

Dursley

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

Consultation Responses

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Farmers Market Survey (10/05/14)

Councillor Bird and Sophie Andrews, NDP Project Administrator attended the Farmer Market on 10th May 2014 with a picture stand and survey (Appendix 1 page 27).

The market is held every second Saturday of the month and attracts residents and people in surrounding areas.

Farmers Market (FM) Survey Findings Report

46 questionnaires completed. The results include a small number of the survey forms completed at the Council's Annual Town Meeting on 29th April 2014.

Q1 What sort of Development does Dursley Need

73% of residents asked raised concern for new employment opportunities within Dursley outweighing the opinion for the need for new housing at 32%.

When looking at the immediate data from Q1 regarding Housing Need, it highlights the towns current priority of employment over housing.

Percentages			
	Yes	No	N/A
Houses	32%	23%	43%
Employment	73%	0%	26%

Figure 1.1

Q2 - What sort of Social and Leisure Facilities need to be provided? (General Concerns)

From the survey data common themes started to emerge from the findings, issues rose regarding the improvement and availability of leisure and social facilities with 43.47% unhappy with current facilities or lack of, while 21.73% stated that nothing was needed to improve Dursley.

From the survey data the lack of green space provision for residents to use raised concern with 6.5% reporting the issue and calling for more green space provision and green infrastructure within Dursley. Other issues raised the need for more parking within Dursley at 4.3%

Q2	
Social & Leisure facilities needed	%
Parking	4.3
Green Spaces	6.5
Development negative	2.17
Developing positive	0
Commercial/ shopping	4.3
Industry	2.17
leisure	43.47
Schools	4.3
Disability Access	4.3
Cycle paths	2.17
Refurbishment of Dursley	2.17
Nothing Needed	21.73

Figure 1.2

From the data findings (Fig 1.2) disability access to leisure facilities raised concern at 4.3% highlighting a greater need for inclusion access.

Comments relating to the types of leisure/social facilities improvements needed::

Nursery for young people, table tennis facilities, upgrade sports centre facilities, more for children, knitting groups, clearer access to information, youth facilities/club (4 votes), Town Hall lift, something for elderly (2 votes) and disabled people, improved opening times for sports centre, gym, co-ordinated town events, cinema (5 votes), larger pool, restaurants, good pubs, swimming club, more car parking, free parking, Chantry Centre improvements, soft play centre, cycle paths, adult leisure, playground, bowling, indoor skate park, cricket pitch/nets, football goal posts

