

Cupar Town Centre Charretteplus®: Booklet of Community Proposals



Cupar Could

June 2016



Cupar Could

Help shape
future of your
centre and I
what you

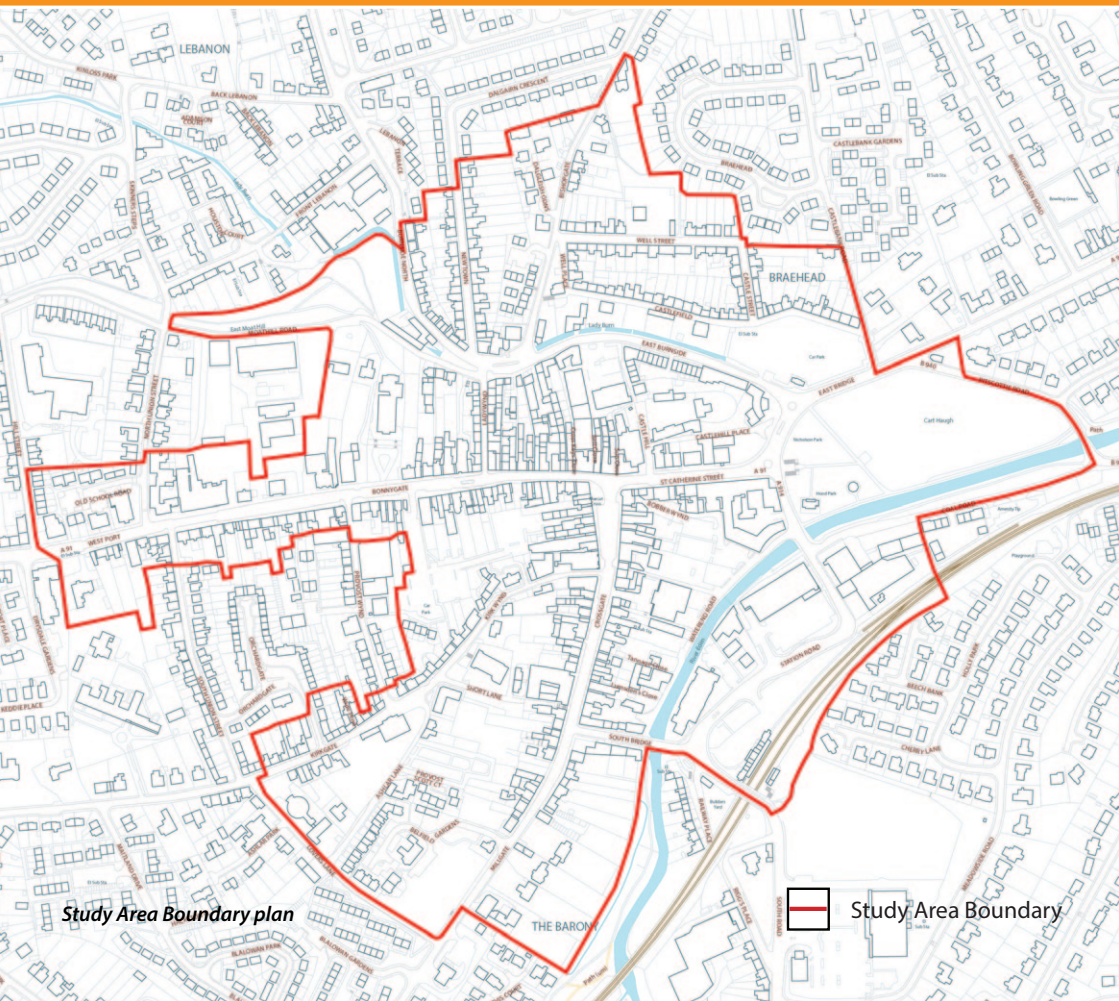
ST. COLUMBA'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL



“Planning plays an important role in creating safer and more pleasant places in Scotland which are more sustainable and attract investment so I am particularly pleased that we have seen so many community groups come forward directly with ambitions to improve their environments and receive funding to further their own charrettes.”

