

# FORT AUGUSTUS AND GLENMORISTON COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2018 – 2023

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FORT AUGUSTUS AND GLENMORISTON COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN STEERING GROUP



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## DID YOU KNOW?

We have two lead community organisations working for the interests of the whole area – their roles are different but complimentary.

### **FORT AUGUSTUS AND GLENMORISTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

Community Councils are the most local tier of statutory representation in Scotland. They bridge the gap between local authorities and communities, and help to make public bodies aware of the opinions and needs of the communities they represent. Their primary purpose is to ascertain and express the views of the community to the local authority and other public bodies.

### **FORT AUGUSTUS AND GLENMORISTON COMMUNITY COMPANY**

Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company was created to receive the community benefit from the windfarms and hydro schemes in the area. They distribute this money through their grant scheme which has been approved and agreed by the funders.

**The plan will be our guide for what we - as a community - try to make happen over the next 5 years.**

**This Community Action Plan summarises community views about:**

- Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston now
- the vision for the future of the area
- the issues that matter most to the community
- our priorities for projects and action.

## WORKING TOGETHER

The preparation of the plan has been organised by the Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Action Plan Steering Group – which included representatives from Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, Glenmoriston Millennium Hall Management Committee, West Glenmoriston Community Company, Kilchuimen Academy and Primary School, Parent and Toddler Group, Telford Centre, Senior Citizens Lunch Clubs and Highlife Highland.

We have been supported in carrying out the work by the STAR Development Group.

This plan will help us to develop priority projects and make representation on behalf of the community on the issues that matter most to our residents, organisations and local businesses. It will also serve as a useful guide in directing community benefit funds from wind and hydro renewable energy schemes in the area.

## LOCAL PEOPLE HAVE THEIR SAY

The Action Plan has been informed by extensive community engagement carried out over a five month period from January - May 2018.

The process involved:

- stakeholder interviews and meetings - with community organisations, schools, service providers, local businesses and public agencies;
- carrying out a community views survey of all households;
- preparing a community profile detailing facts and figures about the community;
- organising a Community Futures Event.



**410**  
**COMMUNITY VIEWS**  
**SURVEY FORMS**  
**WERE RETURNED**  
**FROM OUR 500 HOUSES**

**THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO TOOK PART**

**70**  
**PUPILS**  
**COMPLETED**  
**THE SCHOOL**  
**VIEWS SURVEY**

**24**  
**STAKEHOLDER**  
**MEETINGS**  
**AND INTERVIEWS**  
**WERE HELD**

**143**  
**PEOPLE**  
**ATTENDED**  
**THE COMMUNITY**  
**FUTURES EVENT**

## 2 OUR COMMUNITY NOW

We have summarised below the main facts and figures from the Community Profile and some of the views from the Community Views Survey. Full copies of these reports are available from the steering group on request.



### FORT AUGUSTUS AND GLENMORISTON COMMUNITY PROFILE 2018 SUMMARY

#### LOCATION

Fort Augustus is the main settlement in the area and is situated half way between Inverness and Fort William – strategically located at the heart of the Great Glen on the Caledonian Canal at the southern tip of Loch Ness. Invermoriston is 6 miles north where the A887 leaves the A82 to travel west through Glenmoriston on the road to Skye. The Community Council area extends west as far as Cluanie.

#### POPULATION

The population of the Community Council area at the last census was 1,105. Compared to Highland Council and Scotland the area has a lower percentage of people in the younger age range (all age groups under 40) and a higher proportion of the population over 65. This disparity is more pronounced in the rural parts of the area and much less so in Fort Augustus itself and indeed the census showed that Fort Augustus had a higher percentage of people of working age between 16-65 than Highland and Scotland. The population of the area is thought to have been relatively static since the Census due in part to very few new houses being built.

#### HOUSING

In total there are 678 houses in the Community Council area of which 503 are occupied, 24 are empty, and 151 are second home/holiday homes. Compared to Highland and Scotland there are lower levels of owner occupied housing and higher levels of social housing in Fort Augustus while the reverse is true for the rest of the area where there are high levels of owner occupation. Overall there is a higher percentage of houses occupied by one person households aged 65 + and two people households over 75 years old than is the case for Highland and Scotland.

