

Banff and Macduff - Engagement Event Feedback

Sports, Leisure and Community facilities in Macduff

SPORTS

- Climbing wall - very popular in Inverness and Aberdeen (2 mentions)
- Covered pitch (2 mentions)
- Boxing facilities - permanent set up of ring, punch bags etc
- There is a need for mixed sports on pitches with an aim at families
- Space for seven aside and galas at the school
- Squash courts - existing is 36 years old, need for competition
- Cycling facilities - local cycling clubs are growing
- Covered pitch (2 mentions)
- Tennis courts for tennis club - larger area needed for toddlers, keep existing area for toddlers and move new facilities to communal area
- Dedicated evening for tennis club indoors and outside
- Flood lights on the grass pitch

FACILITIES

- Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) Compliance
- Room sizes must be flexible and sports hall must increase in size dramatically (2 mentions)
- Fitness suit must be a reasonable size
- Changing facilities are too few, can some rooms be multi-purpose and revert to changing facilities when required?
- Sauna
- Indoor for training space, existing hall is far too small
- Public toilet facility required
- Pressure on the grass pitch from Banff as they have no grass - don't have a grass pitch and replace with a covered training facility instead - Astroturf (2 mentions)
- Facilities for over 55s
- Storage facility must be increased (3 mentions) to ensure a mixed use of sport and equipment
- Good opening hours for sports facilities
- Focus on children's groups - proposal seems suitable so far
- Accessibility for prams and wheelchairs must be suitable (4 mentions)
- More community facilities e.g. cinema/theatre, saves travelling to Aberdeen
- Must be open all year round and evenings and weekends
- Public Wi-Fi access

COMMUNITY

- Needs support from community and volunteers
- Is car parking sufficient? 30 spaces is too little and can be dangerous (8 mentions)
- Don't want over-spill impacting on local residents

- Community Centre in Macduff is not used and has no one to run it, not enough variety of sports e.g. Focuses far too much on football (2 mentions)
- Challenge around integrating older and younger, suggested an internet cafe
- Agree to maximise the space but the cost and charge will be an issue (3 mentions)
- No drop in centre at the school and spend the money on a modest Better Life Centre in Macduff
- Security must be incorporated to make it safe for children
- Regenerate Macduff for tourism, everyone would benefit - Town hall, Macduff Arts Centre
- Should be a 50/50 split with facilities in Macduff and Banff
- Fife St learning centre bus accessibility - Reroute stagecoach bus to new campus
- Travel congestion worries, Berrymuir Road, volume of cars will increase
- Current Drainage is not sufficient - needs leveling out (3 mentioned)
- In Peterhead there are issues with anti-social behaviour, how will the council stop this?
- Should not just be sport, should offer as many facilities as possible to all age groups

Sports and Leisure and Community facilities in Banff

SPORTS

- Squash court facilities, two courts and a gallery (6 mentions) - massively high demand for existing courts.
- Boxing club facilities (2 mentions)
- Six a side cricket pitch
- Climbing wall (2 mentions)
- Athletic Pavilion, separate from weather pitch
- Archery
- Hockey facility (2 mentions)

FACILITIES

- Must be suitable for the elderly and disabled
- Sports village concept
- All weather pitch at Banff primary is not used, needs a caretaker which is not affordable
- Movable walls/partitions between fitness rooms, and community rooms
- Refreshed plans look good but indoor Astroturf would be good (the larger the better) increase hall size to accommodate. (2 mentions)
- Cover the running track and the pitch (4 mentions)
- Is car parking sufficient? (7 mentions)
- Kinder-gym and playgroup needs to be better clarified
- Rooms need to be bigger, more flexible and multi-purpose (3 mentions)

- Having all facilities (sports and communal) up a set of stairs is not practical, should be on the level of the entrance to make accessibility better
- Be good to have more facilities opposite the swimming pool (single set of changing rooms on both wet and dry side. Integrate new facilities with Pool
- Cafe needs to be large with a welcoming atmosphere
- Sauna and steam room
- Meeting rooms available for wide range of people to use
- Storage facilities must be larger for all groups to store equipment effectively
- Redevelop Skate park (2 mentions)
- Concern about community rooms downstairs and sports upstairs
- Will the facilities be open to the public evening and weekends? What will the public access be?
- Changing facilities must be increased perhaps mixed team rooms
- An air-conditioned space (maybe for aerobics etc)
- Library facilities need to be modernised but left in current location
- Rooms upstairs are not accessible, needs to be on the ground floor for disabled and mothers and babies.
- Big space needed for horticultural shows etc
- Public Wi-Fi access (3 mentions)
- Outdoor play space is a necessity
- Young children facilities, including all ages in group halls
- Music room (soundproof) and equipment storage, possible link to other groups with different ages (possible link to local church groups)
- Duplication of aerobics and fitness studio
- Soft play areas

