



Climate Friendly Aberlady Community Survey

12 January 2018

Dear Aberlady Resident,

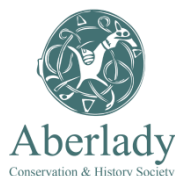
You're invited to complete the attached community survey form. It's likely that this is the first time the village has been consulted locally on a range of issues affecting our future, so we hope you will respond positively.

The survey aims to collect and present the community's views on potential improvements to make our village a healthier, safer and more pleasant place to live, work and play. It includes questions on traffic, pedestrian safety, transport, community gardens, the Sea Green and renewable energy.

While there are a number of questions, the survey should take no more than a few minutes to complete. We are seeking one response per household. The results will help guide and influence future decision-making. They will be submitted to East Lothian Council and to the local community council. The North Berwick Community Area Partnership has said it expects the results to determine its local priorities moving forward.

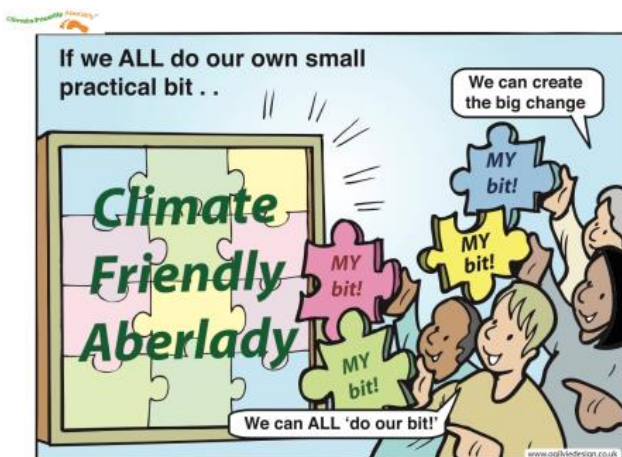
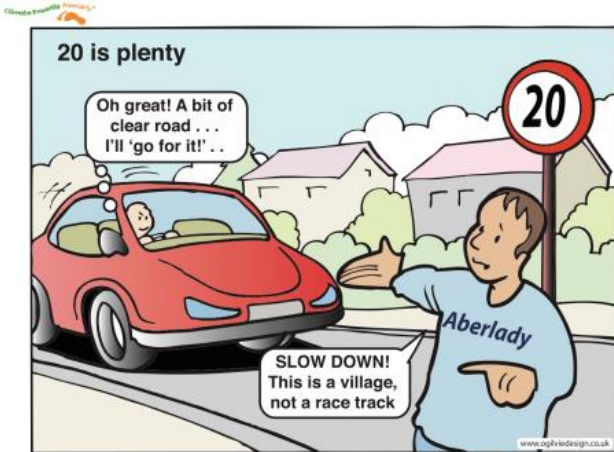
The survey follows an event held in the Community Hall last May to generate ideas which, with majority support within the community, might be taken forward. This survey is the next step in that consultation process. It is organised by the *Climate Friendly Aberlady Planning Group* (CFAPG) with support from the Scottish Government's *Climate Challenge Fund*. More information on the event can be found on www.facebook.com/climatefriendlyaberlady/. All organisations within the village were invited to contribute to its planning. The CFAPG includes members from the Church, the Conservation and History Society, the Parent Council and the Community Association.

Survey responses may be submitted via www.surveymonkey.com/r/climatefriendlyaberlady or in a collection box provided in the Post Office by **Friday, 9 February 2018**. Responses will remain anonymous. However, if your selected options at Questions 30, 32 and 35 (Community Gardens) were to offer volunteer time or advice or, if you'd like to attend a follow-up event on the survey results, we'd be grateful if you could send your contact details to hello@aberladyheritage.com or call Ian on 07557 236 232 so that we can keep in touch with you. Thank you for your support!