Quotation from Marco Biagi, Minister for Local Government and Community Empowerment at Cupar Could Charrette held on 18th March 2016, in presentation to the people of Cupar.

Cupar town centre charretteplus® took place in early 2016 with the aim of promoting a community dialogue on the role and future improvement of the town centre, culminating in the production of the town centre strategy and action plan contained in this report. The charrette initiative was led by Cupar Development Trust and other local stakeholders with support from PAS and funding from the Scottish Government, Fife Council and Awards for All.





Cupar is a small historic town in north-east Fife with a growing population of approaching 10,000 people. The town is a commercial focus for north-east Fife, an attractive place to live and an easy place from which to commute. The town centre, in common with most others, faces challenges from changing economic trends and lifestyles. The aims of the charrette were to:

- identify and address key **town centre issues** for the Cupar community – including understanding how the town centre can function better as a whole, highlighting vital links and places within the town centre where improvement is necessary;
- provide a framework / programme for **collaborative effort** to improve the town centre to allow broad support from all;
- deliver **economic, social and cultural benefits** for the town centre;
- identify both **spatial and non-spatial actions** (physical and non-physical); and
- help create a positive place which **promotes activity, interaction and well-being**.

The proposals responding to these aims were produced through extensive community engagement (face-to-face, telephone and online) during the first half of 2016, with three phases:

- initial pre-charrette engagement in January and February 2016.
- charrette workshops and exhibition in March 2016.

- a feedback summit in April 2016 to help move from transition to delivery.

The proposals aim to make Cupar town centre the heart of a sustainable contemporary market town. They are grouped under five themes:

1. **Access and wayfinding**
2. **People friendly**
3. **Distinctive market town**
4. **Culture and heritage**
5. **Historic townscape**

A number of proposals were developed under these themes during the charrette. These complement existing actions already being undertaken by local stakeholders, and tend to focus on physical 'placemaking' proposals because of the nature of a charrette.

Each of the proposals emerging from the charrette will need collaborative action to be delivered. The basic steps required to deliver each proposal are explained in the report. Common to all of them is the need to agree the partners for each proposal and a project champion. Cupar Development Trust has indicated that it is willing to initiate that process of collaborative working, but it is keen to ensure that it is not seen as the sole lead organisation – effective delivery will depend on different groups working together. Town centre improvement requires bringing together a set of actions in which different partners make contributions using their skills and resources. Co-ordination must start with mutual understanding of what each can contribute and agreement on when the action can be taken.

Themes

Charrette proposals

Projects already happening

Aim:

A sustainable contemporary market town

Contributing Components:

Increase the town centre's attraction as a distinctive, satisfying and adapting market place

1. ACCESS & WAYFINDING
Improve walking & cycling to town centre.
Town centre signage for visitors from station & car parks.
Links with wider town path network.

2. PEOPLE FRIENDLY
Prioritise pedestrian movement in town centre.
Improve pavements & reduce clutter.
Introduce low-speed environments.
Encourage public access to closes.

3. DISTINCTIVE MARKET TOWN
Increase footfall & spending in town centre.
More independent & innovative enterprises - speciality shops, small businesses, eating & social enterprises for locals & visitors.

4. CULTURE & HERITAGE
Promote local culture & art.
Promote town centre heritage & uniqueness.
Design for range of age/user groups.
Opportunities for people of all ages.

5. HISTORIC TOWNSCAPE
Conserve, re-use & adapt historic buildings.
Regenerate derelict sites for housing, commerce & greening.