#### LOCAL ECONOMY

Features of the local economy include:

- very high levels of employment in accommodation and food services
- other sectors providing significant employment in the area include construction, wholesale and retail trade including repair of motor vehicles, and Health and Social Work.
- a greater proportion of people in the area employment in construction, agriculture, forestry and fishing and the energy sector than for Highland and Scotland
- a lower percentage of the working population in either part time or full time work
- a relatively high percentage of self employed and retired people.



## COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

### Community and other Facilities include:

Fort Augustus Village Hall; Fort Augustus Church Hall; Glenmoriston Millennium Hall; Fort Augustus Memorial Hall; Kilchuimen School; West Glenmoriston Community Hub at Dalchreichart (being developed)

### Open Spaces include:

Fort Augustus - Jenkins Park – park, play area, tennis courts, skate park; sport fields, MUGA and Trim Track at the Campus; small play area at Abertarff; Old Convent land (recently acquired for the community)

Glenmoriston - sports field and small play area at Invermoriston; Community Garden (being developed at the back of the West Glenmoriston Hub)

### Churches

Fort Augustus Parish Church of Scotland; Church Service in Glenmoriston Hall once a month; Sts. Peter and Benedict's Catholic Church; Free Church of Scotland

### Community Groups include:

Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council; Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company; Glenmoriston Millennium Hall Committee; West Glenmoriston Community Company; Kilchuimen School Parent Councils; Fort Augustus Youth Club; Brownies and Guides at Fort Augustus, Beavers at Glenmoriston; Parents and Toddlers; Fort Augustus Senior Citizens/ Lunch Club; Glenmoriston Senior Citizens/Lunch Club; Fort Augustus Heritage Group; WRI; Ladies Club; Strictly Over 60s; Army Cadet Force.

### Sports, arts, music, drama groups and activities include:

Fort Augustus – Cricket Club, Tennis Club, Golf Club, Shinty Club, Indoor Bowling Club, Camera Club, Choir, Yoga  
Invermoriston/Glenmoriston – Zumba, Yoga, Energise, Scottish Country Dancing, Ceilidh Nights, Arts and Crafts Clubs

### Business Groups

FAGGBI (Fort Augustus, Glenmoriston and Glengarry Business Initiative)

## SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

Kilchuimen Campus provides a nursery, primary school, and academy. In total the Campus provides education for around 130 children between the ages of 3-18 years.

## HEALTH AND CARE

Facilities and Services include the Medical Centre, Pharmacy, and NHS Telford Centre Care Home - all in Fort Augustus. Hospital and Acute Services are based in Fort William and Inverness.



## ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

### Designated areas and sites include

- Loch Ness and Duntelchaig – Special Landscape Area – key landscape and visual characteristics including Great Glen and historic landscape of the Caledonian Canal
- River Moriston – Special area of conservation (due to Pearl Mussel population)
- West Inverness-shire Lochs – SSSI – (due to Black Throated Diver and Common Scotar)
- Levishie Wood - SSSI - (Upland birch woodland)
- Glen Tarff – SSSI – (Upland mixed ash woodland)
- Glen Doe Lochans (SSSI) - (Slavonian Grebe, Common Scoter)
- Ancient woodland – along loch shores and glen sides (Glen Garry, Glenmoriston and the Great Glen).

### Scheduled Monuments (SM's) include:

Many stretches of the Caledonian Canal including Kytra Lock to Fort Augustus, and from Fort Augustus to Loch Ness; Bridge of Oich Suspension Bridge and embankment; Kilwhimen Barracks; Torr Dhuin fort; Corrieyairack Pass – military road; Fort Augustus – Bernera military road; Cherry Island Crannog; Levishie Cottage, fort and earthwork; Dundreggan Farm, motte.

### Listed Buildings:

Fort Augustus Abbey, Church, Monastery and School; Bridge of Oich; Invermoriston Home Farm are all Category A listed and there are a further 50 Category B and 22 Category C buildings around Invergarry, Fort Augustus, Invermoriston and the Great Glen.