Climate Friendly Aberlady



Section A: Traffic

20mph speed limit trial

Housing development within East Lothian over recent years, coupled with increased car use, has given rise to unprecedented traffic levels and congestion within the village. This has clear implications for pedestrian safety across all age groups and suggests that a 20mph speed limit trial across the village, and other measures, ought to be considered.

With that in mind, your responses to the following survey questions would be very welcome. Tick the boxes that best represent your views.

1. **When walking or cycling in Aberlady how safe do you consider the streets to be for children?**
 Very Unsafe Unsafe Don't know/no opinion Safe Very Safe
2. **When walking or cycling in Aberlady how safe do you consider the streets to be for adults?**
 Very Unsafe Unsafe Don't know/no opinion Safe Very Safe
3. **When walking or cycling in Aberlady how safe do you consider the streets to be for older people?**
 Very Unsafe Unsafe Don't know/no opinion Safe Very Safe
4. **Do you believe the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit would improve the safety of pedestrians and cyclists?**
 Yes Don't know / no opinion No
5. **Do you think the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit would change your driving behaviour?**
 Yes Possibly No Don't drive
6. **Do you believe the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit would change the behaviour of other drivers?**
 Yes Possibly No
7. **Do you support a 20 mph trial encompassing the area now restricted to 30mph?**
 Yes No opinion No, only for the main coastal (A198) and Haddington (A6137) routes and roads to the school. No

8. Would you support additional physical measures, such as speed ramps*, to slow traffic on the same routes?

- Yes, in addition to 20mph limit
 Yes, instead of a 20mph limit
 Don't know / no opinion
 No

*A speed ramp is a raised section of carriageway about 10 metres (33 feet) long and extending the full width of the road. These are often combined with a pedestrian crossing. Examples of their effective use may be seen at Preston Road, Prestonpans and at Salters Road (A6094), Wallyford.

Encouraging non-Aberlady traffic to take routes avoiding the village

Evidence (from temporary road closures, for example) suggests that the majority of the traffic flowing through the village is non-Aberlady traffic to other destinations with no intention of stopping in the village for leisure or other purposes. In principle, there are other viable routes through more rural and less densely populated areas which, if taken, would significantly ease congestion and make the village a safer, healthier and more pleasant place to live and work. The anecdotal evidence from Dirleton suggests that, with appropriate signage, tourism and community could benefit from the introduction of an alternative route avoiding the village.

Tick the boxes that best represent your views.

9. Do you believe the volume of non-Aberlady traffic passing through the village causes air pollution and is a health hazard?

- Yes
 Don't know/no opinion
 No

10. Do you believe the volume of non-Aberlady traffic passing through the village risks pedestrian and cyclists safety?

- Yes
 Don't know/no opinion
 No

11. Do you believe that encouraging eastbound non-Aberlady traffic* to take the B1377 landward route (Longniddry-Drem) and so avoid the village, would be harmful to the local economy, to businesses or to job opportunities for community residents?

- Yes
 Don't know/no opinion
 No

*For this purpose of this survey, 'Aberlady traffic' includes that to Kilspindie and Craigiellaw golf courses, Gosford Farm Bothy Shop and Aberlady Station Caravan Park.

12. Do you believe that changing the traffic priorities at Luffness Mill to direct west-bound non-Aberlady traffic via Luffness Mains and Ballencrieff will be harmful to the local economy, jobs, and businesses*?

- Yes
 Don't know/no opinion
 No

13. **Do you agree that all construction traffic for the new Aberlady West housing development should avoid the main streets through the village?**

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

Pedestrian Crossings

The pedestrian crossing at the Village Store provides a safe route across the increasingly busy A198. Accessing the Community Hall appears less safe in the absence of a crossing point, particularly as the pavement on the west side of the Sea Wynd narrows to less than one metre (0.86m) wide at a busy T-junction. This pavement is used by groups of all ages, including the After-School Club (albeit escorted). With pedestrian safety paramount, this suggests that consideration should be given to widening the pavement at this location and/or a pedestrian crossing should be provided near the entrance to the Community Hall.

