**Drumlithie and Glenbervie Community profile**



**Date December 2019**

This Community Profile is produced by the Aberdeenshire Council CLD, CD Team.

It is used to guide and shape the priorities of Learning Community Partnerships.

We’d like to thank all those individuals and groups in Drumlithie/Glenbervie who helped significantly in the production of this Profile.

Glenbervie and District Association

Skite News

The Steeple Shop

Glenbervie School and particularly the pupils of P6/P7 who researched and produced the leaflet.

**Online Sources of Information:**

[Scottish Government Statistics](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics) [Scottish Neighbourhood Statistics](http://www.sns.gov.uk/)

[Street- check – Post codes](https://www.streetcheck.co.uk/postcode/alldistricts) Kincardine-Data-[Appendix](http://www.ouraberdeenshire.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Kincardine-Data-Appendix-2015-FINAL.pdf)

[SIMD](http://simd.scotland.gov.uk/publication-2012/) [Scotland’s Towns Partnership data check](http://www.usp.scot/) [Information Services Division (NHS)](http://www.isdscotland.org/index.asp)

[Scottish Government Evidence Finder](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/People/Equality/Equalities/DataGrid) [Scottish Government Statistics](http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Statistics)

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[](http://www.google.co.uk/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwj6zYflmfDfAhUEXRoKHSWvBHcQjRx6BAgBEAU&url=http://www.mearns.org/skite.htm&psig=AOvVaw0n5jh72_Hf9tLzL_vdPtQk&ust=1547655872551396)

**Network: Kincardine and Mearns**

**Area: Drumlithie and Glenbervie**

**Local Authority: Aberdeenshire Council**

**Area Post Codes:**

***SIMD Data Zone:*** [***SIMD***](http://simd.scotland.gov.uk/publication-2012/)

***S01000285: Fetteresso, Netherley and Catterline***

AB39 3YN

*AB39 3YA*

*AB39 3YE*

*AB39 3YH*

AB39 3YL

AB39 3YQ

AB39 3YP

*AB393YX*

*AB39 3YY*

*AB393YT*

*AB39 3YS*

*AB39 3YU*

*AB39 3YW*

Drumlithie is a village in the Howe O’ The Mearns, seven miles south of Stonehaven. Previously known as a weaving village, it is noted for its appearance in Grassic Gibbon’s “A Scots Quair” and was closely associated with Robert Burns’ forebears. The school is Glenbervie Primary and other amenities include a pub, the bowling green, two parks, the village shop and the village hall. The larger park contains a football pitch and a tennis court and is the school playing field as well as hosting the annual Gala in June.

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| Council Area | Aberdeenshire Council,  Kincardine and Mearns Area  https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Glenbervie and District Association | Alastair Matthews Telephone: [07711 269893](tel:07711269893) Email: [glenberviescio@gmail.com](mailto:glenberviescio@gmail.com) |

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| Police ScotlandMearns | Inspector Steven Dick  Policing Team  Sergeant Jamie Wade  **1. Antisocial Behaviour, Violent Crime and Disorder**  Antisocial behaviour in particular violence and public disorder is a priority and how this affects smaller communities.  **2. Road Safety and Road Crime**  You identified road safety as a local priority in particular on the major routes through the Mearns. The manner of driving, speeding in smaller communities and antisocial driving are causing concern.  **3. Acquisitive Crime**  You told us there are concerns around the risk of theft from dwellings and farms. Some of the more rural areas are subject to thefts of property and machinery and detection as well as crime reduction will be a focus.  Telephone Number: 101 E-mail address AberdeenshireLPP@scotland.pnn.police.uk |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Aberdeenshire Community Safety Partnership | Contact:   * [Cheryl Smith](mailto:cheryl.smith@aberdeenshire.gov.uk?subject=Remove%20two%20spaces%20from%20the%20email%20address%20before%20sending), Team Leader (Community Safety), Aberdeenshire Council * [Jenny Wylie](mailto:antisocial@aberdeenshire.%20gov.%20uk?subject=Remove%20two%20spaces%20from%20the%20email%20address%20before%20sending), Community Safety Officer - Anti Social Behaviour, Aberdeenshire Council |

