

Thurso Community Council Community Development Plan – Updated April 2011

Item	Baseline Info Where are we starting from?	Desired Outcome What is our end objective?	Partners	Action Plan What will be done, who & when?	Start Date	Review Date	HSOA Local Outcome No	Project End Date
1	There are no signs at Thurso entrance to indicate where the town centre & shops are. Signage present at Church Square is cumbersome and unappealing.	Erect signage for shops & town centre at Tesco traffic lights, also in the precinct to encourage shoppers down to the arcade. Remove cluster of signs at Traffic Lights at Church Square	CCOC (Duo Town Centre Development Officer) + Steering Group TCC THC Councillors	JL, TCC & councillors working with Scotland Transerv re removal of cluster signs. Town Centre Development Officer to follow up new signage requirements.	Jun 2010 Feb 2011	Mar 2011 June 2011	4,7	October 2011
2	Scenic areas around Thurso Riverside upstream from cemetery are under discovered and quite inaccessible.	Improve access to east and west banks of river installing boardwalk to span ditches etc, kissing gates, gravel paths and form steps at difficult ground. Interpretation boards installed to highlight rare native species.	CBG, CP, SNH, TCC, TTIA, Rotary, ERI, OCA, THC Local Access Forum	Site visit 27/3. Meeting 9.6.10 Preliminary report produced. Application to THC HCPIP Enquiry re funding to SNH	Mar 2010 Jul 2010 Oct 10 & Mar 11 Mar 11	 Apr 2011	3, 5	Dec 2011
3	The balustrade above some of the shops in the centre of the pedestrian precinct appears under maintained.	A vibrant pedestrian precinct with lively advertising and/or hanging baskets along the length of the balustrade	Thurso Retailers Caithness Chamber of Commerce (TCDO) Thurso CC	CCOC Town Centre Development Officer to work with retailers (and residents where appropriate)	Feb 11	Oct 2011	3,7	December 2011

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4	There is coastal erosion along Thurso East path (from Harbour to Lady Janet's Seat); also from Murkle to Castletown	Thurso East path to be an attractive and safe walk for visitors and tourists. International surf competitors and all other surfers to be able to easily access sea from Thurso East path.	TCC THC HIE tourism John Thurso (land owner). Caithness Sports Facilities	THC has installed gate and signage TCC to liaise with HIE Tourism who are main link to Int Surf hosts	Jan 2010	Jul 2011	5,7	Ongoing
5	The Harbour area in Thurso has no facilities for water sports. Thurso is host to an international surf event. Main slipway does not support light craft.	A purpose built water sports facility that will meet all user needs and allow further development of water sport locally and of international surf competitions. Slipway repaired to support light craft.	Caithness Sports Facilities Ltd. THC HIE Thurso Harbour Trust Scrabster Harbour Trust CCOC	Caithness Sports Facilities Ltd already have planning permission for water sports facility, and are currently sourcing funding. Await HIE re surfers feedback at event in April 2011. CP & PCE to look at funding opps.	Ongoing	Aug 2011	3, 7, 14	Ongoing
6	There have been concerns raised regarding the age and maintenance of buses on Thurso & Thurso/Inverness route.	Well maintained and comfortable buses providing service to, from and within Thurso for passengers of all abilities	CP (Bus Users Group) TCC Stagecoach	Stagecoach held open consultation in Feb 2011 re new timetable (Apr 2011) 5 new buses arriving Jul 2011 for X99 service	ongoing	Aug 2011	1,4,9	Ongoing

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7	The inner slipway at the Ellan Bridge is too high for boats to use.	For the inner slipway to be useable by light vessels, in a good state of repair.	THC – tech services/ Tony Usher, Ken Purnell, THT Highland Harbour Manager, THC	Write to THT & THC.	Jan 2010	Jun 2011	3,5	Ongoing
8	Thurso town centre is not conducive to heavy transport. This could impact upon the marine energy industry, a key industries of the future for Caithness. Scrabster is likely to be the manufacturing 'hub' for the marine industry	Create a by-pass route starting from the southern approach of the A9 and heading west across the river towards the south side of the Dunbar Hospital to meet western distributor road and pass over the moors to the east of the business park, then finally down to Scrabster.	TCC THC NDA CNSRP Scottish Gov UK Gov Caithness Transport Forum Dounreay.com	Scottish Govt stated that Thurso Bypass does not represent sufficient value for money for them to consider and suggested that the proposed project be looked at from a local level. CTF are to seek funding for an updated assessment of transport 'enablers' for Caithness	Feb 2010 Mar 2011	 Sep 2011	3,4,7,14	ongoing
9	Several issues raised: underuse of line for freight; Passenger decline due to length of journey, cold trains, journey delays with poor	Increased use of north line for freight. Use another engine at Georgemas to shorten journey. Controlled heat throughout journey.	First ScotRail Caithness Transport Forum DORLAG	Actions ongoing with Caithness Transport Forum and are discussed at quarterly meetings.	Feb 2010	Jun 2011	1,4,9	Ongoing