Fort Augustus Conservation Area – includes the village centre, Abbey, Caledonian Canal staircase of locks and riverside leading down to Loch Ness shore

Long distance paths - Great Glen Ways (walking, cycling, canoeing or by boat); South Loch Ness Trail (still being completed); Corrieyairack Pass

### Fort Augustus and Inchnacardoch core paths:

Kilchuimen Burial Ground and River Tarff; Jenkins Park Forest Walks; Jenkins Park to Great Glen Way; Caledonian Canal to A82 by church; Caledonian Canal from Bridge of Oich to Fort Augustus; A82 by campsite to Fort Augustus by Caledonian Canal; Aberchalder to Fort Augustus by Great Glen Way/Caledonian Canal Towpath; Bridge of Oich to Invergarry by old Great Glen Cycle Route; Bridge of Oich to Invergarry by Loch Lundie; Bridge of Oich to Torr Dhuin; Allt na Criche; Torr Dhuin Fort Walk; Torr Dhuin to River Oich Walk; Auchterawe Woods Path; Great Glen Way Aberchalder to North Laggan; Fort Augustus to Glenmoriston by old drove road; Fort Augustus Abbey Loop

### Invermoriston and Dundreggan core paths:

Eve's Road; Allt Garbh to Tomich by Cougie; Beinn na Sparra Circuit; Hilton Lodge to Eve's Road; Dalcataig Circuit; Invermoriston Falls Circuit.

## COMMUNITY VIEWS SURVEY

Results from the 410 responses received with some illustrative comments

LIKE	% OF RESPONSES
<p><b>ENVIRONMENT (VILLAGE, COUNTRYSIDE, PATHS ETC.)</b>                      “We call it the ‘Jewel of the Highlands’ absolutely picturesque and beautiful”                      “Easy access to miles of footpaths/trails for cycling, walking, riding”                      “The community caretakers keep the village clean”                      “Clean air, trees, rivers, lochs and canal”</p>	56%
<p><b>COMMUNITY SPIRIT</b>                      “Friendly community where most people know their neighbours and help where they can”                      “A warm and friendly place to live – people care how you are”                      “Like the tight knit community”</p>	30%
<p><b>NATURE OF THE PLACE (SAFE, QUIET, SIZE)</b>                      “Nice and quiet over the winter with a great buzz in the summer”                      “Glenmoriston is a quiet and peaceful place to live”                      “Safe environment to bring up kids and grandkids”                      “I like that it is a small village”</p>	28%
<p><b>SERVICES</b>                      “Has a good local school where the kids can go from nursery to secondary”                      “Essential facilities for a community including good school, medical practice, pharmacy...”                      “Appreciate Home Care Service”                      “Telford Centre, Mobile Library”</p>	15%
<p><b>LOCAL ECONOMY</b>                      “Small supermarket and filling station with a pharmacy and post office”                      “Well catered for by local shops, pubs, restaurants and other services”                      “Supermarket deliveries”                      “Plenty seasonal employment due to busy tourist area”                      “Good business opportunities in the tourist trade”</p>	15%
<p><b>LOCATION</b>                      “Good central location for travelling to Skye, Fort William and Inverness”                      “The beautiful location within the Great Glen on the bottom edge of Loch Ness”                      “Fairly near train, bus and airport while still being in the country”</p>	13%
<p><b>COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES/GROUPS/CLUBS</b>                      “Good variety of activities at Glenmoriston Millennium Hall”                      “Social life – heritage group, ceilidhs, walking group, choir”                      “Village Halls are all excellent”                      “Very proactive Community Council which represents the community well”                      “I appreciate the support the Community Company have given me”                      “Church communities”                      “I like it when the mobile cinema comes”                      “Kids playpark off the main road”</p>	11%
<p><b>HERITAGE</b>                      “The tradition and history of the village and area”                      “Interested in the history of the area”                      “The area’s historical importance”</p>	3%