Station to town centre (a)
Signage strategy (b)

Burnside public realm improvements (c)
Lady Wynd public realm improvements (c)
Crossgate (c)
Bonnygate public realm improvements (c)

Burnside public realm improvements (c)
Lady Wynd public realm improvements (c)
Crossgate (c)
Bonnygate public realm improvements (c)

Ferguson Square (d)
Haugh Park (e)
Heritage trail & interpretation (f)
Public arts (g)

ATS/Ford sites redevelopment (h)

Cupar Active Travel network

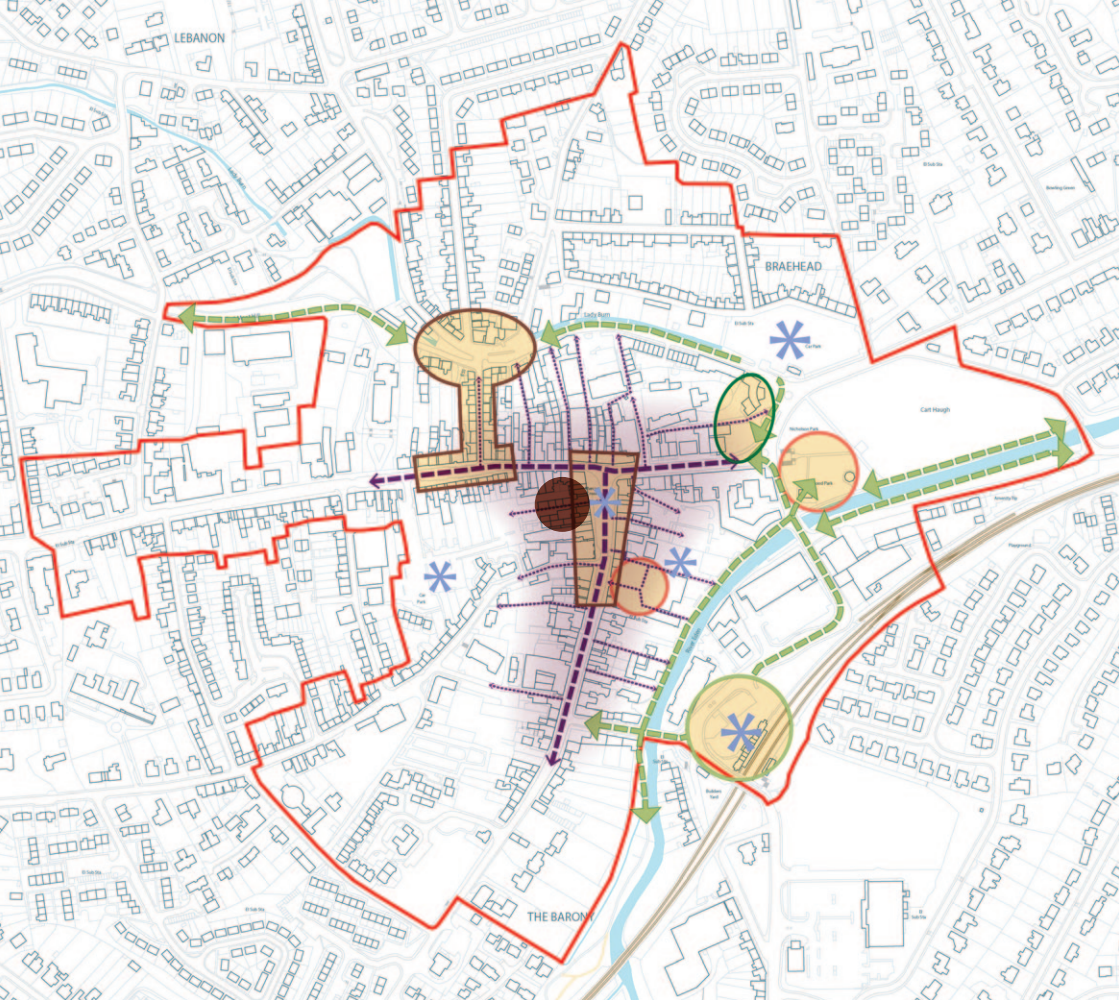
Pavement improvements

Tourism / marketing development
Business support

CARS Closes initiative
Landscaping of ATS site
CARS County Buildings conservation
CARS Burgh Chambers

CARS Bonnygate building frontages
Inner Court redevelopment

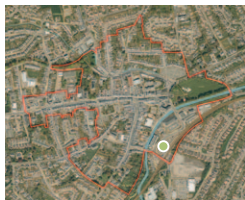
Diagram showing Aim & Contributing Components, Themes and Proposals from the Charrette.