Tick the boxes that best represent your views.

14. **Do you think that pedestrian access to the Community Hall is safe for children (including in buggies and prams)?**

- Very Unsafe Unsafe Don't know/no opinion Safe Very Safe

15. **Do you think that pedestrian access to the Community Hall is safe for adults?**

- Very Unsafe Unsafe Don't know/no opinion Safe Very Safe

16. **Do you think that pedestrian access to the Community Hall is safe for older people?**

- Very Unsafe Unsafe Don't know/no opinion Safe Very Safe

17. **Do you agree that consideration should be given to widening the pavement to the hall at its narrowest point even though this might mean less road space for vehicles?**

- Yes, but I'd also like to see a pedestrian crossing provided Yes, this would be preferred to a new crossing which would have parking implications Don't know / no opinion No, the pavement while narrow provides a safe route

18. **Now think about pedestrian safety when accessing Aberlady Church and the adjacent bus-stop. Do you think that a pedestrian crossing outside the Church would increase pedestrian safety?**

- Yes No Don't know/no opinion

Have you any other comments or suggestions about traffic levels and safety in Aberlady?

Please write here

Section B: Transport

1. Cycling

To increase safe active travel (walking and cycling) shared-use cycleways are currently being provided on the A198 between Aberlady and North Berwick. A cycleway between Aberlady and Longniddry is also being considered and has been discussed within the village and with ELC and Gosford Estate. In principle, this would provide an alternative car-free means for commuters to travel to Longniddry rail station. However, the route favoured by Wemyss and March Estate broadly follows the John Muir Way on the A198. A safer and more pleasant route through the Gosford policies but avoiding the landscaped grounds would also be feasible without giving rise to privacy issues.

Tick the boxes that best represent your views.

19. **Do you think an off-road cycleway from Aberlady to Longniddry via Gosford policies would encourage more cycling?**

- Yes Possibly No

20. **Do you think an off-road cycleway from Aberlady to Longniddry via Gosford policies would encourage you to leave your car at home when commuting?**

- Yes Possibly No Don't drive

21. **Do you think a cycleway from Aberlady to Longniddry via the A198 John Muir Way would be as safe as one via Gosford policies?**

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

22. **Would you support the provision of secure public cycle racks within the village?**

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

Low Carbon Vehicles

Cars, vans and heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) powered by fossil fuels are a major source of climate changing emissions while particulates from diesel engines damage health. Consequently, clean-air zones and access charges are being introduced at various locations and governments (UK and Scotland) are encouraging the uptake of electric and other low carbon vehicles.

Tick the boxes that best represent your views.

23. **Do you support the provision of a public fast-charging point to encourage the take-up of electric cars within the village?**

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No Don't drive

24. If yes, where do you think this should best be located (assuming owner permission)?

- SOC Village Shop Community Hall Kirk Stables
- In a village streetlamp Gosford Bothy Shop Don't know/no opinion Don't drive

25. Would you support the formation of a Community Car Club providing an electric car for local journeys, thus reducing the need for second family cars?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No Don't drive

26. If yes, how often would you likely use the Community Car Club? (Please enter a number for each)

- Days per week Hours per day Miles per day

27. Would you support the formation of a Community Bus service principally connecting commuters with trains arriving and departing from Longniddry but perhaps also providing a wider service?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

28. If Yes, how often would you likely use it? (Please enter a number for each)

- Days per week Journeys per day

Have you any other comments or suggestions about more sustainable transport measures for Aberlady?

Please write here

Section C: Community Gardens

Community fruit and vegetable garden

Maintained by local volunteers, community gardens across the country improve our sustainability by reducing the carbon-dioxide associated with food processing, packaging and transport. They also encourage social bonding, learning and mobility across age groups within their communities. Tick the boxes that best represent your views. The Kirk Session has agreed the use of ground at the rear of the Kirk Stables for a trial.

