

# **Kelty**

## **Local Place Plan:**

# **Supporting Statement**

Prepared by: *Kelty Community Council*

Date: *June 2024*

## Contents

Item	Page
Introduction	2
Contact details	2
Regard given to the Local Development Plan	2
Regard given to the National Planning Framework	3
Regard given to the any relevant Locality Plan	
Reasons for amendments being sought to the Local Development Plan	3
Community support for the Local Place Plan	11
Evidence relating to the Information Notice	11
Appendix	14

## Introduction

This Supporting Statement forms part of the Local Place Plan submission to Fife Council and is accompanying the Kelty Local Place Plan dated 28/06/2024

## Contact details

Claire Kirk: [kirkclaire53@gmail.com](mailto:kirkclaire53@gmail.com)

## Regard given to the Local Development Plan

Fife's current Local Development Plan was approved in 2017 and sets out policies and proposals for the development and use of land across Fife. An annotated copy of the LDP map for Kelty is included in the local place plan for reference purposes.

## Regard given to the National Planning Framework

Scotland's National Planning Framework 4 was published in 2023 and sets out spatial principles, regional priorities, national developments and national planning policy.

Throughout the production of the Kelty Local Place Plan, reference was made to NPF4 policies.

We aligned our LPP community propositions with the NPF4 themes of Sustainable, Liveable and Productive Places.

We have also adapted open source GMS icons to represent each NPF4 policy. In this way the community proposition can be located on the LPP map by use of the NPF4 icon. This enables a consistent approach of national policy alignment with community propositions.

The NPF4 icon set can be viewed in the link below

<https://padlet.com/crthub/kelty-local-place-plan-ofnvlzkvopwug4x>

## Reasons for amendments being sought to the Local Development Plan

### Supporting Statements for Propositions and amendments to the Local Development Plan 2017: Kelty Propositions

#### NPF4 / 3 Biodiversity

**Proposal 1:** Plant a hedgerow between the farmer's field and the bottom park to create a wildlife corridor.

**Introduction:** This proposition is about planting a hedgerow to create a wildlife corridor between a farmer's field and the bottom park in Kelty. This initiative aims to enhance local biodiversity and support wildlife movement.

**Background and Context:** Hedgerows are crucial for biodiversity, providing habitats and food sources for various species. They also serve as natural corridors, facilitating the movement of wildlife across different habitats.

**Community Engagement and Support:** Community consultations have shown strong support for increasing local biodiversity. Key findings include:

- **Environmental Benefits:** Residents recognise the ecological value of hedgerows.
- **Support for Wildlife:** There is strong community support for initiatives that enhance habitats for local wildlife.

#### Justification for the Amendment:

1. **Biodiversity Enhancement:** Hedgerows support a wide range of species, contributing to local biodiversity.
2. **Wildlife Movement:** They provide corridors that facilitate safe movement for wildlife.
3. **Community and Environmental Health:** Enhancing green spaces supports both ecological health and community well-being.

**Alignment with NPF4 Policies:**

- **NPF4 Policy 3: Biodiversity:** This proposal supports the policy’s emphasis on enhancing and connecting habitats to improve biodiversity.

**Technical Considerations:** Technical considerations include:

- **Species Selection:** Choosing native plant species to maximise ecological benefits.
- **Maintenance:** Developing a maintenance plan to ensure the long-term health of the hedgerow.

**Conclusion:** Planting a hedgerow to create a wildlife corridor aligns with NPF4 policies on biodiversity and supports ecological and community health. We recommend approval of this initiative to enhance local biodiversity in Kelty.

**Proposal 2:** Improve parking and create a wildflower meadow at Lochore Country Park (The Meadies).

**Introduction:** This proposes improving parking facilities and creating a wildflower meadow at Lochore Country Park to enhance access and biodiversity.

**Background and Context:** Lochore Country Park is a popular recreational area that faces parking challenges. Additionally, creating a wildflower meadow can significantly enhance local biodiversity and aesthetic value.