Plan showing how charrette proposals interlink

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
|  | Key Visitor Arrival Points |  | Culture and Heritage Operational Objective (4) |
|  | Improved Wayfinding Routes |  | Historic Townscape Operational Objective (5) |
|  | Site Specific Proposal Locations |  | Key Historic Routes |
|  | Access and Wayfinding Operational Objective (1) |  | Key Closes |
|  | People Friendly / Distinctive Market Town Operational Objective (2/ 3) |  | Historic Market Town Focus Area |
| | |  | 'Inner Court' Proposal |

1. ACCESS AND WAYFINDING PROPOSALS A AND B



Proposal
a. Station to Town Centre

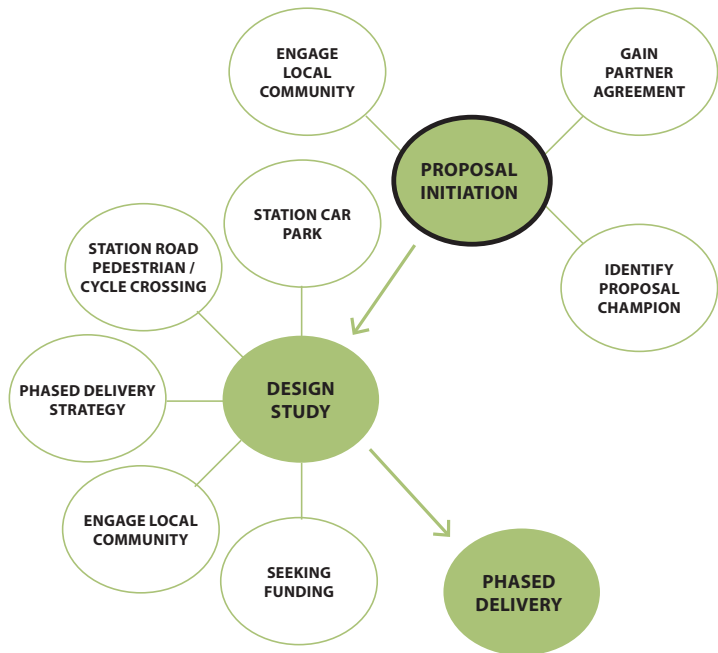
Key Players
Abellio Scotrail
Cupar Development Trust
Fife Council
Owners and Occupiers
Sustainable Cupar

Opportunities for Others
Cupar Arts
Cupar Heritage
Cupar in Bloom
Sustainable Cupar

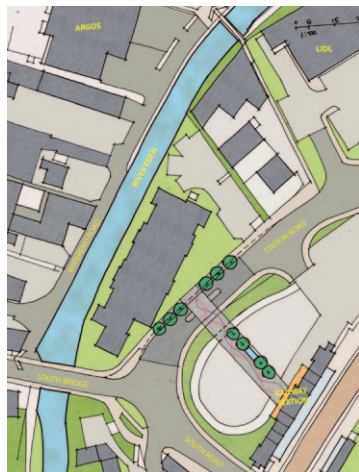


Image showing route between town centre and train station, along Station Road

Visualisation showing range of potential improvements to route including narrowing road carriageway, tree planting
decluttering of street furniture and improved footpath material



