

Visioning Forres in 2025

with Transition Town Forres (TTF) and Transition Scotland Support (TSS)

Summary

Date: Friday 30th October 2009, Ramnee Hotel, Forres

Present: From TTF - Carin Schwartz, Kristy Puplett, Marie Jacques, Ella Young. From TSS - Gerri Smyth. Members of the public.

Aim: To visualise Forres in 2025 with less carbon emissions and less reliance on fossil fuels and the global economy. Then back-casting in 5 year increments, 2020, 2015, 2010 and now, to outline what would need to be done to make our vision of Forres a reality in 2025.

Process: Carin introduced the evening. Gerri began the visioning with an exercise on futuristic movies from different eras, from 1924 to now. Four different groups were formed and each group was given a selection of movies to draw out common themes. The exercise showed that our world vision through movies through time went from plague, fuel scarcity, virtual reality living, disorder and order, alien invasion, to life on other planets. Basically the exercise showed a not so positive vision for the future. We were asked to remove all thoughts of this destructive future and wake up in Forres in 2025, you had survived and were thriving because of actions started in 2009. We were asked what would our world look like, what would you hear, smell, sense, taste around you. How would you get to work? What would your work be? How do you earn your money? Where would you shop? How do you heat your home? Do you own your own home? Where do your children go to school? Where are the older folk in the community? Where do you celebrate? We were then asked to create picture and word collages to show our world in 2025 in relation to Food, Transport, Learning/Re-skilling/Work, Housing and Energy, Community/Well-being and Fun. The resulting collages are shown below.



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	<i>Now</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2020</i>
<i>Food</i>	<p>Planting initiative from Forres in Bloom and Transition Town Forres to plant more nut and fruit trees in Forres green spaces.</p> <p>Perennial planting.</p> <p>Forres Community Garden announces the beginning of a tree nursery project to produce nut and fruit trees for Forres.</p> <p>Greater awareness of the natural environment as a resource that needs protecting for our own survival.</p>	<p>Monthly farmers markets.</p> <p>Land given for Market Gardens and garden share schemes.</p> <p>Education facility exists to educate on growing food, composting, etc.</p> <p>Resolution of land for breeding common gulls and more allotments.</p> <p>Government initiative to train the unemployed in permaculture to enable them to grow food for the community.</p>	<p>Weekly farmers cooperative and community market.</p> <p>All school food organic and seasonal.</p> <p>Moray Council tax reductions for less waste.</p> <p>Moray Council agrees to parkland use for local food production.</p> <p>Permaculture a common term on Forres High Street due to new educational facility trainings.</p> <p>Community Environmental Education Centre has its 4th birthday.</p> <p>Meat consumption half of that in 2010.</p> <p>Neighbourhood allotments common. Grant Park is full of perennial plants and partly allotments.</p>	<p>Community compost outlet.</p> <p>Forres surrounded by community gardens.</p> <p>Community orchards producing large quantities of fruit and nuts.</p> <p>Most people in Forres can cook from scratch with locally produced seasonal food.</p> <p>Allotment sites in operation and continuing to grow in numbers.</p> <p>Attitudes to animal consumption changed and less meat adopted.</p> <p>Law passed allowing one day off per week for a full time work week for family food growing.</p> <p>Farming is now a highly respected profession.</p>

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			<p>Greater emphasis on biodiversity with food growing and household gardens.</p>	<p>Daily market for locally grown produce. 2/3 of all produce grown by local residents.</p> <p>Government procurement for food all organic and seasonal.</p>
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	Now	2010	2015	2020
<i>Housing & Energy</i>	<p>Findhorn Ecovillage seen as a global example of sustainable design and the resident community having very low carbon footprint.</p> <p>Wind Park at Findhorn producing a renewable source of energy for residents as well as funds for community benefit. Transition Town Forres reveal a plan to design an energy efficient, sustainable centre for education and food resources on Bogton Road.</p>	<p>Local community groups working together with Moray Council to find solutions to building standards, housing prices and resource use.</p> <p>Initiative to radically reform the current building standards to include must haves with all new builds and subsidised retrofits. Must haves include: 30cm insulation, locally sourced sustainably harvested building materials, non toxic paints and materials, water collection systems, assessment of most efficient micro renewable system.</p> <p>Moray Council tax reduction for completing a carbon calculation and/or assessment.</p> <p>Local based energy company started sourcing</p>	<p>Community supported aged housing coops initiated.</p> <p>Local land owners ask minimal fees to donate their land to housing co-operatives with sustainable aims, outlined by the new building standards.</p> <p>Moray Council provides all households with a meter to measure their electricity use, and announces a cap on electricity consumption.</p> <p>Co-housing residents receive the first of their promised tax breaks.</p> <p>Moray Council announce huge carbon and money savings from street light reduction.</p>	<p>Building standards reforms started in 2010, have saved billions of tax payers pounds, many reports have shown.</p> <p>Smart grids and decentralised energy.</p> <p>UK wide 20% energy from renewable sources.</p>

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from local resources at a competitive rate.

