

# Tayport Community Trust

*promoting a vibrant and  
sustainable community in Tayport*

## Annual Report

2016-17

[www.TayportCT.org.uk](http://www.TayportCT.org.uk)

Tayport Community Trust is a Registered Scottish Charity (SC042558)  
and a Scottish Guarantee Company (SC350253)



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## Chair's Report

The first question to be answered for anyone who wonders why my name appears as chairman is: where did he come from? Earlier in 2017, I was approached by Tayport Community Trustees who asked me if I would be willing to chair Tayport Community Trust. I was happy to accept for three reasons; I had already chaired two Trusts that successfully achieved their goals, I had time to fulfil the role and (most importantly) I was impressed with the commitment and ability of those involved in TCT. The combination of these attributes usually means projects will be successful and, although there is still some way to go, so it is proving. The million pound plus award from the National Lottery for the new Community Hub earlier this year was a tremendous boost to the project and TCT's success in this demanding process, proved that their application had been comprehensively and professionally prepared. Far from sitting back and resting on that success, the TCT funding group sent out applications for support from dozens of other bequests and funding bodies and, thanks to the efforts of local councillors, Bill Connor, Tim Brett and Jonny Tepp,



the Trust were then successful in getting £250,000 from the North East Fife committee of Fife Council and followed it up with a similar award from Fife Council itself. Another tranche of support came from Leader, an organisation responsible for supporting local projects with money from Europe. As happens in such projects, once major funders lend support, other organisations come on board and Tayport now has pledges of cash from a range of bodies, including the Robertson Trust, the Northwood Trust, the Walter Craig Trust and the R & J Bleach Trust: all bringing TCT even closer to its goal. With a number of applications still in the pending tray, the hope is we will soon achieve our target and be able to start building the Hub early in 2018.

While there has been a great deal of progress, there is still a massive amount of work to be done before Tayport gains its long-awaited Community Hub. In the meantime, the various parts of TCT are all working well as you can see from the reports below. Thanks are due to all the volunteers who are making Tayport Community Trust one of the most active and successful community enterprises in the whole of Scotland.

## **Tayport Community Trust's purpose, activities and aims**

- To increase the strength and capacity of the Tayport community to attract additional resources.
- To explore the provision and improvement of community and sports facilities in Tayport.
- To explore and promote co-operation between existing Tayport organisations to mutual advantage.
- To promote economically, environmentally and socially sustainable policies at every stage of our business.
- To promote local enterprise.

## **Review of the last year**

During 2016-2017, the Trust's activities have been many and varied. Some, such as the Community Garden, the Fruitfest, Tannahill Weavers concert and Santa's Sleigh Collection, have been very evident, but many behind-the-scenes administrative activities are equally important to the achievement of our aims and require a considerable commitment of time and effort from the volunteers who run the Trust.

A few examples of these less obvious tasks that keep us so busy:

- Completion of grant applications: – in addition to the successful Big Lottery application, a further 19 major funding applications have been prepared and 55 letters sent to a variety of other potential sources of funding.
- Working with our design project leaders (Collective Architects) and local groups on the design of the Community Hub.
- Rationalising our committee structures to make the activities of TCT more effective and efficient.



- Producing up-to-date policies and procedures.
- Recruiting more volunteers and planning how we can best employ their skills to achieve the TCT objectives.

The following reports from each of our sub groups will give you a flavour of the year's activity.

## PLANT Report

### Background

PLANT is the name adopted by Tayport Community Trust's Gardening Sub-Group, established in 2011. Two PLANT members sit on the TCT Board. PLANT aims to support community growing activities in Tayport, particularly by the further development of Tayport Community Garden and associated social and educational activities.



PLANT has a formally constituted committee (currently with 6 members), including Chair and Administrator. Membership is open to any Tayport resident.

### PLANT Projects

**Fruit Tree Walk** - PLANT volunteers continue to maintain the Fruit Tree Walk. Both soft and tree fruit have been harvested this season. A fruit tree pruning workshop at the Walk was led by our Community Gardener earlier this year.