**Community Engagement and Support:** Community feedback indicates strong support for these improvements. Key points include:

- **Access Issues:** Residents have highlighted the need for better parking facilities.
- **Biodiversity Support:** There is enthusiasm for initiatives that enhance local biodiversity, such as wildflower meadows.

**Justification for the Amendment:**

1. **Improved Access:** Enhanced parking facilities will make the park more accessible to visitors.
2. **Biodiversity Enhancement:** Wildflower meadows support a wide range of pollinators and other species.
3. **Community Benefit:** These improvements enhance both recreational and ecological value for the community.

**Alignment with NPF4 Policies:**

- **NPF4 Policy 3: Biodiversity:** This proposal supports the policy’s goals of enhancing and creating habitats to improve biodiversity.

**Technical Considerations:** Key technical considerations include:

- **Parking Design:** Ensuring the new parking facilities are environmentally sustainable.
- **Wildflower Meadow:** Selecting native wildflower species and developing a maintenance plan.

**Conclusion:** Improving parking and creating a wildflower meadow at Lochore Country Park will enhance both access and biodiversity, aligning with NPF4 policies. Approval of this initiative will benefit the environment and community.

---

**Proposal 3:** Plant a wildflower meadow at the top end of the park.

**Introduction:** This proposes planting a wildflower meadow at the top end of the park to enhance local biodiversity and create a visually appealing green space.

**Background and Context:** Wildflower meadows are vital for supporting pollinators and other wildlife. They also add aesthetic value to urban green spaces, providing colourful and vibrant areas for community enjoyment.

**Community Engagement and Support:** Community engagement has shown strong support for increasing local biodiversity through initiatives like wildflower meadows. Key points include:

- **Biodiversity Support:** Residents recognise the ecological value of wildflower meadows.
- **Aesthetic Appeal:** The community values the visual and recreational benefits of such green spaces.

**Justification for the proposition:**

1. **Biodiversity Enhancement:** Wildflower meadows support diverse species, particularly pollinators.
2. **Aesthetic and Recreational Benefits:** These meadows provide beautiful and engaging spaces for the community.
3. **Environmental Health:** Enhancing green spaces contributes to overall ecological health.

**Alignment with NPF4 Policies:**

- **NPF4 Policy 3: Biodiversity:** This proposal supports the policy’s emphasis on creating and enhancing habitats to improve biodiversity.

**Technical Considerations:** Technical considerations include:

- **Species Selection:** Choosing appropriate native wildflower species.
- **Maintenance Plan:** Ensure the meadow is properly maintained for long-term sustainability.

**Conclusion:** Planting a wildflower meadow at the top end of the park will significantly enhance local biodiversity and community well-being, aligning with NPF4 policies. Approval of this initiative is recommended for the ecological and aesthetic benefits it provides.

---

## **NPF4 / 7 Historic Assets and Places**

**Proposal:** Reference the following buildings and sites as historic assets of Kelty:

- The Masonic Hall, Main Street
- Moray Institute, Main Street
- St Joseph’s Church, Cocklaw Street
- Kelty Parish Church
- Kelty Primary School

**Introduction:** This proposition recognising specific buildings and sites in Kelty as historic assets. This initiative aims to preserve and highlight the cultural and historical significance of these structures.

**Background and Context:** Kelty has a rich history, and several buildings and sites hold significant cultural value. Recognising these as historic assets ensures their preservation and promotes local heritage.

**Community Engagement and Support:** Community consultations have shown strong support for preserving Kelty’s historic buildings. Key points include:

- **Cultural Heritage:** Residents value the historical and cultural significance of these sites.
- **Preservation Efforts:** There is strong community support for initiatives that preserve and maintain historic buildings.

### **Justification for the proposal:**

1. **Cultural Preservation:** Recognising these sites as historic assets ensures their protection and maintenance.
2. **Community Identity:** Preserving historic buildings strengthens local identity and pride.
3. **Tourism Potential:** Highlighting historic sites can attract visitors and support local tourism.

