

TAIN TCAP

Workshop process and outputs

On 7 and 8 May 2014, a charrette was held to develop an action plan for Tain town centre. The charrette was a stakeholder engagement workshop that promoted a collaborative approach to considering the issues facing Tain town centre. It focused on delivery and implementation.



The charrette for Tain town centre ran at the Parish Hall in Tain on 7 and 8 May 2014. It provided a process to build shared outcomes for regenerating the town centre. The approach promoted meaningful collaboration. By working together stakeholders developed solutions jointly and found common ground that allowed pragmatic and deliverable proposals to be developed.



The charrette provided a framework for developing a culture of collaboration, with stakeholders acting jointly to find solutions for the issues facing the Tain town centre.

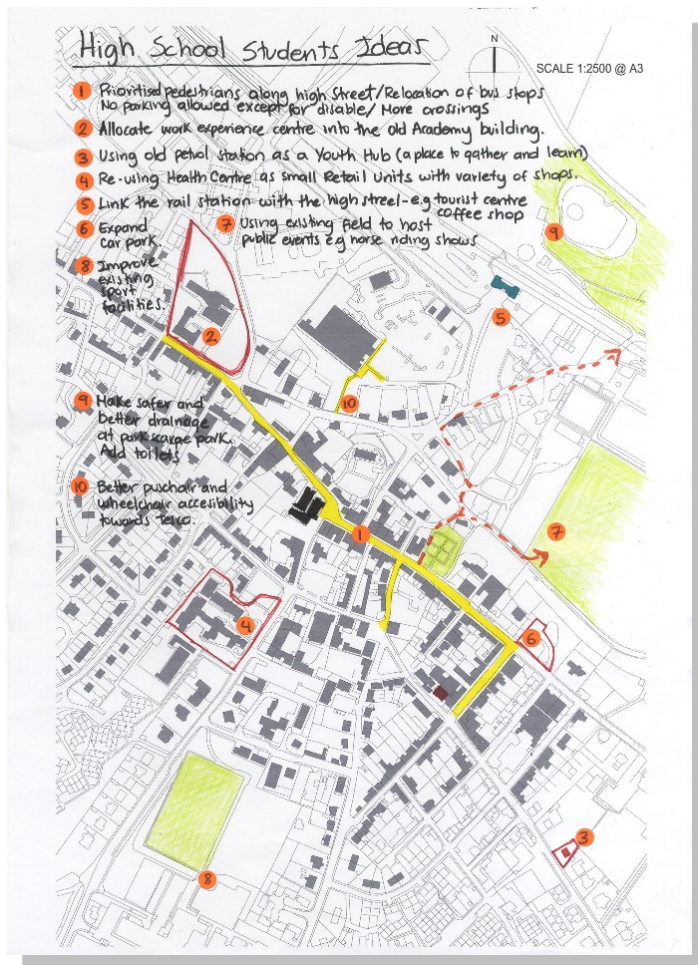
The charrette worked over two sessions where parallel events were held for stakeholders from:

- The Highland Council (THC).
- Local residents.
- Local groups.
- High School students.



Session 1 - Option Development – held on 7 May introduced and established the background to the charrette. Constraints and opportunities were examined, along with property market drivers. Stakeholders registered their expectations and requirements. Ideas and proposals were generated by the stakeholders. Principles and vision were developed.