DISLIKE	% OF RESPONSES
<p><b>TRANSPORT AND ACCESS TO SERVICES</b>            Extortionate bus fares and no late bus to Inverness”            “Lack of transport to Fort Augustus from Glenmoriston” “Lack of care in the community”            “Lack of dental services and optician” “Lack of childcare for young people”</p>	30%
<p><b>PARKING, ROADS AND TRAFFIC</b>            “Lack of parking and tourists parking everywhere on grass and blocking the road”            “A82 is in a dreadful state” “Condition of road up to Auchterawe substation”            “Heavy traffic through the village – very dangerous at the bridges”            “Speed of traffic over the Invermoriston Bridge” “Not enough free parking for locals”</p>	24%
<p><b>RECREATION AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES, ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS</b>            “Lack of leisure centre and swimming pool for residents and tourists”            “Feel isolated due to lack of leisure facilities” “No after school activities for our children”            “Abbey has swimming/gym facilities but don’t allow for local use”            “Apart from youth club there is nowhere safe to hang out”            “No place for people to socialise other than the pubs” “Not many events for adults and children”            “Screen machine doesn’t come often enough”            “Way too little safe play areas for children. “No proper gym or playing pitches”            “Not enough information on what is going on – needs a newsletter through every door”</p>	24%
<p><b>LOCAL ECONOMY</b>            “The lack of facilities for tourists who are the life blood of the community”            “Lack of competition for shop and consequent high prices”            “Invermoriston – one hotel closed over the winter as is cafe”            “Not enough permanent year round employment mainly seasonal”            “Lack of training facilities for the community” “Cash point charges and unsecured ATM’s”</p>	20%
<p><b>ENVIRONMENT</b>            “Terribly overgrown with scrub and neglected trees” “Lack of mountain biking routes”            “It has changed over the years – no floral displays”            “Lack of bins from car park to canal side” “Lack of garden waste and glass recycling collection”            “Totally fed up with living in a building site with Beauly/Denny,Stronelairg and in the future the never ending Auchterawe substation” “Bridge over River Oich left to fall into disrepair”            “Few walking/cycling routes that connect communities without going on the dreaded A82”            “A lack of information about cultural and natural heritage”</p>	16%
<p><b>HOUSING</b>            “Not enough affordable or social housing” “Lack of housing for staff/locals”            “Not enough housing for young ones that have overgrown their homes” “Lack of houses especially for rental”</p>	9%
<p><b>TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND UTILITIES</b>            “Lousy internet connections in Glenmoriston” “Broadband not as good as in town”            “Lack of mobile reception at Glenmoriston” “No electricity/water on the straight mile”</p>	9%
<p><b>TOURISM</b>            “The focus on the tourism element in Fort Augustus - everything seems to revolve around that”            “The amount of tourists who invade the village during the summer months now all year round”            “Its exploitation as a tourist destination”            “Try and park and go to the shops without nearly running down people wandering about on the road” “During the tourist season life can be very frustrating”</p>	8%
<p><b>NOTHING</b></p>	6%
<p><b>COMMUNITY ORGANISATION/SPIRIT</b>            “Lack of communication between the Community Company, the Community Council and residents” “People outside the village often feel unheard”            “I can see the village changing and losing its community spirit”</p>	3%



# FORT AUGUSTUS AND GLENMORISTON

## OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

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This statement has been prepared using local residents and organisations answers to the question - how would you like to imagine Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston in 25 Years Time?

### **GREAT COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

Local access to high quality indoor and outdoor recreational facilities

Places where the community can come together for socialising, activities and events

### **SUSTAINABLE POPULATION – HOUSING AND SERVICES**

Good mix of all ages with a growth in population to maintain local services

Education, health and care services at the heart of the community

More housing for the needs of the community and economy

### **DIVERSE ECONOMY AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

A wider range of businesses, training and job opportunities

### **AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE TO VISIT AND STAY AND ENJOY THE WIDER AREA AND OUTDOORS**

A great tourist destination that has made the most of its natural and cultural heritage and its strategic location in the heart of the Great Glen

### **A WELL CONNECTED COMMUNITY**

Better transport, better roads, faster broadband and better mobile reception

### **A GREEN COMMUNITY**

More recycling, better access to renewable energy for households, businesses and community buildings, and support for local food production.



# 8 MAIN STRATEGIES AND PRIORITIES

These are the main strategies and priorities the community will work towards achieving in partnership with public agencies and other supporters.