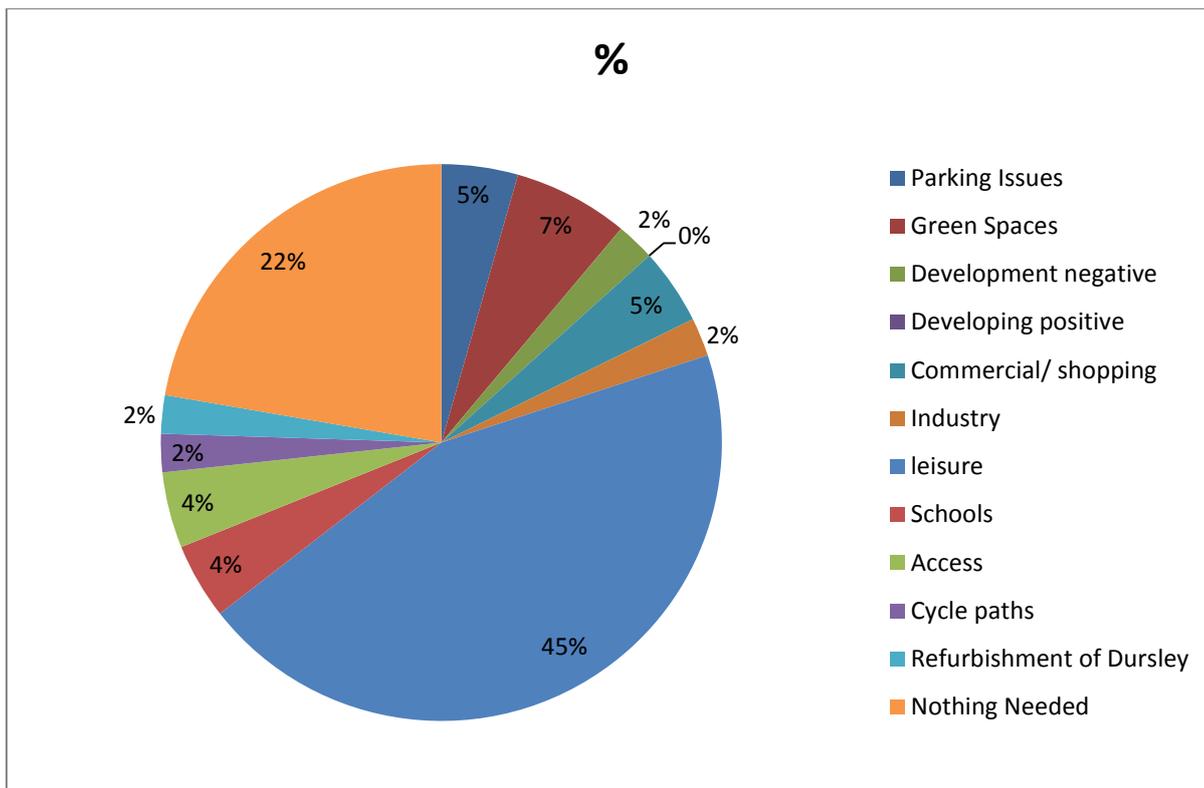


Chart 1.2

Q3 Are any other Improvements needed in the Town?

When the survey data was collated general themes emerged from the data, concern was raised regarding commercial development on the High Street (Parsonage Street) and Silver Street with 28.26% of residents (Fig. 1.3) detailing provision for new shops and overall refurbishment. This data highlights the concern for Dursley to gain new employment ventures for the residents when compared with Q1 Employment figure 73% (Fig. 1.1). When comparing these figures the findings suggest the current topical concerns of Dursley.

Q3	
Improvements needed	%
Bus Links	10.86
No More Housing	4.3
Drainage Systems	2.17
Traffic Mitigation	23.91
Parking	4.3
Refurbishment	13.04
Positive Housing development	2.17
Commercial Development on High Street	28.26
No Improvements needed	4.3
Affordable Housing	4.3
Green Spaces	4.3
Overall Yes to Development	2.17
Leisure Facilities	2.17

Figure 1.3

23.91% of residents surveyed raised concern regarding traffic mitigation within Dursley with particular notice to Silver Street. General topics within the theme of Traffic Mitigation raised both concern and praise for a possible by-pass, with comments drawing to the added economic benefit. 13.04% of the residents surveyed noted that a significant refurbishment of Dursley Town Centre was needed alluding to the economic benefits of such an investment.

From the data findings Bus Links raised cause for concern, commenting on a general improvement to schedules and availability to help linkages to and from Dursley to surrounding areas.