### **Alignment with NPF4 Policies:**

- **NPF4 Policy 7: Historic Assets and Places:** This proposal aligns with the policy’s emphasis on preserving and enhancing historic assets and places.

**Technical Considerations:** Technical considerations include:

- **Heritage Surveys:** Conducting surveys to document and assess the historical significance of these sites.

- **Preservation Plans:** Developing plans for the preservation and maintenance of the identified historic assets.

**Conclusion:** Recognising specific buildings and sites as historic assets aligns with NPF4 policies and supports cultural preservation in Kelty. Approval of this proposal will protect local heritage and enhance community identity.

---

## **NPF4 / 8 Preserve the Green Belt**

**Proposal:** Create a green belt linked to the Fife Climate Forest to support the protection and preservation of green space within and surrounding Kelty.

**Introduction:** This proposes creating a green belt linked to the Fife Climate Forest to preserve protected green spaces within and around Kelty. This initiative aims to safeguard natural landscapes and support climate resilience.

**Background and Context:** Green belts are essential for maintaining natural landscapes, preventing urban sprawl, and supporting biodiversity. Linking this green belt to the Fife Climate Forest enhances regional ecological connectivity and climate resilience.

**Community Engagement and Support:** Community engagement indicates strong support for preserving green spaces and enhancing climate resilience. Key points include:

- **Environmental Protection:** Residents value the protection of green spaces from development.
- **Climate Action:** There is support for initiatives that contribute to climate resilience and sustainability.

### **Justification for the Amendment:**

1. **Environmental Preservation:** A green belt protects natural landscapes and prevents urban sprawl.
2. **Biodiversity Support:** Enhancing green spaces supports diverse species and ecological health.
3. **Climate Resilience:** Linking to the Fife Climate Forest contributes to regional climate resilience efforts.

### **Alignment with NPF4 Policies:**

- **NPF4 Policy 8: Green Belt:** This proposal aligns with the policy's emphasis on preserving and enhancing green belts.

### **Technical Considerations:** Technical considerations include:

- **Ecological Assessments:** Conducting assessments to identify key areas for green belt designation.
- **Integration Plans:** Developing plans to integrate the green belt with the Fife Climate Forest.

**Conclusion:** Creating a green belt linked to the Fife Climate Forest aligns with NPF4 policies and supports environmental preservation and climate resilience in Kelty. Approval of this proposal is recommended for its ecological and climate benefits.

---

#### **NPF4 / 9 Brownfield, Vacant, Derelict Land, and Empty Buildings**

**Proposal:** Reference the following buildings and sites for potential community use:

- Old Baxters building – B914
- The Old Co-op building – Main Street

**Introduction:** This proposes repurposing brownfield sites and vacant buildings in Kelty for community use. This initiative aims to revitalize underutilised spaces and support community development.

**Background and Context:** Brownfield sites and vacant buildings present opportunities for community-driven development. Repurposing these spaces can enhance local amenities and stimulate economic growth.

**Community Engagement and Support:** Community consultations have shown strong support for repurposing underutilised sites. Key points include:

- **Community Development:** Residents support initiatives that enhance local amenities and services.
- **Economic Revitalization:** There is enthusiasm for projects that stimulate economic growth and job creation.

#### **Supporting Statement for Proposed Amendment to the Local Development Plan 2017**

##### **NPF4 / 21 PLAY, RECREATION AND SPORT**

#### **Proposition 1: Improve parking for the Lochore Meadows Country Park (The Meadies) at Great North Road**

**Introduction** This supporting statement is submitted in support of the proposed amendment to the Local Development Plan 2017 for Kelty. The proposal involves improving parking facilities at Lochore Meadows Country Park (The Meadies) along Great North Road to enhance accessibility and convenience for visitors.

**Background and Context** Lochore Meadows Country Park is a popular destination for residents and tourists, offering a variety of recreational activities. However, current parking facilities are inadequate to accommodate the growing number of visitors, particularly during peak times. This has led to congestion and inconvenience, impacting the overall visitor experience.