Stakeholder Ideas and Proposals: Tain Academy Pupils



Tain Academy Pupils' Vision

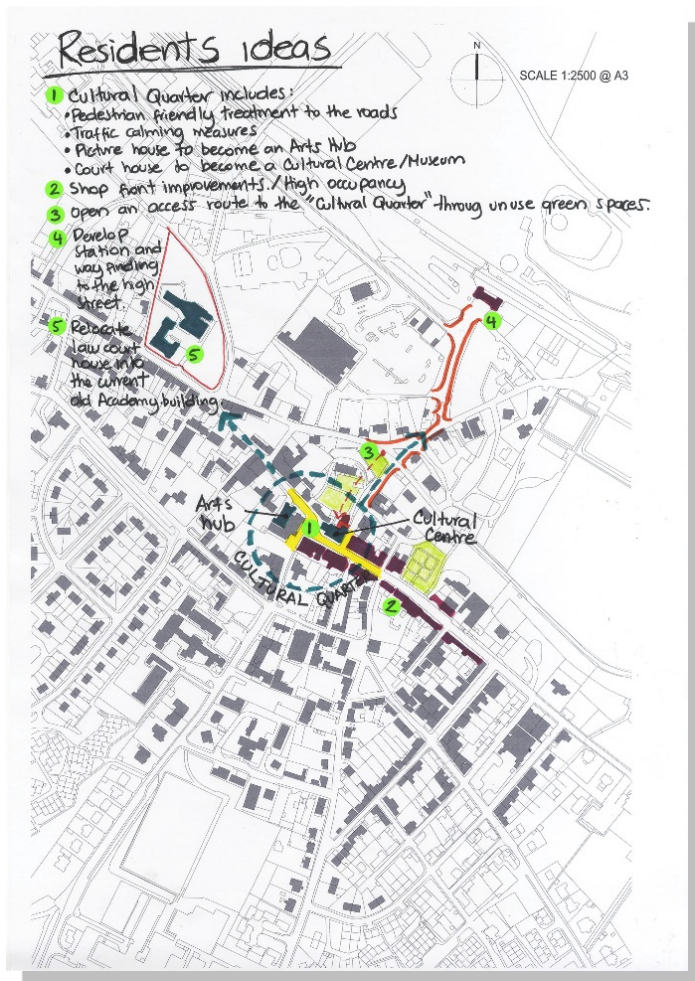
'Tain, a fun and friendly community, where you'll find everything you need'

Focused on promoting the High Street as the accessible centre of Tain with good linkages to key places such as the rail station. Promote youth orientated services.

Suggestions

- Better accessibility- no parking on High St, better location of bus stops and signage, more pelican crossings, improve wheelchair and pushchair access.
- A wider variety of shops available for residents and visitors
- Publicise Tain - promote events that attract visitors and gather people, create a tourist centre near to the train station to direct visitors to both the town centre and seaside.
- Create a youth hub - that could offer space for events, workshops, work experience etc.

Stakeholder Ideas and Proposals: Tain Residents



Residents' Vision

'Come round to Tain'

Focused around a cultural quarter that celebrates Tain's history and heritage.

Suggestions

- Tain should promote its assets
- Rethink uses of historic buildings
- Create a Hub for Easter Ross
- Intensify town centre uses

Stakeholder Ideas and Proposals: Council Officials



Council Officials' Vision

'Tain- a Royal Burgh, a place of pilgrimage with a living and working historic town centre at its heart'.

Proposals focused around strengthening the High Street and promoting mixed use.

Suggestions

- Maintain and strengthen town centre.
- Encourage residential and other mixed uses in the town centre.
- Support existing and help new businesses.
- Put Tain 'on the Map'

Stakeholder Ideas and Proposals: Local Interest Groups



Local Interest Group's Vision

'Realising po-TAIN-tial now'

Focused on Tain's historic core as an approach to attracting visitors and increasing footfall on the High Street.

Suggestions

- Attract tourists to Tain by building on heritage.
- Ensure accessibility issues are better managed.
- Increase footfall on the High Street.
- Improve quality of car parking areas