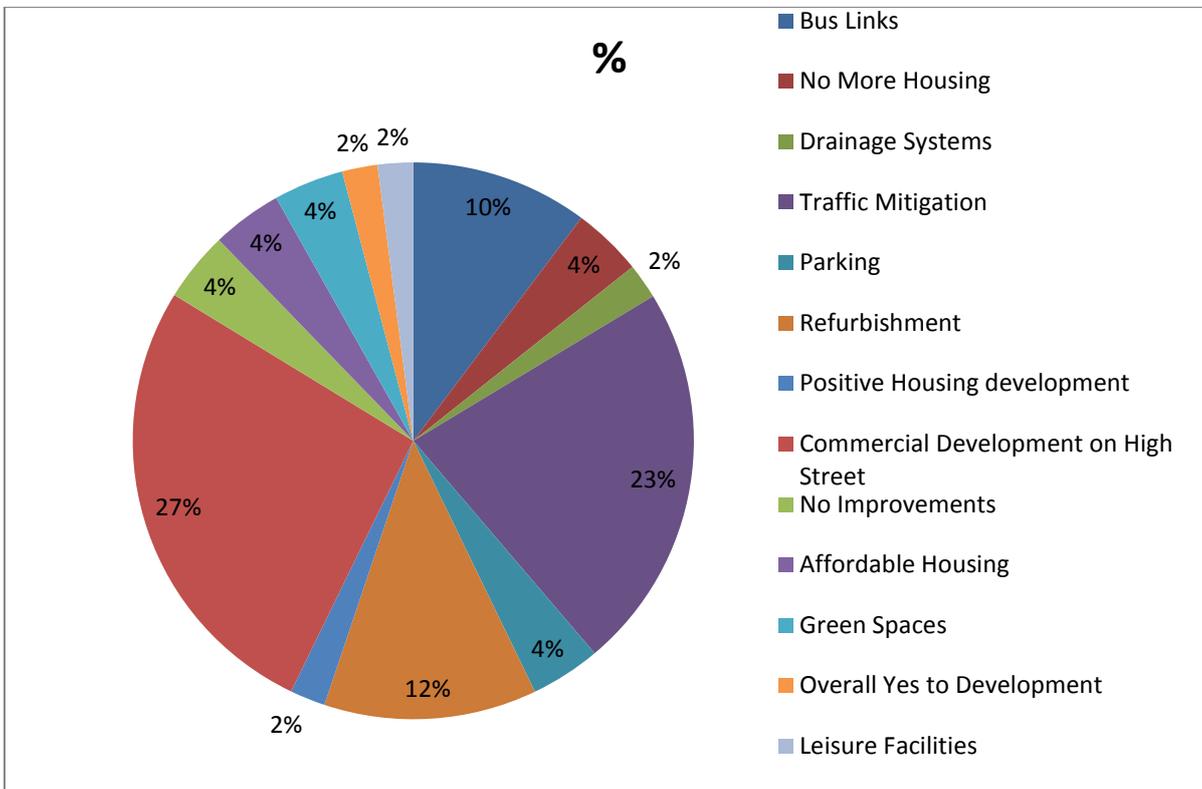


Chart 1.1

People were asked to have a look at a range of photos taken of different styles/types of houses/buildings within Dursley.

Q4 Which Buildings do you like most?

Q4	%
Rural Cotswolds Style	15.21
Pre 1900s Homes	54.34
Modern Development Homes	13.04
1900s-1960s Homes	4.34
Modern Design Homes	6.52

Fig 1.4

Analysis from the survey data findings raised general topic leads regarding housing types and developments. An overwhelming amount of residents 54.34%(Fig1.4) stated pre 1900s homes as their preferential design style, alluding to the benefits of older design in terms of attractiveness to the residents and tourism compared to the 13.04% who liked the new modern developments within the town. Further data showed 15.21% of residents positively identifying the Rural Cotswold Stone properties. When collated the data suggests preference to pastiche design rather than modern development homes.