## THEME 1: COMMUNITY AND RECREATIONAL

There is a strong long-standing demand from the community for more leisure, recreation and community facilities in Fort Augustus. It is therefore not surprising that this came through clearly again in the consultation for the Community Action Plan. This is understandable given how far away other facilities are, limited existing facilities, and the increasing visitor pressure that affects local access to commercial facilities.

Action should include exploration of the potential for a new leisure centre/community hub, developing outdoor play and sports areas, and exploring how to make existing facilities as accessible as possible.

In general, people would like to see more activities and events in Fort Augustus and this was particularly emphasised by young people.

It was thought that there was a need to have more information about what was going on in the community – and to hear more about the work of local organisations like the Community Company and Community Council.

### Main priorities

- Making best use of existing facilities
- New leisure centre/community hub
- Developing outdoor play and sports provision
- More activities and events
- More information, communication and working together

## THEME 2: HOUSING AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

More housing – for rent, for starter homes to buy, for local people, for staff, for sheltered accommodation. All were identified as important for the future of the community to help sustain services and cater for the needs of the local economy and maintain and grow the population.

The area is currently struggling to react to increasing passing tourism and there is a sense that there is a need to more proactively encourage sustainable tourism in the community's own terms. This could include developing and promoting facilities and activities that would encourage longer stay 'destination' tourism. The community is well placed to do this making the most of its fantastic location, environment and heritage and the many opportunities for outdoor recreation.

There is also a need to look at ways of diversifying the local economy - creating more opportunities for training and jobs and encouraging existing and new local businesses.

### Main priorities

- Develop housing for locals and local employees
- Develop visitor facilities and attractions – sustainable tourism destination
- More training and job opportunities and support for new and existing businesses



### **THEME 3: ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE**

The work of the Community Caretakers was recognised and appreciated by local people and there was a desire to build on this over the next 5 years to make the area more attractive.

The local environment and heritage are major assets and can play a significant part in making the area a tourism destination. Most obvious and desirable is the opportunity to continue to develop local paths and trails and to make the area an attractive destination for walkers, mountain bikers and water sports. The existing Great Glen Way is being augmented by the South Loch Ness Trail and there will then be the opportunity to develop the Loch Ness 360 Trail. This will put Fort Augustus at the heart of a great long distance path network. Further development and promotion of local paths will help to augment this.

#### **Main priorities:**

- Continue to make the area and village attractive and well kept
- Develop and promote a local paths network and long distance trails
- Make more of natural environment and cultural heritage
- Going green and local – encouraging renewable energy use, recycling, community allotments, local produce.

### **THEME 4: ACCESS TO SERVICES AND TRANSPORT**

There was concern that existing health and care services should be protected and further developed. The Medical Centre and the Telford Centre were seen as vital to the needs of the community and people would like to see additional health and care services offered locally.

There is little access to childcare in the community and it was felt that an increase in childcare provision would help enable local people to work more.

People would like to see improvements in public transport and the development of community transport schemes to make it easier to access services, facilities, training and employment.

Lack of superfast broadband was seen as a barrier to access (particularly in Glenmoriston) and affected residents of all ages, local businesses and visitors.

#### **Main priorities**

- Improve and develop local health and care services
- Improve transport
- Develop childcare
- Develop broadband and ICT in Glenmoriston

### **THEME 5: PARKING, ROADS AND TRAFFIC**

There are plans to increase the main parking area in Fort Augustus in response to the significant growth in tourism. Improvements planned for include some allowances for free and reduced fee local parking.

The A82 has been in terrible condition this year with some particularly dangerous spots due to surface water just south of Invermoriston. The road up to Auchterawe is also badly needing repaired due to heavy vehicle traffic eroding the verges. Hopefully these will be distant complaints when this action plan is renewed in 2023!

Making the area safer for pedestrians was also highlighted and main suggestions included improving pedestrian access and crossings in key pinch point areas. These are thought to include the Oich Bridge, out to the Fort Augustus Golf Course, and from the Invermoriston Car Park into the village across the A82. Another current concern is the night-time noise disturbance from heavy vehicle traffic through Fort Augustus.