**Community Engagement and Support** Extensive community engagement activities, including surveys, public meetings, and consultations with local residents and park visitors, have shown strong support for improving the parking facilities. Key findings from the community engagement include:



- **Visitor Feedback:** A majority of respondents indicated that inadequate parking is a significant issue, causing frustration and limiting their visits to the park.
- **Local Business Support:** Local businesses support the proposal, recognizing that better parking will likely increase park visitation and, consequently, local commerce.
- **Environmental Concerns:** Respondents highlighted the need for environmentally friendly parking solutions that minimize ecological impact.

### Justification for the Amendment

1. **Enhanced Accessibility:** Improved parking facilities will enhance accessibility, making it easier for visitors to access the park and participate in recreational activities.
2. **Reduced Congestion:** By providing additional parking spaces, the proposal will reduce congestion and improve traffic flow around the park.
3. **Economic Benefits:** Increased visitation due to better parking will benefit local businesses and contribute to the local economy.
4. **Environmental Considerations:** The proposal includes environmentally friendly parking solutions, such as permeable surfaces and green infrastructure, aligning with sustainability goals.

### Alignment with NPF4 Policies

- **NPF4 Policy 3: Biodiversity:** The proposal includes landscaping and green infrastructure to support local biodiversity.
- **NPF4 Policy 21: Play, Recreation, and Sport:** Improving parking facilities directly enhances recreational infrastructure, promoting active lifestyles.
- **NPF4 Policy 22: Flood Risk and Water Management:** Incorporating sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) in the parking design will manage surface water runoff and prevent flooding.

### Technical Considerations

- **Design and Layout:** The parking design will consider the optimal layout to maximize space and ensure ease of access.
- **Sustainable Materials:** Use of permeable paving and green infrastructure will minimize environmental impact and support water management.
- **Traffic Management:** Effective traffic management strategies will be implemented to ensure smooth entry and exit from the parking area.

**Conclusion** Improving parking at Lochore Meadows Country Park (The Meadies) will significantly enhance visitor experience, reduce congestion, and support local businesses. The proposal aligns with NPF4 policies on biodiversity, recreation, and sustainable water management, ensuring a balanced and sustainable development approach.

## **Proposition 2: Make the ‘Line Walk’ a multi-user path to connect Kelty to Lochore Country Park and Blairadam Forest via the Iron Bridge**

**Introduction** This supporting statement is submitted in support of the proposed amendment to the Local Development Plan 2017 for Kelty. The proposal involves converting the ‘Line Walk’ into a multi-user path, creating a continuous route connecting Kelty to Lochore Country Park and Blairadam Forest via the Iron Bridge.

**Background and Context** The ‘Line Walk’ is a disused path that has the potential to become a valuable recreational asset. Connecting it to Lochore Country Park and Blairadam Forest would create a continuous network of paths, encouraging outdoor activities and promoting connectivity within the community.

**Community Engagement and Support** Community engagement activities have revealed strong support for the proposal. Key findings from community engagement include:

- **Increased Accessibility:** Residents expressed a desire for better-connected paths to facilitate outdoor activities such as walking, cycling, and running.
- **Health and Well-being:** There is widespread recognition of the health benefits associated with increased physical activity and access to nature.
- **Tourism Potential:** Enhancing the path network is seen as a way to attract more visitors to the area, benefiting local businesses.

### **Justification for the Amendment**

1. **Promotes Active Lifestyles:** The multi-user path will encourage walking, cycling, and other outdoor activities, contributing to healthier lifestyles.
2. **Enhances Connectivity:** Creating a continuous route will improve connectivity between Kelty, Lochore Country Park, and Blairadam Forest, making it easier for residents and visitors to access these areas.
3. **Tourism and Economic Benefits:** The improved path network will attract tourists, benefiting local businesses and contributing to the local economy.
4. **Environmental and Social Benefits:** Providing a safe, accessible outdoor space will support mental health and well-being, while also encouraging sustainable transport options.