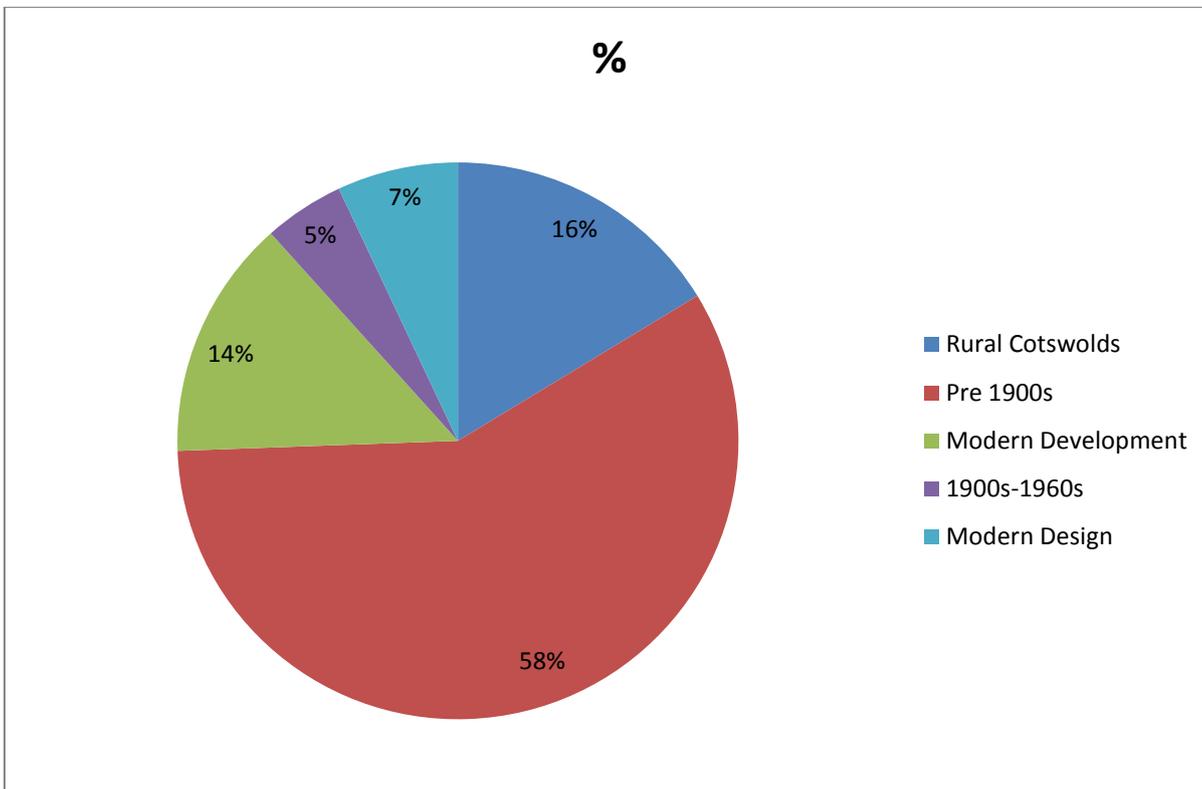


Chart 1.3

Q5 Which Buildings do you like least?

Q5	%
Modern Development	56.52
Modern Design	39.13
Untidy	2.32

Fig 1.5

From the data findings modern development homes had a negative outcome with 56.52%(Fig 1.5) of residents siding against them, along with modern design such as the Library at 39.13%. General comments stated having properties that did not fit within the local vernacular architecture as unpleasant and untidy.