29. Would you support a trial of a community fruit and vegetable garden in the village?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

30. If yes, in what ways might you be willing to help the trial?

- By providing volunteer help with the maintenance of the garden and growing crops By offering advice on growing fruit and vegetables By providing volunteer advice on vegetarian cooking By being part of an organising group

Memorial Garden community flower and shrub garden

31. Would you support the provision of a well-stocked community flower and shrub garden maintained by local volunteers to increase biodiversity and provide all-year colour within the grounds of the Memorial Garden? This might this be an appropriate ongoing tribute to those who fell on our behalf over a number of conflicts.

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

32. If yes, in what ways might you be willing to support it?

- By providing volunteer help with the planting, regular maintenance and upkeep of the community garden By offering advice on good garden maintenance and plant varieties to increase biodiversity and provide all-year colour By providing volunteer tuition By being part of an organising group

33. Currently, the Memorial Garden (and the monuments and War Memorial within it) is largely hidden from public view by a high hedge on its southern edge. Would you support the lowering of the hedge to a height that brings the community flower garden within easy view of visitors and villagers?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

Aberlady in Bloom

34. Would you support an Aberlady in Bloom initiative to encourage attractive floral displays within the wider village for the benefit of the community and visitors?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

35. If yes, in what ways might you be willing to support it?

- By providing volunteer help with the planting, regular maintenance and upkeep of hanging baskets and other floral displays By offering advice on the planting, regular maintenance and upkeep of hanging baskets and other floral displays By being part of an organising group

Community wildflower garden

36. Discussions with the tenant farmer of the Glebe suggest he might be amenable to a perennial wildflower garden being planted. Such a garden might be relatively easy to maintain and be of therapeutic value. Would you support a Wildflower Garden in the Glebe Field for the benefit of the community and visitors?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

The Sea Green

37. The Sea Green at the Sea Wynd is perhaps an underused village asset. Do you think that reconnection of the lion's head fountain to the mains water supply would increase community and visitor use of the Sea Green?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

38. Do you agree that reconnection of a mains water supply to the lion's head water fountain on the Sea Green would reduce the purchase of single-use plastic bottles and help save the marine environment?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

39. Do you think that the Sea Green would benefit from recycling bins to reduce landfill?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

40. Do you think that use of the Sea Green by the community and visitors would increase if wooden benches and tables were installed on the coast line?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

Have you any other comments or suggestions on how to encourage community gardening and increase community and visitor use of the Sea Green?

Please write here

Section D: Renewable Energy

Funded by loan schemes such as the Scottish Government's Community Renewable Energy Scheme, a number of local communities have been generating their own renewable energy from hydro-electric or wind turbine facilities. In general, such schemes are taken forward by a community company involving private sector partners. Recent changes to the UK Feed-in-Tariff (FIT) scheme undermine the long-term viability of new local initiatives. Nevertheless, there are perhaps opportunities for community renewable energy companies to negotiate lower prices for solar panel purchases and installations and/or to secure the better deals from green energy suppliers. Your responses to the following survey questions would be very welcome. Tick the boxes that best represent your views.

41. Would you support the principle of a community company specifically to decrease our (community facilities and private homes) fossil fuels dependency and increase use of renewable green energy?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

42. Does your home benefit from renewable energy from photo-voltaic solar panels?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

43. Does your home benefit from renewable energy from green energy power suppliers?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

44. Does your home benefit from renewable energy from other renewable sources?

- Yes Don't know / no opinion No

Have you any other comments or suggestions on how to increase the village's consumption of renewable energy at the expense of power from fossil fuels?

Please write here

45. Would you attend a public meeting in March to discuss the results of this survey?

Yes

Perhaps

No

I Can't make meetings but I'd like to be kept informed by email. If this is your preference please email hello@aberdunfermline.gov.uk

Finally, please provide your postcode in the box below

Postcode

Thank You! Your comments are very important and much appreciated.