



# Climate Friendly Aberlady

## Community Survey

12 January 2018

Dear Aberlady Resident,

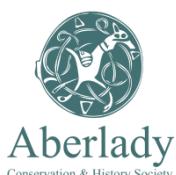
You're invited to complete the attached community survey form. It's likely that this is the first time the village has been consulted locally on a range of issues affecting our future, so we hope you will respond positively.

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.

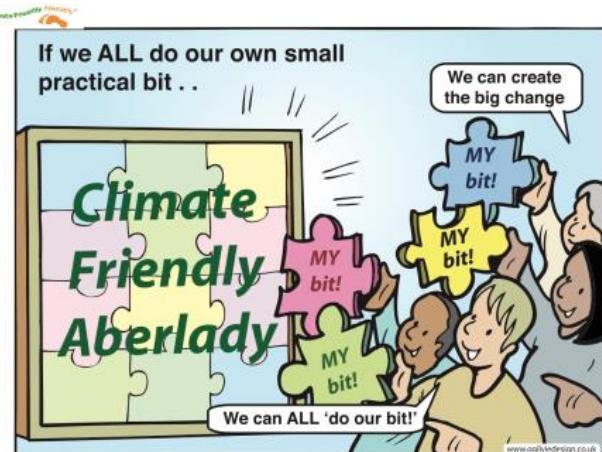
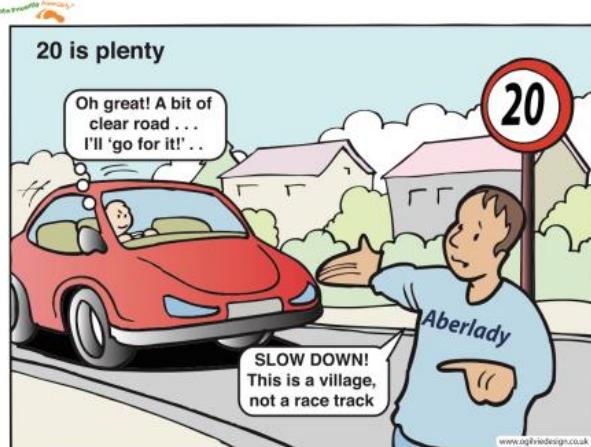
The survey follows an event held in the Community Hall last May to generate ideas which, with majority support within the community, might be taken forward. This survey is the next step in that consultation process. It is organised by the *Climate Friendly Aberlady Planning Group* (CFAPG) with support from the Scottish Government's *Climate Challenge Fund*. More information on the event can be found on [www.facebook.com/climatefriendlyaberlady/](https://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](https://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](mailto: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 a 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 Craielaw 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       Gosford Bothy Shop       Don't know/no  
streetlamp       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@aberladyheritage.com](mailto:hello@aberladyheritage.com)

**Finally, please provide your postcode in the box below**

**Postcode**

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