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| Council Wards 19 Mearns[Aberdeenshire Council](https://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/councillors/) | **Councillor George Carr**   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **C:\Users\alawrie\Pictures\A\gc.png**  **Appointments**  **Telephone** |  | Council administration member  07930395454 | | **Email** |  | [cllr.g.carr@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.g.carr@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) | | **Address** |  | c/o Woodhill House | |  |  | Westburn Road | | **Town** |  | Aberdeen | | **Post Code** |  | AB16 5GB | | **Political Party** |  | [Conservative](http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Committees.aspx?councillors=1&party=Conservative) | | **Councillor Bill Howatson** |  |  |   C:\Users\alawrie\Pictures\A\wh.png   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Appointments** | Provost | | **Telephone** | 07801 900848 | | **Email** | [cllr.w.howatson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.w.howatson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) | | **Address** | c/o Woodhill House | |  | Westburn Road | | **Town** | Aberdeen | | **Post Code** | AB16 5GB | | **Political Party** | [Scottish Liberal Democrat](http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Committees.aspx?councillors=1&party=Scottish%20Liberal%20Democrat) |   **Councillor Jeff Hutchison**  C:\Users\alawrie\Pictures\A\jh.png   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Appointments** | Council administration member | | **Telephone** | 07388 956166 | |  |  | | **Email** | [cllr.j.hutchison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.j.hutchison@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) | | **Address** | c/o Woodhill House | |  | Westburn Road | | **Town** | Aberdeen | | **Post Code** | AB16 5GB | | **Political Party** | [Conservative](http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Committees.aspx?councillors=1&party=Conservative) | | **Councillor Leigh Wilson** |  |   C:\Users\alawrie\Pictures\A\lw.png   |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | **Telephone** | 07419 319 842 | | **Email** | [cllr.l.wilson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.l.wilson@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) | | **Address** | c/o Woodhill House | |  | Westburn Road | | **Town** | Aberdeen | | **Post Code** | AB16 5GB | | **Political Party** | [SNP](http://committees.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/Committees.aspx?councillors=1&party=SNP) | |

1. **Community Resources**

**See also below (Section 9) the lists compiled by local pupils.**

**The Village Hall**



**Both the hotel and the shop are seen as community resources.**

**Online Community Pages**

The Village Hall has a website <http://drumlithievillagehall.btck.co.uk/>

There is also the Facebook page Drumlithie Noticeboard <https://www.facebook.com/Drumlithienoticeboard/>

The average download speed for Broadband in Drumlithie is 31.9 Mbps. This is significantly below the average UK Broadband speed of 46.2Mbps and also well below the estimated Broadband speed for Aberdeenshire which is 43Mbps.

**Community Groups**

**Glenbervie & District Community Association**

Manage the Mid Hill Wind farm fund, liaise with Mearns Community Council and Aberdeenshire council etc on local issues.

**Hall Committee**

Maintain and operate the village hall

**DEC (Drumlithie Events Committee)**

Organise the Gala, Xmas lights and “Over 60s” xmas meal

Produce the quarterly village news letter - printed by Macphie

**DIG (Drumlithie Improvement Group)**

Look after the village garden and fund raise for village facilities

**Drumlithie Community Church**

**Drumlithie Outdoor Bowling Club**

**DASH**

(Drumlithie After School Help)

**Glenbervie Pre School**

**Glenbervie Amateur Hortus Club**

Organise the Bulb and Flower shows - the flower show is almost a 2nd gala, they even have dedicated races in the program for the pipe band

**Clay Pigeon Club**

**Glenbervie school partnership**

School parent staff association

**Drumlithie Hotel**

the pub, many of the groups above hold their meetings in the pub.

**East Coast Viners** administer their own Wind farm fund

**Macphie of Glenbervie** support local organisations through their charities fund and other activities

**Barr Demolition** also based in the village support local groups

[Library Bus](http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/libraries/mobile_libraries/Mobile_South_TimeTable.pdf)

Tuesdays (Fortnightly), 9:15 to 9:35, Garage  
                                                     9:40 to 10:00, Rolland Place

There is also a mother and toddler group which seems to operate by word of mouth

Drumlithie & Glenbervie is a vibrant and mutually supportive community. There is a very high degree of connectivity between the various groups that operate within the community to its benefit. Much of this is underpinned by Glenbervie and District Association which is very fully attended and meets regularly. It operates on similar lines to a community council with attendance by local Ward Councillors and a police report. As a registered Scio it bids for funding on behalf of a wide variety of groups within the town and disburses these knowledgeably and even handedly. For example at its January 2018 meeting, a significant sum of sourced funding was being made available by the Association to a variety of groups in the community, including Glenbervie School, Pre Schoolers, the bowling club, Hortus, the clay pigeon club, DIG and the Village Hall.