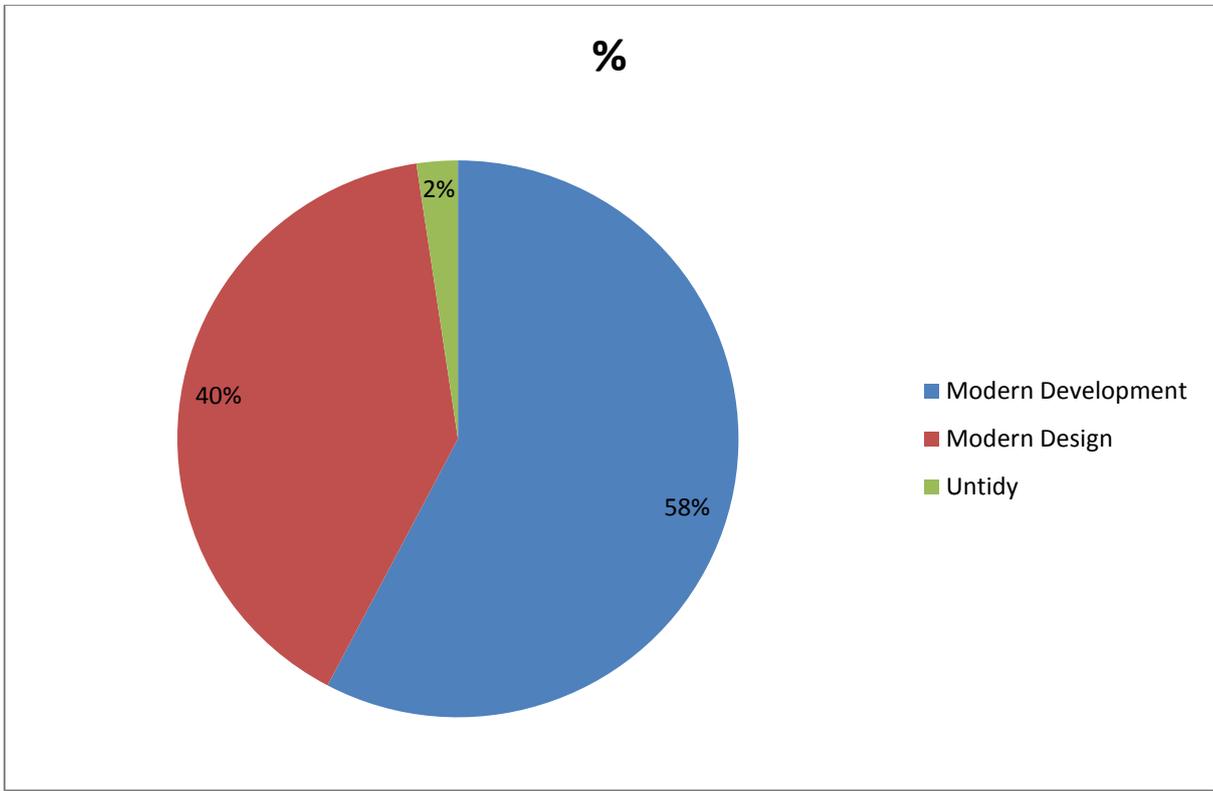


Chart 1.4

Dursley Town Traders Meeting (8/7/14)

Councillor Nelmes and Leah Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk attended the meeting on 8th July 2014 at Hummingbird Cafe. The meeting was attended by approximately 9 traders.

The meetings are held monthly and open to all traders in the town. Agenda items relate to trade, events and issues within the town.

The comments/ideas put forward by traders to be considered included:

- The desire to have more retail units rather than service based businesses (e.g. clothes/shoes).
- The idea that the large vacant electrical shop could be used for small startup units or indoor market stalls.
- Dursley could encourage local craftsman/artists into the town centre by providing small units/ market stalls.
- The Old Dairy site behind Parsonage Street was seen as an under utilised space and a good place to develop a bigger market place, hard-standing for additional parking (when not in use) or picnic/seating area.
- Lack of long stay parking was considered an issue for employers/employees and hair salon customers, who often require longer than 3 hours. Parking is an issue for the newsagent on Silver Street.
- Improvements are required to Town Centre signage.
- There is a need to encourage young families and commuters to use the Town Centre for socialising. Cafes need diverse retail to bring customers in.
- A local cinema or somewhere to take children would be good a good attraction/facility.
- It was recognised that Dursley is home to many commuters working at large employers in the area e.g. Renishaw. Commuter numbers will grow with additional housing. Business growth in Dursley itself may be more viable in areas such as retail, garages, transport and the software industry.
- There is a lack of B&B and tourist accommodation. Dursley should take advantage of its place on the Cotswold Way.
- The desire to protect existing traders.
- Pop up stalls would be fine but not when in competition with existing traders.
- Poor visual appeal of Castle Street (back of Parsonage Street shops unattractive).
- Need to encourage people to cross over from Castle Street car parks into the Parsonage Street shops.
- Things to encourage footfall in the town.

Dursley Festival (12 July 2014)

Councillors Nelmes, Laybourne and Bird attended the Farmers Market on Saturday 12th July with the NDP exhibition boards.

Dursley Festival is a key event in the town's calendar and an excellent opportunity to consult with residents and people from the surrounding area. This year the event was centred on Parsonage Street.

The results are detailed below.

Housing

What type of housing do you think Dursley needs?

Housing size and type	Housing need
1 or 2 bedroom houses – 6	Housing for older people – 7
1 or 2 bedroom flats – 3	Housing for first time buyers – 13
3 or 4 bed housing – 6	Housing for single people - 5
Larger housing (4+ bedrooms) – 4	Housing for families – 9
	Affordable housing – 15
Bungalows – 8	Sheltered housing – 4
Detached housing – 2	Adapted housing (life time housing) – 2
Semi Detached housing – 4	Self build housing – 8
Terraced housing – 0	Shared housing

Other Comments

- We need more affordable housing*
- We need housing to encourage young people to stay
- We need first time buyer houses with some garden and rooms bigger than a shoe box!*
- Larger detached houses should be cheaper for big families with only 1 parent/carer.
- Important to have mix of houses for all ages and types.
- Impact to create sense of community.
- No more housing. (2 votes)
- Need to include a mix of affordable housing within new developments. (2votes) *
- Build smaller houses and bungalows, older people will downsize and free up larger houses.* Must have easy access to town.
- If there is much more infilling and building we shall move away from Dursley/Cam.

*(*included in table above)*

Where do you think new homes should be located in Dursley?

- Stop building in back gardens (3 votes).
- Build on Brown field sites first. (6votes)
- No housing on green land. (2votes)

- Dursley Garage site should be used for sheltered or older peoples places; not so many parking spaces required then.
- Housing should be built in the valley so that the aspect of Dursley still has green fields below the woods.