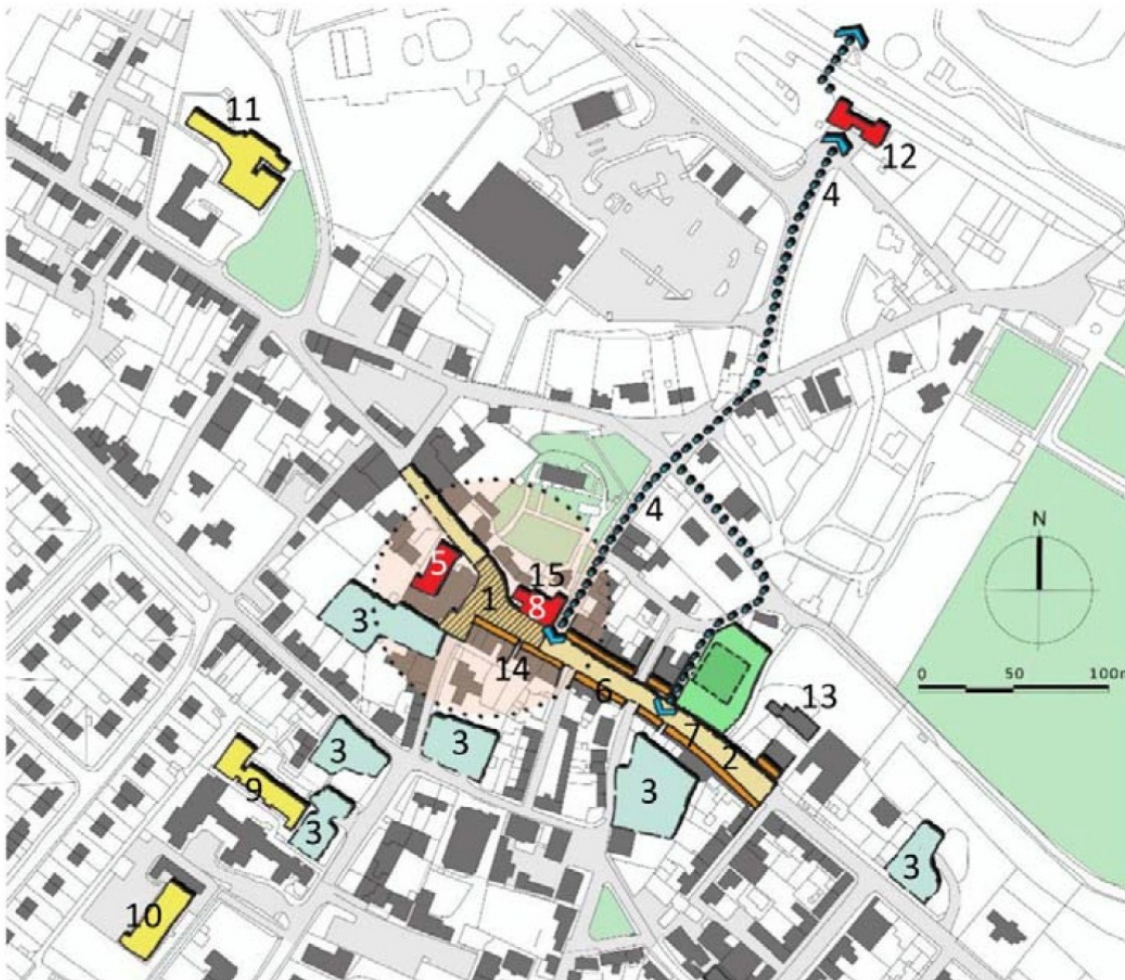
Informing the Action Plan

A **second session** held on 8 May assessed the ideas and proposals conceived in Session 1. This applied a framework to consider issues relating to accessibility, economy, community and environment.

Working in new groups the stakeholders considered the suggestions made for improving the town centre. The ideas were discussed. This resulted in the most attractive ideas being brought forward. These schemes and proposals formed the basis for Tain town centre's action plan.



Priorities recorded at the workshop



Short term

- 1 High St core area – shared surface
- 2 Promote High St market
- 3 Improve car parks
- 4 Legible linkages
- 5 Old picture house – Arts Hub
- 6 Shop façade improvements
- 7 Review town centre traffic management and calming
- 8 Investigate relocation of court use

Medium term

- 9 Old Health centre - multifunctional space
- 10 BT building business incubator
- 11 Duthac House create new function
- 12 Develop rail station as a gateway
- 13 The Grove – Youth Hostel

Long term

- 14 Promote living above the shops
 - 15 Court House – Museum
- Other proposals included developing business guidance, coordinating the marketing of Tain, ensuring sports provision for the community in association with the proposed 3-18 campus, and support for senior services through the Duthac centre.