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	information to customers, no catering on early train; station toilets locked until 9.45am	Better cascade of info to passengers re any unforeseen delays. Station toilets open prior to early train leaving. Lack of parking space at Station.						
10	Community representatives are eager to have Police presence in Thurso town to ensure ongoing safety locally.	Strong Police presence in Thurso, liaising comfortably with voluntary and statutory sector. Community reportedly feeling safe in and around Thurso.	Northern Constabulary	Strong relationship formed between Thurso CC and Northern Constabulary with Police attendance at monthly CC meetings and crime report produced monthly. Any issue arising is taken to NC at meeting and update fed back at next CC meeting.	Jan 2010	Dec 2011	2	MONITORING ONLY
11	During heavy rain, the bottom of Traill St has previously been flooded. Transerv Scotland have carried out some remedial work.	Good drainage to ensure that no area is flooded when there is heavy rainfall	THC Scotland Transerv Scottish Water	Transerv Scotland have carried out some remedial work – restricted by budgets Continue to monitor and feedback appropriately.	Jan 2010	Aug 2011	1,7	MONITORING ONLY

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12	The Thurso tennis courts are in poor condition and there are no suitable changing rooms in area.	Re-surface tennis courts for multi purpose use (basketball netball 5 a side football). Modernise Pavilion for use.	TCC THC	ECS have resurfaced courts. THC are aware of need for further improvements, however due to budget constraints are unable to commit at this moment in time.	Jan 2010	31.8.11	1,12	December 2011
13	There is no designated area for young people to gather in town centre.	Erect a Youth Shelter in the grounds of the tennis court area. Young people can gather there, still in town centre without causing alarm to any members of the public	TCC THC TII Thurso Youth Club	TIIA have secured funds and are awaiting confirmed date of installation of Youth Shelter	Jan 2010	31.3.11	2	June 2011
14	Fast traffic in Shore St and often poor vision. Residents in areas have raised concerns.	Traffic calming measures introduced that will benefit wider area rather than move 'boy racers' to nearby vicinity.	THC Northern Constabulary	JL has asked Ian Moncrieff, THC. For a review of situation following the introduction of traffic calming measures.	Mar 2011	Review community feedback after 1 year Apr 2011	2	May 2011

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15	Playparks in Thurso are run down, with very little play equipment.	2 new pieces of play equipment in each of the following parks: Murkle Terrace, Gillock Park, Mount Vernon, Pennyland	THC Councillors TII TCC	Cllrs & THC made £50k available for Pennyland Playpark. Any leftover funds to be used to improve other town playparks	Jan 2010	30.4.2011	5	ongoing
16	Ormlie Community Centre is well used facility but the lane from the car park to the Centre requires better re-surfacing	Tarmac or other Road surface structured and adopted by THC for ongoing maintenance	TCC OCA THC	Joint letter from OCA and TCC to THC. JL to discuss again with new manager	Feb 2010 Mar 2011	Apr 2011	1	Sept 2011
17	The former mart site is the site for the new TESCOS. Concerns have been raised by the public about when the build will be completed.	The site to be clear and fenced off safely prior to building work commencing. Confirmed date of opening from TESCOS	Tesco Caithness Chamber of Commerce (TCDO) TCC	TCDO & TCC to liaise with TESCO for update and feed back to stakeholders	Jan 2010	30.3.2011	3	August 2011

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18	Pentland Energy Advice are in the process of taking over Caithness Energy Advice and will be a 'Community Interest Company' in April 2011	PEA to be a profitable and sustainable CIC under the umbrella of Pentland Community Enterprises	PCE OCA TCC	Joanna Johnston, PCE to continue to lead the merger process	Nov 2010	Apr 2011	6,7,14	June 2011
19	Entrance to Thurso via A836 is untidy due to overgrown shrubbery and hedges opposite Harold Drive	Shrubbery and hedges cut back and grass maintained so that the entrance to Thurso via A836 is tidy and welcoming.	TCC THC Vol Group	TCC to arrange for volunteers to cutback shrubbery etc in order for THC to get grass cutting equipment in to area.	Mar 2011	May 2011	3,5	Ongoing
20	There are empty buildings in Thurso that may have potential to be turned into a social enterprise café wherein training opportunities are offered for unemployed or people with disabilities.	Building beside Thurso Harbour to be renovated and use changed – known as 'Watershed Project', a café combined with conference facility and training environment – a thriving social enterprise.	PCE THC TCC	PCE leading project and currently assessing demand and potential for proposed project	Jan 2011	Dec 2011	1,3,4,7,10,14	Ongoing

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