Each of the groups, organisations and businesses listed above appear to be thoroughly linked and informed of each others’ activities. Much of this cross fertilisation of information is supported in several ways for the community as a whole. This is done by Skite News which comes out four times a year, containing updates on all recent and upcoming events as well as the proceedings of the Association and a school report. There are also the Drumlithie Noticeboard Facebook pages which performs a similar function for events and other notices. There is too an actual noticeboard outside the Steeple Shop which is kept up to date.

Many respondents to the surveys underlined the pivotal part played in the life of the community by the Village Hall and the Hotel in hosting local events. The Steeple Shop too clearly functions as an important hub for information.

Glenbervie School too plays an integral part in the life of the community and is often a focus for community events.

It’s interesting to note that the three major industries connected to the town (Macphie, East Coast Viners and Barr Demolition) were all included as a matter of course in the list above of community groups provided for us by the District Association. All three contribute to the support of local groups and indeed to trips and visits for pupils from the school.

Macphie, for example, in the last year has contributed to the following Employees have cleared a community garden area, have given careers talks to pupils at the school and helped produce baked goods for school events, have provided sponsorship bowling competitions and donated sums to the school as well as to DIG and the After School Help group.

Macphie is based in Glenbervie Estate which received Wildlife Estates Scotland accreditation in August 2018 recognising its outstanding work on wildlife, habitat and conservation management.

Barr Demolition too play a part in the life of the community. “We are always keen to try and give support to any schemes or charity events within the local area and have supported the local playgroup and school on numerous occasions.”

1. **Local Shops and Businesses**

**The Steeple Shop**

Establishment, food and convenience store at

Station Road. There is a prescription collection service here.

Drumlithie

Aberdeenshire

AB39 3YT

**Phone:** [01569 740569](tel:+44%201569%20740569)



**Drumlithie Hotel**

Station Road  
Drumlithie

Aberdeenshire  
AB39 3YT

**Phone:** 01569 740278

Only the bar and some of the rooms for meeting are in use. There are no restaurant or accommodation facilities.

**East Coast Viners Animal Nutrition**

Broadwood  
Drumlithie  
Aberdeenshire  
AB39 3XA

**Telephone**: 01569 740251

E-mail: sales@ecvg.co.uk

A wide range of feeds for all types of cattle, sheep, pigs, poultry and game. ECV also supply straight feeds and minerals for the on-farm mixer.

**Macphie**

Glenbervie

Aberdeenshire

AB39 3YG

**Phone:** 01569 740 641

**Fax:** 01569 740 677

**Email:** [reception@macphie.com](mailto:reception@macphie.com)

**Drumlithie Post Office**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Mon | Closed |  |
| Tue | 14:00-16:00 |  |
| Wed | Closed |  |
| Thu | Closed |  |
| Fri | Closed |  |
| Sat | Closed |  |
| Sun | Closed |  |

Burnside Croft

Station Road

Drumlithie

Stonehaven

Aberdeenshire

AB39 3YT

**Barr Demolition Limited**

Old Station Buildings,

Station Road

Drumlithie

AB39 3YT

tel: 01224 213639

email: [info@barrdemolition.com](mailto:info@barrdemolition.com?Subject=website)

**GDS PLUMBING SERVICES LTD**

11 Kinmonth Road

Drumlithie

AB39 3YF

**Drumaber Limited**

DRUMABER,

Electrical Services

CROFT ROAD

Drumlithie

AB39 3YS

A number of businesses are run locally on line from people’s homes, offering services or crafts.

1. **Transport & Infrastructure**

There is no rail service. The nearest railway stations are at Stonehaven approximately 8 miles away and at Laurencekirk approximately 7 miles away.

**Bus services**

[26 - Luthermuir or Laurencekirk - Stonehaven](https://bustimes.org/services/26-luthermuir-or-laurencekirk-stonehaven)

Runs from Stonehaven to Luthermuir by Drumlithie, Auchenblae, Fordoun Laurencekirk, Monday to Friday.

Every two hours from 6.45 – 18.30 to Stonehaven and 8.23 – 19.02 from Stonehaven. The journey takes 15 minutes.

It runs from 8.38 – 19.17 to Laurencekirk and 6.25 – 18.10 from Laurencekirk. The journey takes 20 minutes.

