



Our Trust

The Comrie Development Trust is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status, owned and controlled by local people. The Trust was launched in July 2006 at a village festival called 'Comrie Alive' after 12 months development work. Over half of our village took part in a weekend of events that included the opening night of the Comrie Community Cinema; a market place of all 56 local groups; a village lunch; a village photograph; a ceilidh; a youth rock concert; and an ecumenical service. The Community Cinema night included the premiere of a film made by young people in the village called "Comrie Confidential".

We now have approaching 600 members and are one of the best-represented development trusts in the UK.

Our Aim

"To promote the sustainable development of our village for the benefit of local people, groups and businesses."

Our Priorities

To date our working groups are focusing on:

- The future of Cultybraggan Army Camp
- Renewable energy and sustainable development
- Meeting the needs of our young people
- Providing affordable housing and workspace
- Local history
- Social events and working with local groups



Comrie Carbon Challenge ↓ Our Future

The Trust will be working to motivate and galvanise our community for this big green challenge. We are applying to the new Scottish Government Climate Change fund for two complimentary approaches.

Firstly, we will continue our work on the sustainable development of Cultybraggan Army Camp. The zero carbon development of the camp will include:

- Ecological building construction methods
- Information events for local tradesmen and architects in eco construction
- Renewable energy sources for the site and village
- Local food production including allotments
- Food production programmes for local school children
- Homes and workspaces for local people and enterprises
- Biodiversity areas and woodland planting
- Footpath and cycle ways to the site
- Holding learning events in the village on all aspects of sustainable development



Secondly, we will be working with the whole village including:

- Work with the school, local businesses and local organisations
- Focus on personal responsibility (travel, energy use, shopping habits)
- Energy audits and renewable energy sources in homes and community buildings
- Renewable energy schemes for our community buildings
- A street by street energy reduction/insulation project
- Community composting, wormeries and recycling



"The New Comrie Allotment Society"



Our land – Cultybraggan Army Camp

In September 2007, our community purchased Cultybraggan Army Camp- 90 acres of land, on the edge of our village. The ballot turnout of 72%, with a majority in favour of 97%, highlights the importance of this opportunity to our community and was the most conclusive to date under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

Due to the extraordinary pressure for housing land (where a plot is currently £150-200k or more), other uses are economically challenging in our village. In recent years, we have lost essential services to housing. Our school has experienced some resultant difficulty attracting staff. Essential trades have difficulty finding housing. Local builders cannot find storage or workshop space.

Our land – Cultybraggan Army Camp

Our vision is for a project that will be model of sustainable development for rural communities across Scotland. It will deliver lasting benefits for our village from a range of possibilities:

- Local food production, allotments and enterprises
- Workspace for local tradesman and businesses
- Sports, leisure and recreation
- Heritage interpretation visitor attraction
- Commercial development
- Low cost home ownership for local youngsters and families (shared ownership eco housing)
- Quality land management and habitat protection
- Off- road access between the village and the camp.

