

# Old Cove Conservation Area

## Friends of Old Cove (FOOC)

**The FOOC action group have been very busy lately. You will recall that we came into being to explore the local authority's intention to dedesignate Old Cove as a Conservation area.**

The shared instinct within the group is that Conservation Status should be maintained if at all possible and the group have been preparing a strategy to achieve this during their regular Thursday evening meetings in the Cove Bay Hotel.

The design and distribution of an information leaflet for all residents of Old Cove has been central to the group's activities. All residents of the old village will by now have received the leaflet which also includes the facility for responses which can be handed into the hotel.

*The creation of a dedicated email address is another way in which residents can express their opinions; the address is [Friendsofoldcove@gmail.com](mailto:Friendsofoldcove@gmail.com)*

There are eleven areas with designated Conservation Status within the city of Aberdeen. It seems Old Cove is the only area being recommended for this. With this in mind a number of our members have been active in reasearching, comparing and contrasting our own Conservation character appraisal with other areas - particularly Footdee - due to their heritage similarities. Our intention is to prepare a relevant and informed alternative Area Conservation profile.

Other than the obvious neglect and erosion which have happened over many years in the old village, we can find no significant reason why Old Cove has been singled out for this recommendation.

We are very grateful for the warm and enthusiastic support we receive from the Cove and Altens Community Council, Cove in Bloom, our three local City Councillors, the MSP for South Aberdeen and our local MP whose home happens to be in Cove Bay.

One incidental but welcome consequence of our meetings has been the recognition that FOOC is, in and of itself, a worthwhile development whether Conservation Status is maintained or not. Community friendships and warm relationships amongst neighbours have been formed and established as we have worked through the issues together and I am confident these will be a lasting testimony to the efforts of FOOC.

***Hector I Mackenzie***