On Saturdays there were six buses either way but this Saturday service was withdrawn at the end of March 2019

[104 - Auchenblae - Stonehaven Mackie Academy](https://bustimes.org/services/104-auchenblae-stonehaven-mackie-academy)

This service runs once daily to Mackie Academy and Stonehaven, leaving Hillview Cottages Glenbervie at 8.07 and Elfhill Drumlithie at 8.12. It returns from Stonehaven (Mackie) at 15.25 and the central bus stop at 15.30. It doesn’t run on Saturday or Sunday.

[109 - Stonehaven - Laurencekirk](https://bustimes.org/services/109-stonehaven-laurencekirk)

On Saturday at 11.45 en route to Laurencekirk and at 13.04 en route to Stonehaven. The bus stops opposite or at the road end at A90 respectively. It doesn’t run on weekdays.

To reach any other destination by bus requires at least two buses. In some cases (such as ARI) it takes three per trip

Mean Measurement for travel from Drumlithie to local facilities

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Distance** | **Destination** | **Method of Travel By Car** | **By Bus** |
| **6.2 miles** | **Stonehaven** | **13 mins** | **17 mins** |
| **7.7 miles** | **Laurencekirk** | 13 – 20 mins depending on road by car | **28 mins** |
| **3.9 miles** | **Auchenblae** | **10/11 mins** | **15 mins** |
| **5.8 miles** | **Inverbervie** | **13 - 16 mins** | **50 mins over an hour** |
| **18.6 miles** | **Montrose** | **28 mins** | **1 - 1.5 hours** |
| **16.2 miles** | **Portlethen** | **19 mins** | **1 hour** |
| **23.3 miles** | **Aberdeen** | **33 mins** | **over 2 hours** |
| **15.3 miles** | **Stracathro** | **19 mins** | **over 40 mins** |
| **3.8 miles** | **Fiddes** | **7 mins** |  |

**Nearest Services**

**Dentist**

Laurencekirk

Stonehaven

**Hospital/A&E**

Stonehaven

Montrose

Stracathro

Aberdeen Royal Infirmary

**Shops**

Stonehaven

Laurencekirk

**Large Supermarket**

Montrose

Portlethen

**Railway Station**

Stonehaven

Laurencekirk

**Doctor’s Surgeries**

Auchenblae

Inverbervie

Stonehaven

Laurencekirk

**Petrol Station**

Fiddes

Stonehaven

The times given in the table for bus travel are a little deceptive because they deal with the time taken for the journey and don’t take account of the extremely limited amount of bus journeys available (particularly at the weekend) and the time spent waiting. Those who are not able for whatever reason to drive can be seriously disadvantaged by the paucity of available buses. A trip to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary can occupy a whole day and some elderly residents pointed to the fact that they had on occasion had to miss morning hospital appointments because it was impossible to get there on time. Given that 20% of the population is over 60 and that a further 28% is over 45 this is already a considerable issue for local people and one that is likely to grow as bus services diminish. One has disappeared during the course of compiling this Profile.

1. **Education**

**Glenbervie Primary school**

Glenbervie School is a small, rural school situated in the village of Drumlithie, which is a mile west of the A90, seven miles south of Stonehaven, on the main Aberdeen – Dundee road.

Drumlithie is a friendly village with a shop, hotel, bowling club and well used village hall.

The school is surrounded by a playground and has the added advantage of a large playing field within a close proximity. This playing field is used by the children during fine weather. An outdoor classroom area, the MOLE (Multipurpose Outdoor Learning Environment) Zone, provides a stimulating setting for learning. Pupils use a local woodland area on a regular basis for outdoor learning activities and gardening (school@theharvey).

Glenbervie School provides education for children aged 4-12 i.e. from Primary 1 to Primary 7. The school is normally a three-teacher primary school, but slight fluctuations in school roll can result in four classes. This session we have four classes- P1, P2/3, P4/5 and P6/7

On leaving Glenbervie School the pupils transfer to Mackie Academy, Stonehaven. Glenbervie School is part of the Stonehaven Children’s Services Network and works closely with the other 10 schools in the Network

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1. **Housing**

**House Prices**

**Estimated prices (£) for different dwelling types for current and previous quarter**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Dwelling Type | Period | Aberdeen and Suburbs | Stonehaven | Country Areas |
| Flat | 2019 Q1  2018 Q4 | |  | | --- | | **125,608** |   132,256 | **124,749**  130,617 | **107,167**  111,898 |
| Semi detached | 2019 Q1  2018 Q4 | **180,858**  189,004 | **185,706**  194,833 | **151,030**  156,091 |
| Detached | 2019 Q1  2018 Q4 | **271,034**  284,702 | **274,435**  282,734 | **236,382**  248,096 |

In the above table of recent changes in house prices over the last quarter of 2018 and the first quarter of 2019, prices in Aberdeen and Stonehaven are given for comparison. The Country Areas prices are for the whole of Aberdeenshire and therefore very generalised; these are the closest we can come to prices for the area.