COMMUNITY

- At least five community rooms
- Replace and enhance community facilities
- Should be looking at a centre for excellence rather than 2 separate community based facilities; either Banff or Macduff
- Deserve equivalent to Elgin facilities
- Don't want over-spill to effect residents (needs to be discussed further)
- Duff House sports club would lose support on the sports side of their business (owned by the rugby club) this needs further discussion
- Facilities at the school will not benefit the community due to location, needs to be in an area and of good quality to be used by all ages and groups
- Individual sports clubs wants recognised but how would this work?
- Concerned that the cost of accessing communal facilities at 'school' will be a higher cost
- In Peterhead there are issues with anti-social behaviour, how will the council stop this?
- Need permanent space for Banff Playgroup

- Accessibility must be reviewed; it is not on a bus route.
- Pathways and lines, approx 20 miles of cycle lanes, minimum.
- Duff house grounds is the local area for young people for drink misuse, if it is school based it might stop some of this behaviour and would be better for the whole community

Any other comments

SPORTS

- Velodrome around running track
- Rugby/Hockey must be considered, everything is marked for football

FACILITIES

- Would be concerned if cost per play increased
- Concerned that changing rooms at Banff Academy are not large enough
- Glass viewing would be good for enticing new participants into sports they have never tried
- Will there be space and facilities for those with learning difficulties
- Issue about Scouts facility - not fit for purpose in either proposal - new or old in Banff: sports are accounted for but community use such as scouts is not
- Is the proposed kitchen proposed as a cafe or community kitchen, maybe both options would be better?
- Arts generally require greater focus - perhaps too much focus on sporting facilities, can they be interchangeable?
- New facilities must be affordable for public (3 mentions)
- Need conformation that pre-school provision is what is needed
- Storage needs much more thought - lots of groups have requirements to store
- Is there a need for drop in facilities in Banff
- Who is running facilities, upkeep and running costs?
- What would the atrium be used for other than light?
- New community centre in town and library
- Current halls should be upgraded and incorporated with latest technologies
- Enable easy movement from gym/sports hall to swimming pool - attached by corridor maybe (allows people to not have to get dressed to go to the pool.
- Physiotherapy rooms
- Space for music and recording facilities
- Steam room/ sauna and Jacuzzi
- Canoe store with direct access to pool

COMMUNITY

- Need a cinema (lots of mentions)
- Regeneration issues of concern, what will the Tesco store mean for other local businesses?
- Unanimous - better at the academy sight
- Need the sports clubs across Banff and Macduff to be coordinated in needs
- Query around the Court of Session timescale - concerns about time/scale if proposal changes
- Community space could be larger for bands/community groups. We need a cinema and theatre, this could be incorporated together
- Concern that older people will not attend
- Concern over disruption to Macduff primary school as work is being done
- Really do need somewhere for teenagers to go at night
- Why not have all facilities in one simple location
- Regeneration of town centre is important, what is being done to keep shops open what will Tesco do to encourage this? Will Tesco help in the future if the town needs it?
- A committee should meet regularly and decide how to sustain and maintain facilities
- What do the council do to support the established new clubs/facilities and existing businesses?
- Is there an event for children to express their views and what they would like to see?
- Must try to get businesses to be reinvest in the town centre to promote different, individual businesses
- Macduff possibly needs more community type facilities and not just sports
- What are Tesco's going to do with the old store? (3 mentions)
- Active Aberdeenshire activities - confirm this is included in 'AA'
- YMCA consult with group - Boys Brigade, disabled groups etc
- Changing demographic should be promoted and encouraged

ROAD ISSUES

- Access to school is not great, need better access - widen the top of the road for better access
- Widen bridge at second bridge crossing
- Traffic management review and new system Banff and Macduff
- Free parking!
- Parking at Macduff pitches
- Banff cycle path is great, should link to Macduff
- Support for new mums as part of the facility
- Invest in wind turbines to give an income using capital spend - the community would benefit
- Reinvest in regenerating Macduff rather than creating new developments.