Plan indicating
enhanced arrival point
and pedestrian route
to station





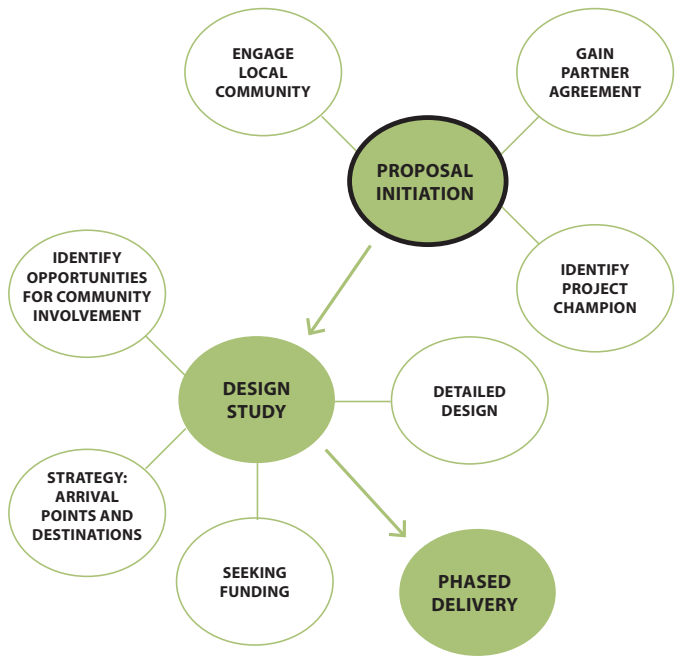
Proposal
b. Signage Strategy

Key Players

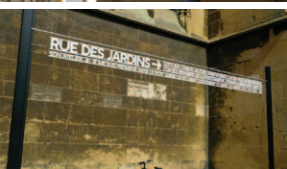
Abellio Scotrail
ABCD
Cupar Development Trust
Cupar Heritage
Fife Council
Sustainable Cupar

Opportunities for Others

Cupar Arts
Cupar in Bloom



A series of images showing signage case studies that show rationalisation of clutter, creative and distinctive signage design, and signage that promotes / celebrates the history / 'story' of a place.



2. PEOPLE FRIENDLY / 3. DISTINCTIVE MARKET TOWN PROPOSAL C



Proposal c. Burnside, Lady Wynd and Bonnygate Public Realm Improvements and Crossgate

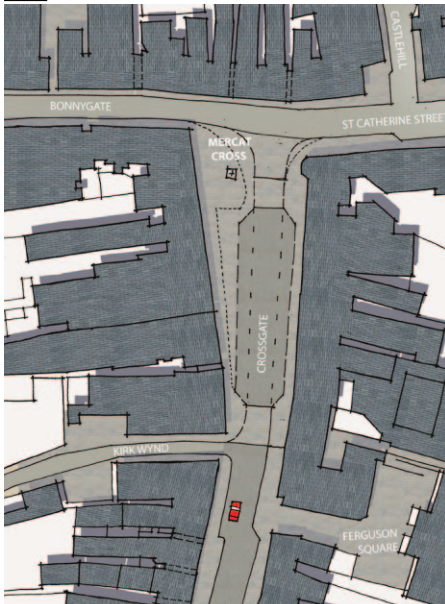
Key Players

ABCD
Cupar Development Trust
Fife Council
Owners and Occupiers
Sustainable Cupar

Opportunities for Others

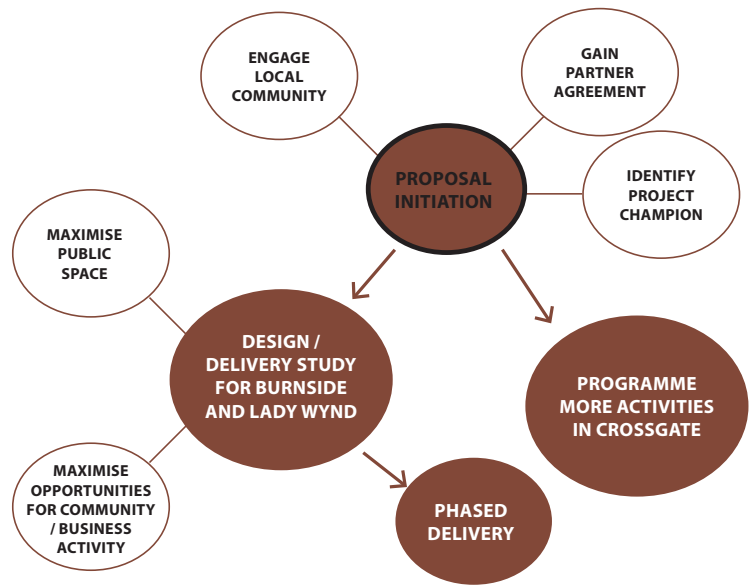
Cupar Arts
Cupar Heritage
Cupar in Bloom

