork Project Staff meet with young people in public places to offer information, advice and support on a range of issues including alcohol, employment, drugs, sexual health and education. We focus on building up positive relationships with young people.

When needed we will challenge anti-social behaviour and work alongside our partners to allow mediation between young people and other groups/residents to take place to resolve such issues.

Aberdeen Streetwork Project Youth Workers are employed by Aberdeen City Council, Youth Development Team and are PVG checked.

**Contact info – Ellie Hepburn, Development Officer**  
**EHEPBURN@aberdeencity.gov.uk** Or **Ann-Marie Morrison, Community Learning Youth Worker**  
**AnnMMorrison@aberdeencity.gov.uk**



Aidan Allan

PT 27

Aidan came to shmu through his Skills Development Scotland advisor and was shy and lacked self-confidence, however he always wanted an apprenticeship within painting and decorating. Aidan particularly enjoyed the music sessions most where he had the opportunity to produce his own song which is something he was extremely proud of. As Aidan continued to progress throughout the shmuTRAIN PT27 course, his confidence developed and Aidan very quickly became a leader of the group and someone that everyone could rely on. He was a motivating, encouraging and supportive group member wherever possible. Aidan then had the opportunity to volunteer at Bauer Radio's Cash for Kids where he was praised for being very helpful, polite and completing the tasks set to him to a high standard. Whilst volunteering at Cash for Kids, Aidan participated in a variety of tasks such as making a bunting for an event, appearing as the mascot and even interviewing some presenters from the radio station. Aidan also sat through a press conference at Pittodrie and sat in through the Friday Night Sport's programme.

Aidan said: "My time at Cash for Kids was really good and I would easily volunteer with them again if I'm not working."

The team at Cash for Kids said: "We would be happy to recommend Aidan to any employer and would welcome Aidan back as a Cash for Kids volunteer any time."

Since graduating from the shmuTRAIN programme with shmu, Aidan is now doing an apprenticeship with UMAX in painting and decorating and has achieved his goal. We are very proud of Aidan and pleased he is now doing what he has always wanted to do.

shmu run Positive Transitions courses throughout the year for young people aged between 16 and 19 who are not in education, employment or training. Positive Transitions is a 12 week employability & skills development course which incorporates community media



training to increase core skills and support young people (16-19) into education, employment or training.

Radio, video and digital music production are used to engage and motivate young people, as well as help to develop confidence, communication and teamwork skills.

Employability sessions cover job search skills, CV's, industry sectors, body language and interview skills with the aim of securing a positive destination.

Young people on the course are supported financially with a training allowance per week plus travel expenses.

The opportunity is available through the SDS Employability fund - 8 spaces for young people from Aberdeen City and 2 spaces for young people from Aberdeenshire (10 in total).

For more information, contact [brian.webb@shmu.org.uk](mailto:brian.webb@shmu.org.uk) or call 01224 515013



## Torry Community Council Reporting Back – March 2017

**We are local men and women who share passion and commitment to voluntarily work for the community in Torry. We meet once a month and make representations on a wide range of matters affecting Torry**

### **Former prison site at Craiginches**

Building work is progressing well!!!

We have a good dialogue with Sanctuary Housing Association who promise to work with the community to support local projects for community benefits for Torry. If you have an idea, please contact Eleanor McEwan, Community Development Manager, Sanctuary Scotland, 2 Donside Village Square

Aberdeen, AB24 2PL Direct No: 01224 283536

### **SISTEMA**

We receive regular updates at our monthly meetings from the local Sistema team and are encouraged by the enjoyment that this is bringing to young folk and their families. We say "keep up the good work guys"

### **Harbour Developments**

The Community Council has opened a dialogue with the Harbour Board and their agents. We are very aware that the environmental and social impacts will be greatest on Torry, and that many issues require clarification and an understanding from the community's viewpoint.

### **Odours in Torry**

Major works over the last 18 months have seen some £12 million pounds' worth of work however there are still problems, so we are not out of the woods yet!! We know that the intervention of independent expert, Professor Rob Jackson made a difference and his involvement concluded at the end of September last year. The job is

not done by any measure and we remain committed to working to get the problems solved.

### **PROPOSED INCINERATOR**

We are still very concerned about the proposed incinerator (aka Energy from Waste Plant) being placed a breath away from Torry, a mere 250 yards from Tullos School. Torry Community Council's stated position is that IF, and that's a big IF, this plant is really needed then it should only be built well way (many miles!) from any residential community given major air pollution and environmental problems that go hand in hand with incinerators. We will continue to make our concerns known at every opportunity and we will continue to oppose this monster incinerator at every stage we can for the future health and wellbeing of everyone in Torry, Aberdeen and landwards areas.

### **Roads in Torry, and south of the Dee**

We continue to make the case for improvements to roads and infrastructure around Torry and the south of Aberdeen given all that all our major roads are currently congested which leads to rat-running, speeding and air pollution. High on that list is to present evidence about cars speeding through local streets in Torry, the heavy lorries on our local streets and bad parking outside schools which affects everyone's children! Measures to tackle speeding are desperately needed and we will continue to push for a range of

measures to make our roads safe for all.

### **Victoria Road School**

A new planning application by Barratt's for 56 units to be built on a completely cleared site was submitted earlier this year has attracted a record 560 written objections which is the highest number for a long long time. The application was thrown out and we await a formal statement from the Council on the future of the school buildings. Will common sense prevail for retention and reuse of the buildings to meet local needs? Watch this space!

### **U-Decide**

The Community Council made bids for some of this money and thanks everyone who gave their support to us from amongst a good set of ideas from folk in Torry.

### **Keeping in touch**

Want to know more? Then come along to our meetings on the third Thursday of each month, which start at 7pm and are usually in the Library, Torry Academy during term time, or contact the Secretary, David Fryer at [secretarytorrycommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:secretarytorrycommunitycouncil@gmail.com) or by phone or 07759 276769. We also have an active Facebook page and ask that you like and follow us through social media.

**David Fryer – Secretary, Torry Community Council – 15th March 2017**

# Community Contacts

## Alcohol

Alcoholics Anonymous 0800 9177 650

Drinkline 0300 123 1110

## Crime

Crimestoppers 0800 555 111

## Drugs

Drugs Action Helpline 01224 594700

## Dentist

Emergency - G-Dens 111

## Doctors

NHS 24 Emergency 111

## Electricity

If you have a power-cut 105

## Family Planning

Aberdeen Community Health and Care Village 0345 337 9900

## Gas

Gas Emergency 0800 111 999

Gas emergency with a meter 0845 606 6766

## Housing

Emergency Repairs 01224 219 282

Call Centre Emergency 0845 608 0929 or 116 123

## Police

Non-emergency 101

## Samaritans

Need to talk 01224 574 488 or 116 123

## Social Work

Social Work Duty Team 0800 7315520

Emergency Out-Of-Hours 01224 693936

Young Carers 01224 212021

## Water

Scottish Water Emergency 0800 0778 778

## CFINE

01224 596156

Home-Start 01224 693545

Pathways 01224 682 939

Cash in your Pocket 0800 953 4330

Citizens Advice 01224 569750

Balnagask Community Centre 01224 871206

Old Torry Community Centre 01224 894925

Tullos Learning Centre 01224 291882

Walker Road Primary School 01224 879720

Tullos Primary School 01224 876621

Torry Academy 01224 876733

Torry Medical Practice 01224 01224 894600

Torry Community Council [contactus@](mailto:contactus@torrycommunitycouncil.org.uk)

[torrycommunitycouncil.org.uk](http://torrycommunitycouncil.org.uk)