**Festivals** - PLANT and TCT once again ran our popular Fruitfest in October 2017. The weather was kind and this was a very well-attended event for families, with apple-juicing and children's activities, as well as music, seasonal science (fungi, moths etc) and games. A magnificent total of 1.2 tonnes of surplus apples donated from Tayport gardens was harvested and pressed, yielding over 800 litres of juice, most of which was pasteurized and made available to the community via PLANT's market stall.

**Community Garden** - Tayport Community Garden is now well-established as an attractive and popular outdoor space where local people of all ages and levels of experience can enjoy learning about growing food and the natural environment, and how to reduce their carbon footprints. It has a lively blog with plenty of back-up information where people can share their experiences and ideas in a number of formats. [www.tayportgarden.org/blog](http://www.tayportgarden.org/blog)

In March 2016, PLANT was fortunate to secure our second annual award from the Climate Challenge Fund for the Garden, allowing us to employ 3 part-time staff in 2016-17: a community gardener, volunteer co-ordinator and blog co-ordinator.

In February 2017, we were delighted to be awarded 3-year funding by Big Lottery Grants for Community-Led Activity, covering 86% of project costs until March 2020. The Climate Challenge Fund awarded complimentary funding for 2017-2018.



***Garden produce:*** By April 2017, 290m<sup>2</sup> of beds were ready for food production. By 31 October, 1.2 tonnes of produce had been harvested and sold, through a Sunday afternoon market stall at the Harbour, at the garden and events, earning over £2,600 to support PLANT's work. Five home growers are now enrolled in our Grow At Home scheme.

***Sustainable irrigation:*** This has been developed, based on rainwater collection from the polytunnel feeding into tanks with a combined storage capacity of 8000 litres. An efficient, solar-powered system is being installed to facilitate irrigation of both the polytunnel and the garden with stored rainwater.

***Community engagement:*** Staff continue to run three open volunteering sessions per week. There are now 139 volunteers on our database, with a smaller number of regular volunteers helping in the garden, at the stall, administration and blogging.

***Partnership with local groups:*** Tayport Scout's Hall provides wet weather access and cooking facilities, where volunteers make soup lunches for others from produce grown in the garden. We have met Alzheimers Scotland to plan a group based in the garden. Stratheden Hospital's horticultural therapy department are interested in volunteering opportunities in the garden for people with mental health needs.

***Community blogging and social media:*** People of all ages continue to contribute to PLANT's blog <http://tayportgarden.org/2017/08/18/climate-explorers-climate-superheroes-vs-carbon-footprint/>. Peter, our community gardener does a regular monthly video blog of seasonal advice.

<http://tayportgarden.org/category/blog/tayport-community-garden-diaries/>

Our monthly newsletter has 203 subscribers and PLANT's Facebook page has 512 followers.

***Learning:*** Tayport Primary School make weekly class visits, as part of the curriculum, working closely with PLANT's chair Margaret Robertson. Tayport Community Garden is now a registered Learning Destination for Children's University [www.childrensuniversityscotland.com](http://www.childrensuniversityscotland.com). Our Earth Explorers project began this summer with a garden pollinators trail, complete with QR code online links.

Four volunteers with additional needs completed the Royal Caledonian Horticultural Society's Grow and Learn Award 'Roots' scheme last year and were invited to demonstrate their skills at Gardening Scotland 2017.

Madras College in St Andrews sends pupils for structured gardening work experience to the garden, attending over a number of weeks during term time.

The garden has provided 2 student placements this year to primary teaching and community learning and development students from Dundee University.

Our weekly childminder's session offers lots of fun and learning activities for preschool children.



## **Awards for Tayport Community Garden:**

*Beautiful Fife 2017:* Judge's Award.

*Climate Challenge Fund 2017:* Winner of the Food category award.

*Nature of Scotland Award 2017:* Winner of the Community Initiative Award and finalist in the Youth and Education category.

## **Abertay Hub Project Report**

We now have a start date! The target date to begin building the Community Hub is April 2018, with an opening date of April 2019.