In 5 years time, do you expect to still be living in Dursley?

Yes, in the same home	15
Yes, in a smaller home	4
Yes, in a larger home	1
No	1

Design

What do you think new buildings and housing in Dursley should look like?

(e.g. building materials, design features, housing style, housing layout, room sizes, gardens, storage space, driveways, building height, building type, bin stores, accessibility, parking, etc.)

- Construct buildings that fit with the local ambiance i.e. no more offensive libraries!
- Housing estates should be in the style of the Mawsley site i.e. varied design, size and materials.
- Encourage people to care for their own properties outside; PRIDE in own area not just inside!!
- The Crest Nicholson site is a blot.
- It is necessary that new development should reflect the environment, with more nice looking houses. If Dursley is to be a dormitory town it should be nice.
- Fit in with surrounding buildings.
- Make sure new housing has enough parking.
- Storage is important.
- Parking is important

If you were looking for your ideal home in Dursley, what three features are most important to you?

Respondent 1:

- Open spaces with lots of greenery and trees
- Good size rooms and a large garden
- Room for wildlife

Respondent 2:

- Detached
- Large windows
- Good sized, children friendly garden
- Imaginative architecture
- Nice tree lined street

Respondent 3:

- There should be more planting, bigger gardens, more indigenous trees.

- The housing should be varied, with larger windows to allow more light.

What other design features do you think should be included in any new developments in Dursley?

(e.g. open spaces, connections to and from homes to other places, shared/communal spaces, environment, energy efficiency, , conservation of historic features, road/estate layout, links to landscape, home zones, safe residential streets, etc.)

- Part of planning housing – insist on solar panels, water collection etc. to make houses environmentally friendly.
- Dursley has a beautiful setting but the buildings are harsh, there should be a place for wildlife with wildlife corridors amongst the houses.

The local economy, business and employment

What type of businesses and jobs do you think Dursley needs?

Retail – 18	Community, social and health services - 10
Manufacturing – 27	Financial, property and professional services – 4
Agriculture – 8	Technology and communications - 6
Construction – 5	Health Services – 11
Leisure, tourism & hospitality - 15	Public sector – 5
Food – 10	Transport and logistics - 15

Where should they be located in Dursley?

- Redeveloping the main high street to enable existing (and new) providers to have suitable premises and resources to suit the high expectations of residents.
- We need more local employment – stop employment sites going for housing
- Need more local employment opportunities
- Central Dursley
- More of a retail/cultural presence on a Sunday to attract people in from outside
- Central – due to the rising population of the town
- Opposite Sainsbury’s – old buildings make Dursley look bad. Make them into retail shops (+3 votes)
- Around back of shops – opposite Sainsbury’s – cleaned up!!! Build shops? (+2 votes)
- Need local employment, we don’t want to be a commuter town
- Land behind Iceland/flower shop should be redeveloped to create employment and a bigger town centre. Should not be developed for housing as we need employment sites centrally. (+3 votes)
- Too late in Dursley we have built housing on all of our large employment sites. Keep it as local as we can – Cam, Draycot?
- More jobs for young people around 14-16 (+1vote)
- No business up on Shakespeare.

What could be done to improve Dursley's town centre?

- Tidy up May Lane site (SDC) (+1vote)
- Traders should keep to their opening hours and not decide to close just because there aren't many people around.
- Greater variety of shops (too many hairdressers, estate agents – 4 shops should not be allowed to create one shop out of two)
- We want to shop local but there is a lot of iffy places. The bank and vintage shop are leading the way and suit the local clientele. (+2 votes)
- Greater consideration for arts and culture is required, exhibition space, recording, music and theatre, school involvement. (+1 vote)
- Greater range of retail shops
- Please could we have an Aldi and a Coffee No1 to generate more of a community meeting place. It worked in Thornbury.
- Broader range of shops – does that mean cheaper business rates needed?
- Clothes and shoe shops (+3votes)
- Children's clothes and shoe shops.
- Broader range of goods
- Turn Jones's electrical into an indoor arts and craft market or antiques centre
- No more supermarkets, we have enough. Need local independent businesses
- Improve look of Castle Street at back of shops and car park at Sainsburys
- Bus station area is a disgrace – who cares for it?

