



Carse of Gowrie Sustainability Group

...embrace the positive and tackle the negatives of climate change...

Chair, Fiona Ross

Secretary, Coral Bell

www.carsesus.org





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- **Formed in 2011**, as non-profit, constituted community Group
- **Projects range** from Zero Waste Campaigns, Open Meetings hosting key speakers, Community Mapping Project, Community Action Plan, Sharing Knowledge events in Scotland and Malawi, Heritage 'Place-making' Projects and Sustainability & Climate Change awareness.
- **Project budget** ranging from £0 - £30,000
- **Most recent project**: Patrick Matthew Memorial Projected funded by the Heritage Lottery.



The Challenges:

- One of the three most vulnerable areas to climate change in Scotland
- Promoting the problem of climate change in general & engaging locals with it's impact.
- Clay soil and inadequate drainage systems struggle to cope with a warmer and wetter climate due to climate change
- Coastal (estuary) erosion and rising sea levels.
- Increase in rural development, with no increase in social frameworks in terms of public transport, medical facilities and community engagement.



The Positives:

- Diverse area with a wide range of community activity and local groups
- Harvest season has increased by 4 weeks over the last 30 years.
- Swifts, which have declined by 60% in the last decade due to climate change and development across Europe are increasingly nesting in the Carse of Gowrie.
- Rich heritage and sense of place.
- Education and the next generation



The Junior Carsonians (JC's): The Future Generation

- Pupils from the 6 Carse Primary Schools, approximately 1000 children
- The JC's aim is to develop a sense of place to promote protection, conservation and resilience in the Carse of Gowrie to prepare for climate change.
- This is a unique opportunity for children to meet and work together on collaborations with other schools, supported and facilitated by all 6 schools.
- The Carse of Gowrie Sustainability Group support the schools in bringing expertise in terms of content and funding to teach sustainability in schools.



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**Thank you for listening and inviting us to
share our work with you today.**

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