 Current Road Alignment



Plan indicating a re-alignment of the kerb at the Crossgate Junction, reducing radii at the turn to free up footpath space around Mercat Cross.

Plan showing example of how Bonnygate, Lady Wynd and Burnside could be improved





Bonnygate Road is visually and physically (layout and alignment) complex and disjointed. Consider reviewing and re-designing the street for mixed use and greater pedestrian movement.



Image showing current junction at Crossgate



Image of Burnside showing current dimension of road carriageways and street clutter.

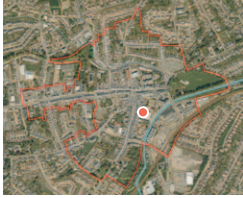
Visualisation of Burnside showing a range of potential improvements to space, including streetscape changes such as reduction in road space, material change and decluttering of pedestrian spaces.



Image showing pedestrianised lane to Ferguson Square from Crossgate.

Visualisation showing a range of potential improvements to enhance the interface and gateway entrance to Ferguson Square, with planting etc. aesthetically improving this link while enticing pedestrians to the square.

4. CULTURE AND HERITAGE PROPOSALS D - G



Proposal d. Ferguson Square

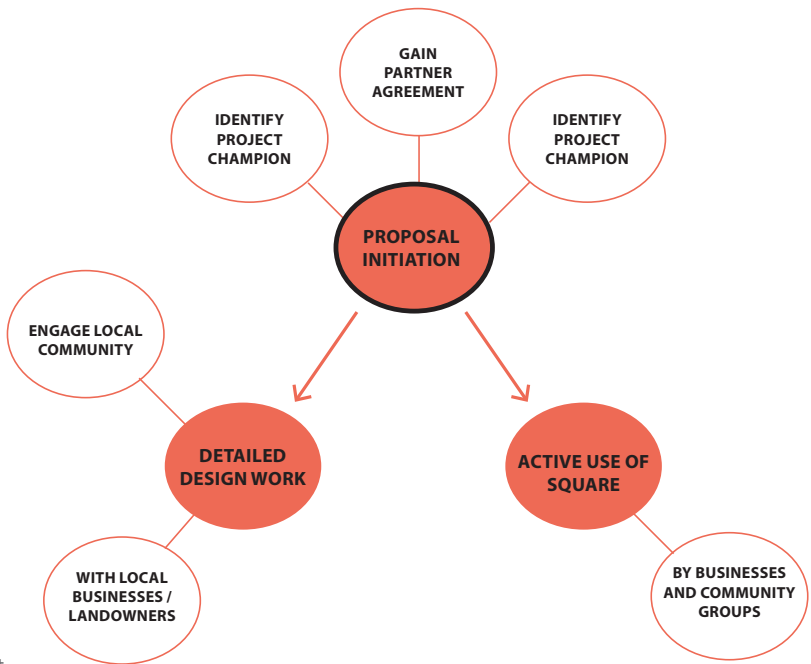
Key Players

ABCD
Cupar Development Trust
Fife Council
Fife Historic Buildings Trust
Landowners

Opportunities for Others

Cupar Arts
Cupar in Bloom
Sustainable Cupar

Visualisation showing the range of potential improvements to Ferguson Square including planting, surface material change and a mobile plant stall.



