



FUTURE DURSLEY

Our Neighbourhood Plan

Future Dursley Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Minutes of Steering Group Meeting 7pm 18th May 2016

Present: Wendy Thomas (Chair), Councillor Mel Laybourne, Councillor Sue Creswick, Councillor Neil Grecian, Mike Johnson (Dursley Resident), Nick Organ (Dursley Resident), Jonathan Bird (Dursley Resident), Gayle Collins (Dursley Resident), Cleo Newcombe-Jones (Place Studio), Paul Knuckle (Place Studio), Duncan Kerr (Place Studio), Leah Wellings (Dursley Town Council), Anita Gambie (Dursley Town Council).

1. Apologies for absence

Councillor Clare Nelmes and Krystyna Dembny (Dursley Resident)

2. Minutes from 13th April 2016

The Minutes were agreed

3. Matters arising from the Minutes, Workshop Notes and Policy Development Tables

A request was made to Cam Parish Council by email on 21st April to:

- have access to the aerial photos taken by Drone;
- share relevant survey results from Cam's Resident's survey
- have a joint NDP SG meeting with Cam

This request was followed up with further emails on 9th and 15th May. This would be put on the agenda for the next Cam NDP SG which is due to be held at the end of May.

Cam Parish Council have also been informed about the opportunity for Jeff Bishop from Place Studio to facilitate some work with local schools in the areas to engage them in the NDP process.

Matters arising from the Workshop Notes and Policy Development Tables were picked up under Agenda Item 7.

4. Stroud District Council's index of Strategic Assessment of Land Availability (SALA) sites 2016

A link to Stroud District Council's index of SALA sites was circulated to all NDP SG members on 9th May 2016.

5. NDP Consultation

The SG were informed that the Dursley Annual Assembly is taking place on 24th May 2016 and would provide an opportunity to consult with local residents about the NDP.

An invitation would be extended to Cam to display their material at the Annual Assembly.

6. NDP budget

An updated budget had been circulated to the SG on 16th May 2015. The £400 financial commitment, agreed by the SG, to pay for the compilation and analysis of the economic data for Dursley had been added to the spreadsheet.

7. Workshop Session

a. Introduction

Cleo Newcombe-Jones introduced the session with a brief re-cap of the Evidence Review and Policy Prioritisation Workshop held on 13 April. This had focused on a review of all the evidence collected to date which it was noted was strong in some areas e.g. the environment topic area and weaker in others e.g. housing.

Place Studio had produced a series of Policy Development Tables which contained :

- information from the evidence review;
- discussions from the workshop last month;
- analysis of the draft NDP objectives against the National Planning Policy Framework and the Stroud District Local Plan; and

- a commentary on whether this would be a suitable objective for a planning policy in the NDP.

Cleo advised the group that there were two types of policies which would feature in the NDP. These were land use planning related policies and project based policies. The economy and transport objectives were more likely to be project based and as such action oriented.

Parking

In a discussion about residential parking standards a number of points were raised:

- As Dursley has no strategic housing sites the group is considering the implications of parking standards for infill sites
- Parking at Littlecombe is difficult
- New houses should not be built with insufficient parking
- In the Local Plan a garage is included as a parking space
- There should be one parking space per bedroom
- The Cotswold View estate on the (former Mawdsley's site) is overrun with vehicles
- More evidence and statistics on the number of cars people have is required.
- The ratio of parking spaces: to new build houses should be looked at.
- Dursley is a commuter town
- Is it too difficult to consider incorporating a Dursley specific Parking policy in the NDP?
- Should the group be arguing for more public transport?
- Cars are a problem at the station

Cleo advised the group that further evidence of parking need would be required if Dursley wanted a specific policy for parking. Cleo stated that it is very difficult to get Parking Standards included in an NDP. A number of NDPs have had draft policies related to parking standards rejected at the Examination stage of the plan making process.

Place Studio will do some research into Parking Standards and try and provide some examples.

The policy development tables were discussed by topic areas.

Economy

The Urban Design Framework 2007 requires a minor update. This could take the form of an addendum at the front.

Environment and Sustainability

The St Modwen Masterplan for Littlecombe would be added to the NDP evidence base.

A policy for Landscape Character would be included to help conserve key views, integrated green space and landscape.

Services and Facilities

The group agreed the need to identify, map and complete a proforma for each planned Local Green Space Designation. These would include both formal and informal green spaces, play areas and allotments. It is hope that this activity could be completed by students from Rednock school.

Stroud District Council would be contacted to find out whether the Stroud Green Space Audit had been updated and whether the Dursley undersupply of play space would change with the additional play spaces provided at Littlecombe.

Housing and proposed development sites would form the content for a Workshop session at the June NDP meeting.

b. NDP Draft Structure-Discussion/Actions

Paul led the workshop session on the draft structure and content of the NDP. He estimated that the full draft plan would be approximately 50 pages. Good quality photographs would be an important aspect of the plan. There is an archive of existing photographs although there are some gaps in these. Maps linking with policies will provide a key visual illustration for the reader.

Paul facilitated a discussion on the key tasks which would need to be completed by the Steering Group, Place Studio and other volunteers to complete the missing in the sections of the draft plan.

Tasks

Write a forward to the Neighbourhood Plan – Jonathan agreed to draft this.

Identify a Schools Project – Neil, Gayle and Anita agreed to support this and try and do this in June.

Write a short introduction to each theme (linking to evidence base):-

- Design – Sue
- Economy – tbc
- Environment & Sustainability – Krystyna
- Housing – tbc
- Services and Facilities – Mel
- Traffic and Transport – Wendy & Gayle

Find photographs for each theme – Nick, Leah & Anita

Find Maps to support policies using Parish online – Leah

Complete additional evidence (e.g. Local facilities map - Anita, Local Green space forms to be filled in – Rednock students, look at parking needs Mike, Design - Sue)

Review draft policies by (theme x6) – All at a workshop session facilitated by Place Studio.

Volunteers for themes without a lead – Revised volunteer recruitment posters had been placed on noticeboards around the town. It was hoped that these may provide a source of additional support for the NDP.

It was noted that a first set of draft policies were required before the theme sections could really be written.

c. Economic Development Policy Review and local data

Duncan gave a presentation on local economic data for Dursley and his review of economic policies. Please refer to his presentation. This will be circulated with the approved minutes.

8. To note the date and Chair for the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th June at 7pm at Jacob's House and will be chaired by Mel Laybourne.