### **Alignment with NPF4 Policies**

- **NPF4 Policy 13: Sustainable Transport:** The proposal promotes sustainable transport by encouraging walking and cycling.
- **NPF4 Policy 21: Play, Recreation, and Sport:** Creating a multi-user path enhances recreational infrastructure, supporting active lifestyles.

### **Technical Considerations**

- **Path Design:** The path should be designed to accommodate multiple users, including pedestrians, cyclists, and those with disabilities.
- **Safety Measures:** Adequate lighting, signage, and safety barriers should be installed to ensure the path is safe for all users.

- **Environmental Impact:** The path development will consider environmental impact, with measures to protect local flora and fauna and minimise disruption.

**Conclusion** Converting the 'Line Walk' into a multi-user path will significantly enhance recreational opportunities, promote active lifestyles, and improve connectivity within Kelty. This proposal aligns with NPF4 policies on sustainable transport, recreation, and environmental protection, ensuring a balanced approach to community development and well-being.

## **Community support for the Local Place Plan**

### **Community Consultation - Gathering Everyone's Views**

A series of community engagement events and on line surveys for over a year has enabled us to gather people's views to help inform this plan.

#### **Consultations:**

The Community Centre hosted a Place Standard Assessment session as well as an evening mapping workshop hosted by Kelty Community Council, facilitated by CRT.

A community voting event to prioritise local issues combined with a community mapping workshop was held in the Masonic Lodge.

This event was promoted to the wider public inviting local residents to attend.

Kelty 3 Wishes Campaign - the 3 Wishes campaign took the form of a postcard and on-line survey option, as well as postcards being available at local events.

## **Evidence relating to the Information Notice**

The proposed Local Place Plan and information notice were sent on 06/05/2024

### **Kelty Local Place Plan Information Notice 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

From Claire Kirk, Secretary, Kelty Community Council

Local Place Plans are plans produced by and for local communities, and have a focus on development and land use. Their main role is to help inform and shape the Fife Local Development Plan.

Area covered by this LPP:

The boundary and scope of the LPP covers the Kelty Community Council area and follows the Kelty Community Council boundary.

A full detailed boundary map is included within the LPP document.

In accordance with the requirements set out in the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1977 as amended by the Planning Act 2019 and the Town and Country Planning (Local Place

Plans) (Scotland) Regulations 2021. Regulation 4. I attach here a draft copy of the Kelty Local Place Plan for consultation.

This Local Place Plan will be submitted by Kelty Community Council on behalf of the Kelty community. The consultation period will run from 6<sup>th</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June

A copy of this letter and the draft copy of Kelty Local Place Plan has been sent to:

- Saline and Steelend Community council
- Benarty Community Council
- Cowdenbeath Community Council
- Townhill Community Council
- Kingseat Community Council
- Lumphinnans Community Council
- Lochgelly Community Council
- Ward Councillor Darren Watt
- Ward Councillor Alex Campbell
- Ward Councillor Alie Bain
- Ward Councillor Bailey-Lee Robb
- Ward Councillor Mary Bain Lockhart
- Ward Councillor Linda Erskine
- Ward Councillor Rosemary Liewald
- Ward Councillor Lea McLelland
- Ward Councillor Auxi Barrera
- Ward Councillor Gavin Ellis
- Ward Councillor Gordon Pryde
- Ward Councillor Aude Boubaker-Calder
- Ward Councillor Derek Glen
- Ward Councillor Jean Hall Muir
- Ward Councillor Jim Leishman
- Ward Councillor Graeme Downie
- Ward Councillor Sam Steele
- Ward Councillor Conner Young

Please contact Kelty Community Council if you have any questions.

Email Claire Campbell Secretary Kelty CC [claire@northroadgarage.co.uk](mailto:claire@northroadgarage.co.uk)

### **Statement on Engagement (to meet Para71-73 LPP Circular)**

The Kelty Local Place Plan sets out the consultation process along with levels of participation. The Steering group which had representatives from Kelty Community Council were given a regular report on the progress of the consultations and a vote was taken on the wording of the final LPP by the Kelty Community Council members in May 2024

The steering group were responsible for planning the consultations before they took place. Members had full sight of all consultation documents, survey monkey polls and the final draft. They were asked to approve, or amend, the wording of contents of any public consultation document or poll. Their decision was final in all cases.