*Image showing
Ferguson Square*





Proposal
e. Haugh Park

Key Players

Cupar Development Trust
Fife Council
Sustainable Cupar

Opportunities for Others

Cupar Arts
Cupar Heritage
Cupar in Bloom

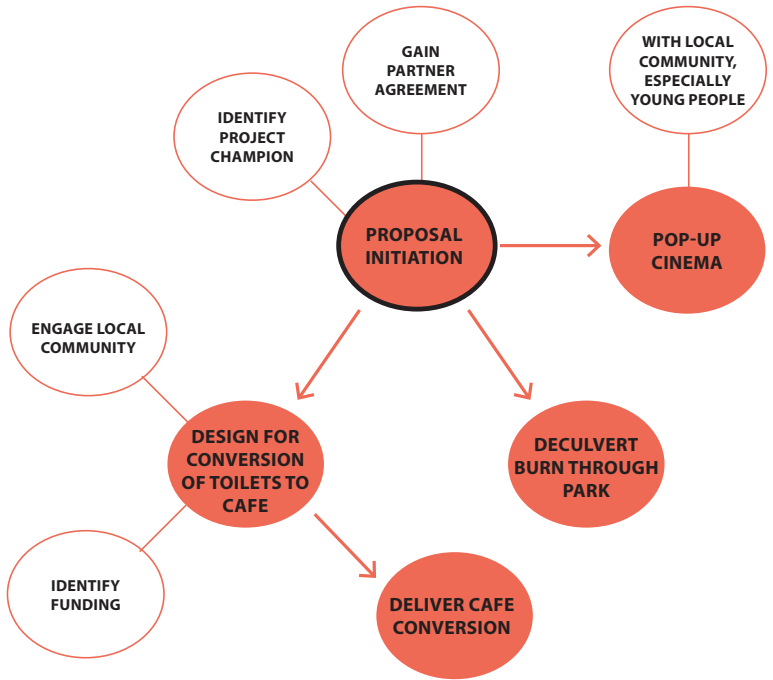


Image showing the toilets in Haugh Park

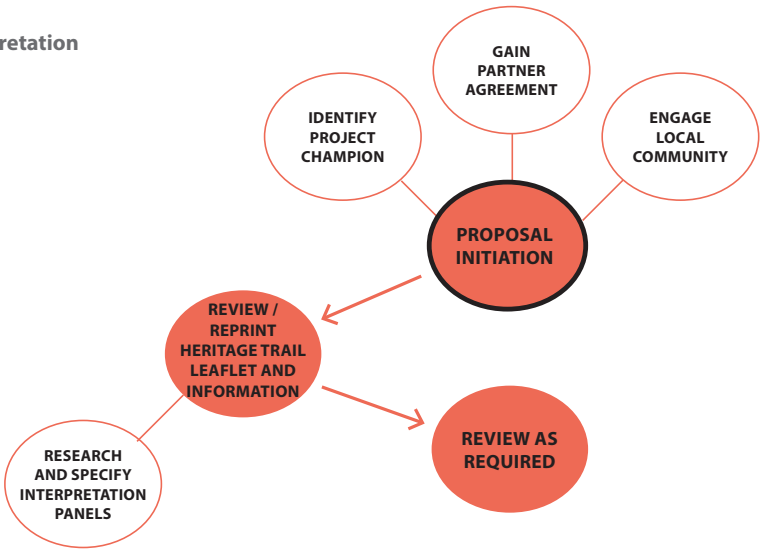


Visualisation showing range of potential improvements to the toilet block including a Haugh Park cafe with outdoor seating and pop-up cinema.