Our local environment and green spaces

What do you think we can do to protect, conserve and enhance Dursley's local environment?

- Protect wildlife and green spaces (+1vote)
- Protect the green areas
- Protect green spaces (+1vote)
- Keep the green fields
- Keep all existing green spaces, it's what makes Dursley!
- Protect our green spaces, if we build on the hills, less people will want to live here (+1vote)
- Protect our green spaces for future generations (+1vote)
- Protect current green spaces (+1vote)
- Keep our existing green spaces – or we'll lose what is great about Dursley/Cam (+1vote)

Which green spaces in Dursley are important to you and why?

- Kingshill Play Park
- Keep Norman Hill Field as it is
- Fields back of Shakespeare Road
- Field by Garden Suburb – No houses on AONB (+2votes)
- Field behind Garden Suburb – Wildlife, leisure, play. Save our green sites

- I moved here as Dursley has the most beautiful view from a Sainsbury's car park that I have ever seen!! Let's keep it that way!
- No one is looking after Highfields Park. The equipment is not being maintained properly.

What can we do to make our community in Dursley more sustainable?

- Enforce recycling.
- When developing new sites consider the aesthetic impact and the impact on wildlife. Dursley is a beautiful part of the world, which is one of its greatest draws.
- Ensure side streets are kept tidy e.g. Henlow Drive. Look holistically at the whole town not just the centre.
- We have a beautiful environment. Keep our greenery and advertise it to bring more people to the town.
- Encourage large recycling bins if streets are narrow so we don't decorate everything with green bins.

What can we do to encourage wildlife and biodiversity in Dursley?

- Respect and include wildlife belts/corridors in ALL new building projects (+1vote).
- Don't go past weeds, pull them out (unless for butterflies).
- Plant edible plants on waste spaces.

Local services, facilities and infrastructure

What type of services, facilities and infrastructure do you think Dursley needs? (Which 3 are most important?)

Schools 15	Church and religious buildings 3
Health Services 9	Community Buildings 8
Library 5	Leisure and entertainment 9
Sport facilities 15	Shopping and retail 11
Youth facilities 23	Transport infrastructure 6
High speed broadband 18	Drainage and flooding infrastructure 5
Emergency services 7	Local information and advice services 4
Nursery and pre school 6	Play areas 19

Comments

- Better play areas.
- Nice self-contained high street – compact (2votes).
- We previously lived in South Glos where we had green bins for garden waste. This was a fantastic service and we would appreciate having it here.
- More dog waste bins please, there are not enough.
- A non-membership group that could meet to have somewhere of their own (2votes).
- Daytime sports facilities other than the pool.(2votes)*
- Something for the children to do and somewhere to go.*
- Need a job centre. Too difficult to travel to Stroud. (2votes)*
- Wider variety of shops.*
- Need money to maintain and improve community buildings, including church buildings and halls. Essential to community life. (2votes) *

(*Included in table above)

Where do you think services and facilities should be located in Dursley?

- Replace sports hall with modern purpose built building and bigger pool.
- Love the planned development of the Rec.
- There are plenty of empty shops/buildings that could be utilised.

Getting around: local transport

What type of transport and infrastructure to help you get around do you think Dursley needs? (Which 3 do you think are most important?)

New roads 2	Cycling routes and facilities 22
Changes to existing roads 16	Parking facilities 15
Bus services, stops and access to buses 16	Road safety measures 12
Train services 14	Electric vehicles, car sharing 0
Footpaths and pavements 11	Community transport 9

Comments

- Dursley needs 20mph limits.
- Travel costs are high, we need local jobs.
- There is no parking at Station.
- Roads need filling – need to be improved.
- Have a bus service that coincides with the trains and more often (2 votes).