The annual house price change in Country Areas is a fall of 3.2% compared with last year but this is significantly lower as a fall than the comparable fall in Aberdeen (6.1%) and Stonehaven (6.0%).

The volume of sales for all Aberdeenshire has fallen by 16 – 18% for semi detached and detached houses in the last quarter, although sale of flats has risen by nearly 6%.

Most houses in Drumlithie are detached and semi-detached leaving just over 2% of homes being terraced or flats.

Housing occupancy in Drumlithie is split 40/60 between those that live in homes with over/under two people

Housing tenure shows 80% of homes are owned in Drumlithie. Leaving the other 20% rented or properties rented through Council, Landlord or housing associations.

1. **Health/Demographics**

Health in Drumlithie is considerably good with 88% being in either good or very good health

Over half of the Drumlithie population is married (66%). 24% are single and 10% are divorced, separated or widowed.

Drumlithie’s population is split 30/70 between those under/over 30. It is also interesting that 20% are over 60.

1. **Employment Industry and Economic Activity**

It’s clear from the above that a significant number of residents won’t be employed within the community and must therefore travel to their place of employment.

1. **Community Views Including Local Consultations**

How connected and vibrant is Drumlithie and Glenbervie?

The following section is based on several sources of information. It includes the following:

* 1. the results of a questionnaire;
  2. a survey undertaken by pupils at Glenbervie School
  3. features of the community identified by members of Glenbervie And District Association.

1. **The results of a Questionnaire designed to capture the views of residents not likely to be reached by the survey done by Glenbervie School.**

This was a simple set of three questions:

what are the advantages of living in Drumlithie/Glenbervie?

what are the disadvantages?

and sum up briefly what it is like to live here.

It was distributed through Skite News, the local newsletter and collected for us in the Steeple Shop. There were 26 respondents.

**Advantages**

A significant number of people refer to the peace and quiet of the village. This echoes the first responses we had from P6/7 pupils at Glenbervie School when we first approached them about undertaking a survey of attitudes. The Pub, Hotel and the Village Shop all feature and it is clear from speaking to people in the community how important these are to the healthy life of the community.

**Disadvantages**

It’s clear from the following that the community suffers from its isolation. Transport and access to adequate services is certainly an issue as is the provision of sufficient activities for young people. Only one respondent said there were no disadvantagebut it’s perhaps significant that the largest group made no response to this section.

**Brief Comments**

The comments focus again on the peace and tranquillity of the community as well as its safety, friendliness and freedom from crime. Its natural beauty is stressed. Lack of facilities and concerns about traffic are clearly issues.

**Further Brief Comments**

Unfortunate that the Planning authority refused a bistro, facilities like that are exactly what makes a small community viable and not just a dormitory

Pity that the main road through the village has HGV vehicles going along it (and fast)

* More community activities are required
* A lovely place to live and meet new people
* Owners not picking up after their dogs
* Our children grew up here in safety with

freedom to roam and play

* Should be traffic calming measures & 20’s

plenty limit

**b.The Survey completed by pupils at Glenbervie School**.

What follows is the text of a leaflet produced by P6/7 pupils at Glenbervie School to present their findings about their community.

**Pupil Leaflet**

**About Drumlithie**

Drumlithie is situated eight miles from Stonehaven just off the A90 leading to Laurencekirk. Historically it was a weaver’s village and is a rural community.

There is a bell tower called the Steeple Bell in the centre of the village. This is used to celebrate weddings and New Year.

Drumlithie is surrounded by hills, forests and farms. The farms are a mixture of arable and livestock. The area is surrounded by amazing walks.

If you drive through the village and continue inland, you come to Auchenblae.

Across from the school there is a large community playground with playing equipment, football pitch and tennis court.

There is one village shop selling various necessities called The Steeple Shop. There is also a hotel and there are two large businesses providing work for the locals (MacPhies and East Coast Viners) and close by there is a fruit farm called Castleton which has a restaurant.

**How the community has changed**

Historically it was a weaver’s village that produced cloth which was then made into clothes by the local tailor.

The Steeple bell was originally used to mark the start and end for the workers of the mill.

There used to be a train station allowing people to travel both North and South but this was closed in 1934.

There used to be several small shops which are now converted into houses.