Government funded UK wide insulation and draft proofing drive.

Government announces feed in tariff of £0.50/unit for domestic energy generation.

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<i>Community Well-being & Fun</i>	<p>Transition Town Forres unveil designs to create a community cafe and education centre at their leased site on Bogton Road.</p> <p>Elemental Arts work with local school children to create a lantern extravaganza to start Bonfire night celebrations.</p> <p>Moray Council acknowledges the need to develop new political processes and attends a one day training on the transition model for local empowerment.</p> <p>Government on all levels are showing that current systems are problematic and that new positive solutions are needed. Policies are focussing less on progress in the economy, and more on health, wise, smart, green,</p>	<p>The NHS produce a systematic review of toxicity in our bodies due to current food, vaccinations, diet, exercise habits, addictions, revealing that those taking control of their health are happier.</p> <p>Due to Forres High St being closed to traffic, local cafes are permitted to have outdoor seating.</p> <p>Elemental Arts are being funded by Moray Council to extend Forres as the celebration capital of the North East!</p> <p>Huge areas of locally owned land is handed over to community ownership for the purposes of custodianship, land regeneration and biodiversity.</p>	<p>Elderly members of Forres are invited to be with a variety of groups to share their stories.</p> <p>The elderly are cared for in a compassionate way.</p> <p>Decrease in the production of alcohol has lead the Malt Whiskey Trail to new creative heights.</p> <p>Forres High St hosts four open air annual celebrations coinciding with the changes in season and day light.</p> <p>Local weekly community markets for food, music, integration of all ages, celebration!</p>	<p>Old church on Forres High St is a hive of activity, nourishing food, climbing wall, movies/lectures, cook ins, parents and children, base for outdoor gear.</p> <p>Forres Fiesta 2020! bigger brighter than ever!</p>

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wealth!

Local heart, soul and fun steering group starts meeting and organising.

Tree planting as a way to engage varied groups of people.

X-factor Forres heats stimulate interest in music making and the arts.

Steering group for Forres Fiesta 2012 starts meeting.

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<i>Transport</i>	<p>A new car share initiative is started in Forres.</p> <p>More bike racks placed around Forres, including at the Ramnee.</p> <p>A new initiative to encourage more use of public transport, free public transport!</p> <p>A timetabled bus is started to Findhorn on Sunday mornings.</p> <p>Kate Moss insists on cycling to pick up her cappuccino after a wild night out!</p>	<p>Forres High Street accessible only by buses, cycles, pedestrians and disabled vehicles.</p> <p>Increased demand for biofuels has initiated a locally designed scheme turning waste from local food production and animal farming into energy.</p> <p>Rail and bus providers increase the frequency of timetabled services throughout Scotland, due to the increasing demand on current services.</p> <p>First local carpool social enterprise begins in Forres.</p> <p>Innovative new school starts at Altyre, educating on horse transport and skills.</p>	<p>Moray Council unleashes a 'Bike to Borrow' scheme connecting Forres and surrounding areas by bicycle and also plans to ensure all kerbs are ramped and cycle lanes on all roads for the safety of the increasing number of cyclists.</p> <p>Carpools commonplace, and supported by a local group administrating.</p> <p>More public transport services called for due to the increasing demand locally.</p>	<p>Campaign to stop flights for pleasure, only necessity flights.</p> <p>Bicycle parks in place of car parks, with maintenance available.</p> <p>Greater freedom for cyclists on the road, laws past to lessen car traffic on roads.</p>

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<i>Learning, Re-Skilling, Work</i>	<p>An initiative started to assist in integrating youth with other aged groups.</p> <p>Increased integration of rural, practical skills in school curriculum.</p> <p>Schools established focussing on re-skilling i.e. blacksmiths, horse logging.</p> <p>Transition Town Forres aided by Climate Challenge Fund funding starts many projects leading to a more local sustainable lifestyle.</p>	<p>A re-skilling group formed to identify areas of need and who can provide it locally.</p> <p>During their training school teachers are taught tools for supporting learning in the outdoors and environmental awareness.</p> <p>Government subsidy for re-skilling courses, funded by increased taxes on purchasing carbon emitting products.</p> <p>Re-skilling classes taught in local primary schools including sewing, cooking.</p> <p>Prince Charles states there should be an emphasis on holistic education.</p>	<p>New television programme sparks a boom in locally produced, seasonal cooking clubs throughout the UK.</p> <p>Educational policy states that half of primary school learning should be outdoors, relating to their environment.</p> <p>Re-skilling centres set up all through UK, for all age groups.</p> <p>First graduates from Forres re-skilling centre.</p> <p>Ecology and environmental awareness is now a core subject taught at school alongside Maths and English.</p>	<p>Youth mentoring Programmes highlighted as successful in increasing happiness among young adults, national media acknowledges.</p> <p>Annual event to celebrate communal skill sharing.</p> <p>Part time paid work is the norm, more time and care taken in stewarding the land and growing local food.</p>