#### **Main priorities**

- Improve parking
- Improve roads and pavements
- Traffic calming

A guide to the first steps to be taken and which organisations might be involved

The Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston Community Company is able to provide grants to constituted groups to make projects happen, application forms are available at [www.communitycompany.co.uk](http://www.communitycompany.co.uk)

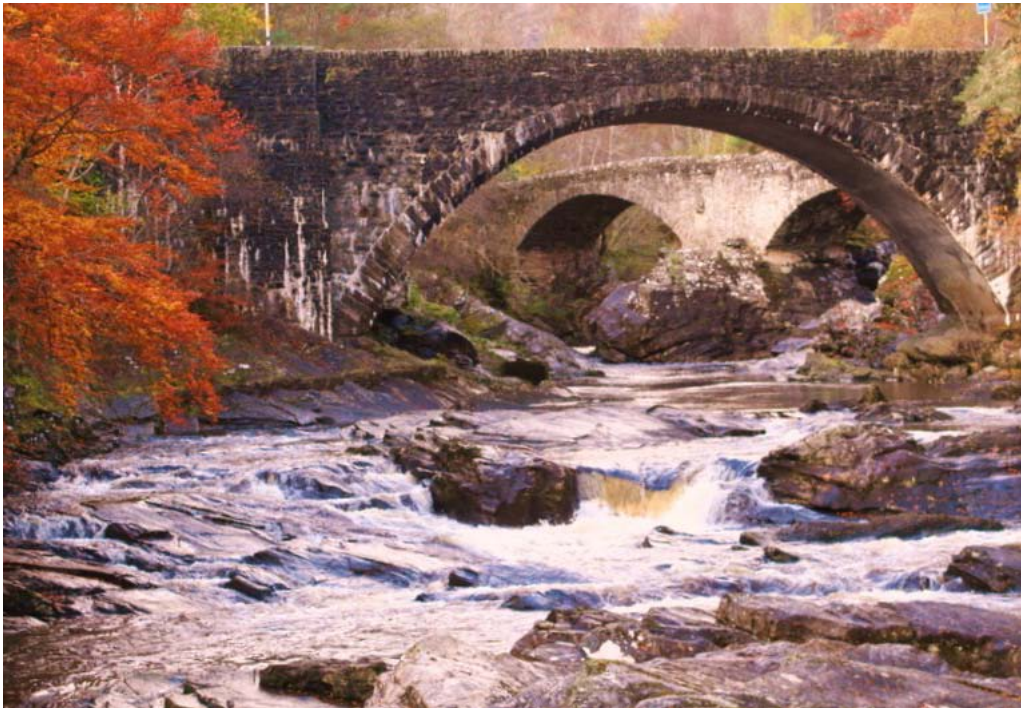


### THEME 1: COMMUNITY AND RECREATION

PRIORITIES	NEXT STEPS
<b>Making best use of existing facilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Look at ways of improving local access to existing facilities e.g. swimming pool at the Abbey, indoor and outdoor facilities at the school, use of Fort Augustus Village Hall and Church Hall.</li> </ul>
<b>New leisure centre/community hub</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission a feasibility study (including Options Appraisal) to investigate opportunities for a new leisure centre/community hub in Fort Augustus</li> <li>• Take action to progress findings of feasibility study</li> </ul>
<b>Developing outdoor play and sports provision</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop tennis court at Jenkins Park</li> <li>• Improve play area and skate park at Jenkins Park</li> <li>• Develop new woodland adventure play area in the Old Convent land woods</li> </ul>
<b>More activities and events</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop more activities for all ages and in particular for young people</li> <li>• Organise more community events particularly in Fort Augustus</li> </ul>
<b>More information, communication and working together</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Produce Community Newsletter</li> <li>• Develop Guide to What's On for Locals and Visitors</li> </ul>
<i>Existing groups that could be involved in taking some of these actions forward include:</i>	<i>School and Parent Councils, Highlife Highland, Parents and Toddlers, Sports Groups, Youth Group, Village Halls, Church Hall, West Glenmoriston Community Hub, FA&amp;G Community Council</i>