Today Drumlithie is a commuter village.

**Community Events**

Every New Year, the bell is rung (Steeple Bell) in celebration.

There are Burns Events around the 25th of January in the Village Hall.

There is a community church that meets once a month in the Village Hall and a Glenbervie flower/bulb show.

There is a Gala on the second Saturday in June every year and various events like discos for the children, charity fundraisers and farming events.

There are also a range of coffee mornings and there is a clean-up of the Harvey Gardens which is a community garden.

There is a Christmas market and a Christmas light switch on service in the village hall, also an OAP Christmas sing along and party.

**Local Services**

Post Office (Every Tuesday from 2-4pm)

ATM machine and Prescription collection in village shop.

Library Bus (Every two weeks)

Bus Service to Stonehaven, Laurencekirk and Auchenblae

Ice –cream van (Tuesday evening at 8pm)

Fortnightly Chippy Van (Thurs)

Community Church

Fish Van (every Friday)

Mobile Bank

Bowling Club

Pub

Play Group

**What is there to do?**

There is a local primary school offering an education to children aged 5-12 with a role of approximately 70.

There are several clubs for both adults and children.

Harvey Bugs (Forest school)

Several School Groups (Play Equipment in the field, Football, Cross-Country, Choir, Lego Club)

Glenbervie Pre-school

Baby and Toddler Group

After School Care - DASH (Drumlithie After School Help)

Beavers, Cubs, Brownies, rainbows and Guides in Auchenblae.

Aerobics Classes

Mike Samson’s Art Classes

Bowling Club

Horticultural Club

Quiz Nights in the Local Hotel/Pub

Church Services (every fourth Sunday in month)

WRI Group

Darts Team

**Good points about the Village**

Being a small village, it is fairly quiet and friendly and has several community events including the Gala and the Flower show. It has beautiful scenery. There is a Wee Free Library in the village, in which you can give and take books as you please. You do not need to pay and it is stationed near the steeple bell. It’s very close to larger services in Stonehaven and Laurencekirk, both of which have a secondary school (Mearns and Mackie academies.)

**What could be improved?**

Lack of transport options (Trains and more bus times) and more regular events for the elderly to attend. Some others would like longer post office hours while others need more activities for older children and teenagers. A lot of people would like a café or a restaurant in the village. More activities in the village hall, including Yoga and exercise would be beneficial to health. Reducing the speed limit and traffic calming measures would make it safer for pets and children. The park needs to be improved with more equipment and the court needs resurfaced or renovated. More grit bins would help when there is winter weather. Wi-Fi can be poor at times. A path/cycle network to other local villages would allow safer access to other areas, such as Fordoun, Glenbervie and Auchenblae.

**Analysis of Raw Data from Leaflet**

The above was made into a leaflet distributed by pupils. Examining the raw data found in the pupil’s survey allows analysis of the relative strength with which views about the town are held.

Over 45% of what is valued is shared equally between what is seen as the community’s friendliness and its community spirit, making clear that people are aware of and appreciate the high level of social capital that exists.

More than 40% of the concerns raised are connected to the limited availability of public transport (buses). Many made clear their reliance on having/being able to drive a car. A significant number pointed to the fact that easy access to what public transport there is is confined to those who live in the village. Those living outside must get there before they can access buses. A further 21% are concerned that there is not enough to do, particularly for the young. A number made the point that this is felt most severely by teenagers. Despite the popularity of the pub as a meeting place there are those who would like a café/restaurant as a potential meeting place.

**c.Features of the community identified by members of Glenbervie And District Association**

The Association felt that the Profile provides a good snapshot of Drumlithie at this moment in time. They agreed with all of the positive features of the community identified in the surveys, particularly the vibrantly connected nature of the groups which make it up.

They also agreed with the concerns expressed. In particular they saw the lack of a full public transport infrastructure as being of great concern for those who are unable to drive – the young, those not in possession of a car and many of the elderly. This effectively traps certain groups in the village or makes them reliant on the goodwill of their parents or neighbours*.* It is compounded by the fact that there is not enough for many people to do, particularly again the elderly and young people in their teens.

Other concerns exist. The hotel which has functioned as a community hub for many years is currently up for sale and operates only on a limited basis. There is a fear that it could disappear with serious consequent effects on the community, its ability to meet and hold events. The children’s playparks are in need of refurbishment and the Association and community have been in contact with the local authority regarding this. Since our last visit one of the playparks has been removed and there is no information regarding replacement.

**NOTES**