The view of The Kelty Community Council is that the Kelty Local Place Plan provides an accurate (and evidence backed) view of Kelty residents and should be treated as representing 'the voice of the people'.

**Points of Reference:**

Key Propositions included in the LPP relate to:

- Historic assets and locations for potential community uses
- Regeneration projects
- Improving greenspace and biodiversity,
- Improved infrastructure
- Active travel improvements such as the 'Line Walk' - a multi user path to connect Kelty to Lochore Country Park and Blairadam Forest via the Iron Bridge

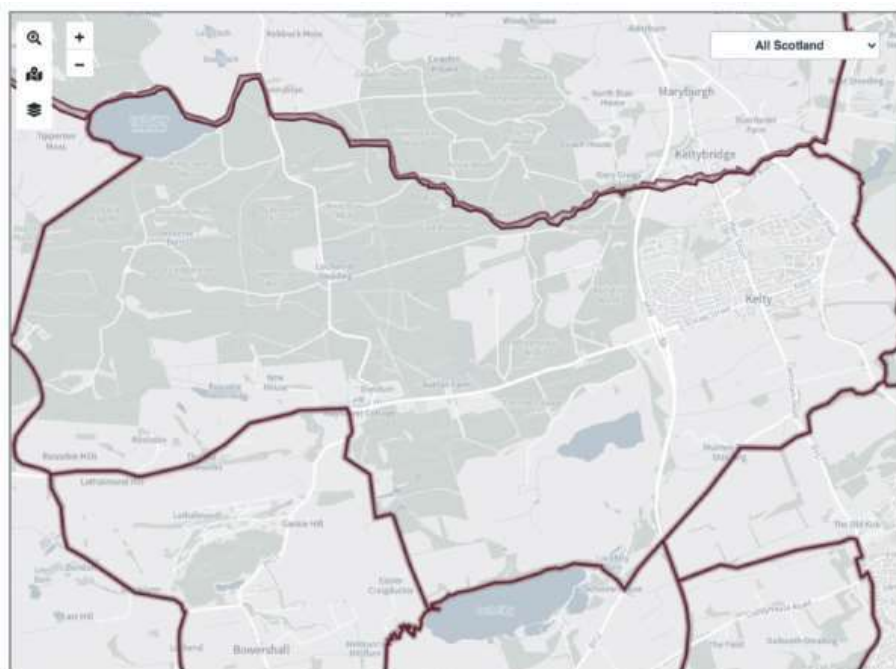
These propositions are mapped, detailed and set out within the LPP document

Please send any representations you wish to make on the draft Kelty Local Place Plan to Claire Campbell, Secretary Kelty Community Council Email : [claire@northroadgarage.co.uk](mailto:claire@northroadgarage.co.uk)

Deadline for representations is 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024

*Thank you*

**\* Community Councils and their boundaries can be found on the following interactive map:**  
<https://www.fife.gov.uk/kb/docs/articles/about-your-council2/politicians-and-committees/community-councils/list-of-community-councils-and-boundaries>



**Kelty Community Council Boundary Map and Local Place Plan area**

## Appendix :

Throughout the Place Plan development and consultation phases, the existing Fife Local Development Plan has been a main point of reference in relation to future land use in Kelty

The plans considered were as follows

1. Fife Local Development Plan 2017 [Local development plan \(FIFEplan\) | Fife Council](#)
2. Local Outcome Improvement Plan for Fife 2017-2027  
[A Plan for Fife | Our Fife - Creating a successful, confident and fairer Fife](#)
3. [Kelty Community Action Plan 2016 - 2021](#)
4. The Fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4) was consulted throughout the same period.  
<https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4/>
5. <https://know.fife.scot/>

The Kelty Local Place Plan 2024 and associated information can be found by clicking on the link below

<https://padlet.com/crthub/kelty-local-place-plan-ofnvlzkvopwuq4x>