### THEME 2: HOUSING AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY

PRIORITIES	NEXT STEPS
<b>Develop housing for locals and local employees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review existing planning permissions and available land (including land now owned by the community)</li> <li>• Agree plan for future development of housing in Fort Augustus and how and when it can be implemented.</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Highland Council, Albyn Housing, Cairn Housing, Highland Small Communities Housing Trust, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, local landowners, local employers</i>
<b>Develop visitor facilities and attractions – sustainable tourism destination</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Sustainable Tourism Partnership to identify potential and priorities for developing the area as a year round destination which makes the most on its rich environment and heritage.</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Local tourism businesses, FAGGBI, Visit Inverness and Loch Ness BID, Scottish Canals, interested landowners e.g. Forest Enterprise, Trees for Life</i>
<b>More training and job opportunities and support for new and existing businesses</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and increase the existing apprenticeship schemes</li> <li>• Review and support opportunities for expansion of existing local businesses</li> <li>• Explore the potential to develop business units/IT facilities for existing and new businesses</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company, Trees for Life, local businesses, Highland Council, Highlands &amp; Islands Enterprise</i>



### THEME 3: ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

PRIORITIES	NEXT STEPS
<b>Continue to make the area and village more attractive</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to support and develop the work of the Community Caretakers</li> <li>• Try to establish a new Village in Bloom Group</li> <li>• Work with Scottish Canals, tourist businesses, and landowners to improve the look of the area</li> <li>• Work with SSE, Scottish Water and others to minimise impact of infrastructure works.</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, Scottish Canals, local businesses, SSE, Scottish Water</i>
<b>Develop and promote a local paths network and long distance trails</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to develop long distance paths for walking and cycling</li> <li>• Develop and promote a local paths network that offers shorter walks and cycle routes through the area e.g. connect up communities, more mountain biking trails.</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Forest Enterprise, Trees for Life, and other landowners, Inverness and Loch Ness BID, Highland Council, FAGGBI</i>
<b>Make more of environment and heritage assets</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance local environment and heritage</li> <li>• More information on and promotion of natural and historic assets</li> <li>• Create opportunities for volunteering, research, education, training and employment linked to the local environment and heritage.</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Local Heritage Group, Scottish Canals, Forest Enterprise, Trees for Life</i>
<b>Going green and local – encouraging renewable energy use, recycling, community allotments, local produce</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve local recycling facilities</li> <li>• Develop incentives for householders, local businesses, community and public buildings to reduce their carbon footprint and adopt renewable energy systems</li> <li>• Explore opportunities for establishing community gardens / allotments</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Highland Council, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company</i>

## THEME 4: ACCESS TO SERVICES AND TRANSPORT

PRIORITIES	NEXT STEPS
<b>Improve and develop local health and care services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete new Medical Centre</li> <li>• Explore options for expansion of existing health services to include evening surgery, local out of hours minor injuries clinic, and outreach service in Glenmoriston</li> <li>• Sustain and develop role of the Telford Centre</li> <li>• Develop provision of locally based health and care teams and services</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>NHS Highland, Cill Chuimein Medical Centre, Telford Centre, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, West Glenmoriston Community Company, Highland Council</i>
<b>Improve transport</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop better transport connections between Glenmoriston and Fort Augustus</li> <li>• Improve access for local people on buses to Inverness in tourist season</li> <li>• Cheaper fares particularly for young people to Inverness</li> <li>• Develop community transport</li> <li>• Explore other options e.g. Dial a Ride, local taxi service etc.</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Transport providers, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, Kilchuimen Campus, Highlife Highland</i>
<b>Develop childcare</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore ways of improving options for childcare in the area</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Parent Councils at School, local employers, Highland Council, Highland and Islands Enterprise</i>
<b>Develop broadband and ICT</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research other community broadband initiatives</li> <li>• Develop proposals for improving broadband in Glenmoriston</li> <li>• Develop community wifi in Fort Augustus</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Company, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, West Glenmoriston Community Hub, Glenmoriston Millennium Hall, FAGGBI, Highland and Islands Enterprise (Digital Communities Team)</i>