Site ownership was transferred to the Tayport community in May 2016, planning was approved and a professional design team has been contracted. After wide ranging consultation, design of the Hub build is now frozen. The project team would like to thank all those who have been involved with the consultation process for refining the design and to ensure it meets the majority of the community needs.

As noted in the Chair's report, our Big Lottery application was successful and this, along with a large number of additional successful awards has secured £2,144,000 of funding which is very close to our original target and has allowed us to put the project out to tender.

The tendering process is now well underway and will give us a more accurate idea of the cost of the building and determine whether we need to seek further funding and/or perform a 'value-engineering' process. In addition to the building costs, the Community Hub and the activities it houses will need to be staffed, so the Trust will be looking to secure even more funding to help the project get up and running. Although it is intended that the Hub will be self-sustaining, we recognise that it may take several years to acquire sufficient reserves to ensure the long-term security of the project.

Without doubt, to ensure success of the Hub project, we will need extra input from the community. To this end, a recruitment drive is planned to identify volunteers. Local residents with knowledge in key areas like finance, human resource, health & safety, fundraising, marketing, building and the law would be especially useful but opportunities exist in many areas and enthusiasm is the most important criterion! Please get in touch if you think you can help.

We hope be able to report further progress on the project at the AGM.

## **Youth bursary**

In March 2015, Tayport Community Trust launched a new Youth Travel Bursary to help the young people of Tayport to develop skills that will benefit their personal development and help the local community. The funds specifically aim to support travel costs for training or events. Although we had no applications in 2016/17, thus far we have received two in 2017/18.



The Trust Bursary Review committee members are Richard Tough, Luke Davies and local Councillor Bill Connor. Full information about the bursary, together with the application form, can be found on the TCT website. In view of the low number of applicants we are re-thinking how we market this bursary to the youth of Tayport. If you are, or you know someone who would benefit from this support, please get in touch.

## Tayport Community Enterprises Report

### A meeting venue

The Harbour Café is used as a meeting venue for various groups. Although we usually levy a small charge for this facility, free sessions are granted for local groups where their activity supports local community objectives.

### An art gallery

The Harbour Café walls are popular with local artists for displaying their artwork and we have hosted a wide variety of graphic art forms over the last year.

### An events venue

The Harbour Café is also used for events, such as Heart Start training for the Defibrillators in Tayport. We have also launched a second-hand book sale initiative which recently raised £153 which was donated to Tayport Playgroup. It is intended that the next donation will go towards funding the Worldwide Challenge Trip of two local lads.

### A place to work

The Harbour Café employs four members of staff and has a dedicated group of over 20 local volunteers of all ages and abilities who help by either serving the customers and/or producing baking for sale. All of our cakes are home baked, something we are proud to achieve. For a 3rd year running, the Café has gained a certificate of excellence from Trip Advisor. The credit for these achievements must be given to the staff and volunteers, who deserve a massive vote of thanks!





## Tayport Community Enterprises Current Directors

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date Appointed</b>
Anthony Gowland	August 2009
Colin McPhail	October 2017
Richard Tough	October 2016

## TCT Board of Directors 2015 -2016

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Date Appointed</b>
Andrew Arbuckle	Chair	15 <sup>th</sup> May 2017
Richard Tough	Vice chair	27 <sup>th</sup> November 2015
Tony Gowland	Treasurer	22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2008
Jim Kinnear	Community Council Representative	22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2008
ClIr Bill Connor		26 <sup>th</sup> November 2012
Jessie Roberts	PLANT Administrator	20 <sup>th</sup> November 2013
David Yule		22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2008
Joan Grant	Co-opted	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2017
Dave Vallis		1 <sup>st</sup> December 2016

### Auditors

Henderson Loggie  
Chartered Accountants  
Royal Exchange  
Panmure Street  
Dundee  
DD1 1DZ

### Bank

Triodos Bank  
50 Frederick Street  
Edinburgh  
EH2 1EX

### For more about TCT, see:

[www.TayportCT.org.uk](http://www.TayportCT.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/TayportCT](https://www.facebook.com/TayportCT)

[www.twitter.com/TayportCT](https://www.twitter.com/TayportCT)

### Useful email addresses:

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