Proposal
f. Heritage Trail and Interpretation

Key Players
Cupar Development Trust
Cupar Heritage
Fife Council
Fife Historic Buildings Trust

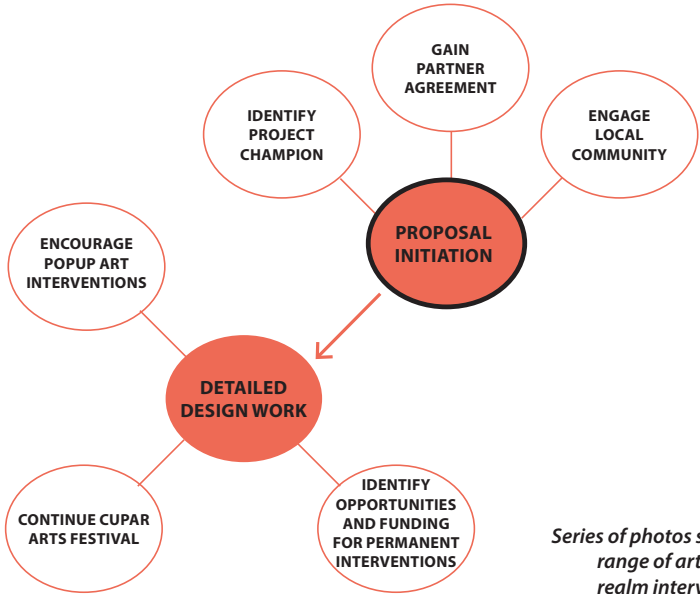
Opportunities for Others
ABCD
Cupar Arts
Cupar in Bloom



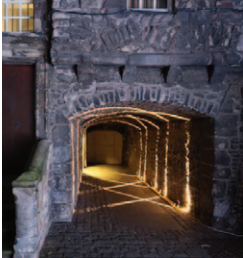
Proposal
g. Public Art

Key Players
Cupar Arts
Cupar in Bloom
Sustainable Cupar
Cupar Development Trust
Cupar Heritage

Opportunities for Others
Landowners
Businesses
Young People



Series of photos showing range of art / public realm interventions incorporating lighting, colour, signage / wayfinding, temporary street art, planting / greenery.



5. HISTORIC TOWNSCAPE PROPOSAL H



Proposal h. ATS / Ford Sites

Key Players

Cupar and North Fife
Preservation Society
Cupar Development Trust
Fife Council
Fife Historic Buildings Trust
Landowners

Opportunities for Others

ABCD
Cupar Arts
Cupar Heritage
Cupar in Bloom

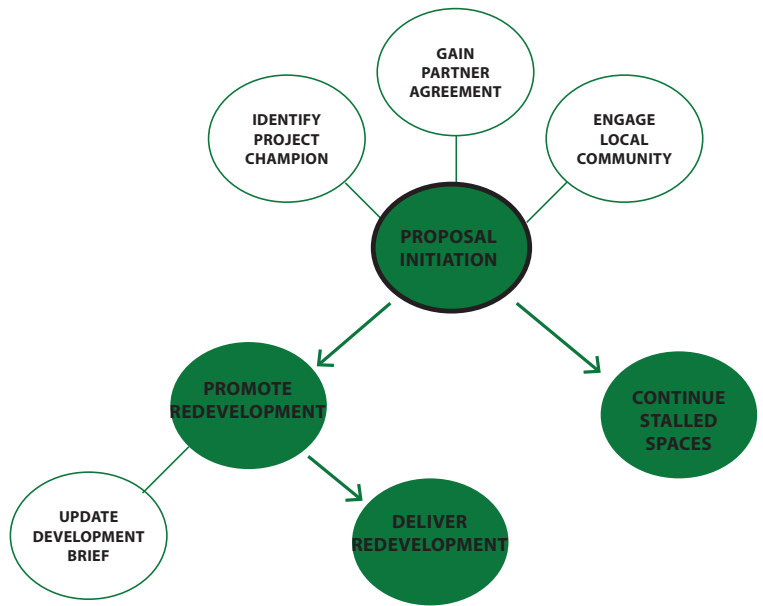


Image showing current state ATS / Ford Site



For more information on how you can get involved in the future of Cupar please contact the Cupar Development Trust, see details below.



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www.cupardevtrust.org.uk



www.facebook.com/cuparcould



Cupar Could
www.cuparcould.com