## THEME 5: PARKING, ROADS AND TRAFFIC

PRIORITIES	NEXT STEPS
<b>Improve Parking</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extend car park and related facilities in Fort Augustus and Invermoriston</li> <li>• Provide staff to help manage visitor parking at peak times</li> <li>• ‘Free parking’ allowances for local people</li> <li>• Reduce ‘rogue’ visitor parking throughout Fort Augustus</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Highland Council, landowners, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, Police Scotland</i>
<b>Improve roads and pavements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take action to remedy known problems on the roads in the area including the A82 and the Auchterawe Road</li> <li>• Agree need to extend pavements in key areas identified in this consultation and carry out improvements e.g. out to the Fort Augustus Golf Course and from Glenmoriston Millennium Hall and Car Park into Invermoriston and visitor attractions</li> <li>• Develop solutions to the pedestrian/vehicle bottleneck at the Oich Bridge</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Transport Scotland, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, Highland Council, Forest Enterprise, SSE, Scottish Water.</i>
<b>Traffic calming</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce impact of night traffic and heavy goods lorries through the area</li> <li>• Identify other areas for traffic calming improvements and take action</li> </ul>
<i>Action by</i>	<i>Police Scotland, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, Forest Enterprise, SSE, Highland Council</i>



The priorities in this action plan will be taken forward by our local community groups working with a range of public, private and voluntary sector partners. We will also need to grow our capacity, volunteering and resources as a community to help deliver some of the important projects in this Action Plan. The Community Action Plan will help to inform how community benefit funds from wind and hydro renewable energy schemes are directed over the next 5 years.

## **FORT AUGUSTUS AND GLENMORISTON COMMUNITY COMPANY AND COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

The Community Company was created to receive Community Benefit Funding from energy companies on behalf of the communities of Fort Augustus & Glenmoriston and this is then accessible through their grant schemes that have been approved & agreed by the funders. In addition to the grant schemes, the Company also lead directly on the development of large projects on behalf of the community and these include the re-building of the medical centre, the Community Caretakers, the Village Hall in Fort Augustus, the Apprenticeship Scheme and the development of the Old Convent Land. This work means that the Directors are operating at full capacity and that other large projects that the community want to see happen will require significant community involvement and an increase in capacity. The Company is a charitable organisation – membership is free and entitles people to vote at the AGM and elect Directors of the company who serve on a voluntary basis. The Community Company is always keen to hear from community minded people that would like to serve as Directors.

Administrator, Community Company  
E-mail: [contact@communitycompany.co.uk](mailto:contact@communitycompany.co.uk)  
Telephone: 01320 366800

## **FORT AUGUSTUS AND GLENMORISTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

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Name: Helen Clay (Secretary)  
Email: [helenclay1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helenclay1@yahoo.co.uk)

## **FORT AUGUSTUS AND GLENMORISTON STEERING GROUP**

The Steering Group of local organisations that came together to prepare this Plan will continue to meet 2-3 times a year to share information on how priorities are being progressed and to maintain a shared ownership of the Plan. If you would like to join the Steering Group, help take action in developing any of the priorities, or just for further information please contact:

Administrator, Community Company  
E-mail: [contact@communitycompany.co.uk](mailto:contact@communitycompany.co.uk)  
Telephone: 01320 366800

## **KEEPING THE ACTION PLAN UP TO DATE**

We will organise a Community Action Plan annual review event once a year to report back to the community on how the plan is progressing and to engage people in taking priorities forward.

# COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2018 - 2023

**This Community Action Plan sets out the priorities for the development of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston over the next 5 years as determined by the community through an extensive process of community engagement carried out over a five month period from January – May 2018.**

This Community Action Plan and all the reports from the community engagement are available online at <http://www.communitycompany.co.uk>

## **The Plan contains**

- A summary of our Community Profile
- Our main likes and dislikes as identified in our Community Views Survey
- Our Vision Statement for the future of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston
- The main themes and priorities for action
- Information on how you can stay in touch and get involved.

The Plan is for the whole community and is jointly owned by all the organisations and individuals that took part in its preparation. We will be working together to ensure its implementation over the next 5 years.



**FALCK RENEWABLES**  
Sustainability at the core



**STAR**  
DEVELOPMENT  
GROUP

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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Photos by Deirdre MacKinnon with additional contributions from Iain MacDiarmid (Invermoriston Pier), Russell Bain (Loch ma Stac), Chris Johnston (The Hub at Dalchreichart), Errol Levings (Glenmoriston Millennium Hall). Thanks to all.