- Buses to Cam and Dursley station need to connect/coordinate with the trains (7 votes)
- More parking space at Cam and Dursley Station (9 votes).
- Install windproof shelter at train station.
- More trains please *.
- Better links with town and train station.
- Pedestrian pavement along the A38.
- Pot holes need to be filled, especially Police Station roundabout and Bull Pitch.
- Provide grit for pavements in the winter.
- Access to M5 from Dursley.
- Need M5 junction at Slimbridge (2 votes).
- The surface of pavements in Woodmancote is awful. All need resurfacing.
- Keep car parking free (3 votes).
- Rosebery Road needs resurfacing, as do the main roundabouts across town.
- Safe cycling/walking paths. Hedges need to be cut so there is more room on paths to walk (3 votes).
- A one way system taking traffic down Long Street, up Lister Road (once the Littlecombe link road is in place), to come out on Uley Road/Bull Pitch - traffic down into town from Bull Pitch on Silver Street.
- The footpaths in Silver Street need to be widened for pedestrian safety.
- Cycling through Dursley and along Kingshill Road/Uley Road is so dangerous (3votes).
- Is it a good idea to build on the Tetbury side of Dursley? There is no room for a relief road. All the cars from the new development will need to go through town to the M5, A38.
- Vehicles (incl. large farm vehicles) drive too fast up and down Whiteway/Woodmancote – makes it very dangerous for young families (2votes).
- Complete the relief road through Littlecombe (Spine Road) as soon as possible (3votes).
- Bus prices too high for small town (2votes).
- Parking and traffic near the school is an issue (2votes).
- Pavements need repairing.

*(*Included in table above)*

Where should this go?

How should this be provided?

Tabernacle Family Café – Drop in session (16/7/14)

Councillor Clare Nelmes and Anita Gambie, NDP Project Administrator attended the Family Café at the Tabernacle Church on 16th July 2014 and facilitated an informal drop in session, alongside consultation on the War Memorial Recreation Ground play equipment upgrade project.

Approximately 20 people attended between 10am– 13 pm. The Café is open weekly during term time and provides a place for families with young children to meet for refreshments and socialise including light snacks to those who attend.

- Parents/ carers and volunteers were pleased with the breadth of topics covered by the NDP.
- Some general concerns were expressed about new housing developments and subsequent impact of increased population on all local services e.g. schools, roads and health.

Housing

- Specific comments were made about the importance of ensuring new housing developments would have sufficient parking for all residents.
- The difficulties for families of meeting the cost and affordability of both buying and/or renting accommodation were also raised.
- More family sized homes – affordable/social renting.
- Pepperpot affordable housing into new development.

Design

- Views were expressed that new buildings should, where possible, fit into existing types and styles.
- Dislike ‘rabbit warren’ style developments.

Local economy

- Some comments were made that it would be good to have a broader range of goods available within the town centre.
- Make start up employment units available.
- Consider pop up food outlets
- Need for festivals and events – things to bring the community together.
- Keep local shops – butchers, bakers, fruit & veg, hardware, DIY all important.
- Specialist shops such as Camera shop and Music shop are a bit draw to town. Dursley needs more shops like this.
- Would like an M&S food store.

Local environment and green spaces

- The recreation ground was described as an important park by many families, in part, due to its proximity to the town centre.
- Other green spaces which were frequently used and considered important included Highfields Park, Kingshill Play Park and the play area at Woodmancote.
- Idea of Duck pond in the town.
- Improvements needed to bridge at Holywell Orchard.
- Install a paddling pool on the War Memorial Recreation Ground.
- Having access to countryside is important.

Local services, facilities and infrastructure

- Parents/carers and volunteers suggested that these should be centrally located and any new services located close to existing ones.
- Keep library, GP Surgery and Swimming Pool and make them bigger.
- Need extra school places/Drs/nursery places to meet needs generated by larger population
- Need library activities for children not just baby and toddlers.
- Consider links to Nympsfield/Uley School.
- Road improvements/repairs.
- Traffic in the town is a problem as is parking provision.
- Improve train station capacity.
- Indoor soft play centre would be good.
- Facilities are all within walking distance which is good – this is really important.
- Water run-off is an issue and concern – drainage/flooding from Uley, surface water from new developments.
- Would want to see current schools expand rather than the building of new schools.

Getting around: local transport

- There were a couple of strong pleas made about the need for better linkages between bus and train services. Connections are important.
- Pedestrianise Parsonage Street.
- Pressure on main road getting from one side of Dursley to the other.
- Consider new motorway junction 13a at M5/Slimbridge.
- Need trains to Gloucestershire before 9am
- Improvements needed to bus route, more frequent links to Wotton (311 service), possible circular bus taking in Berkeley, Wotton, Dursley and Cam.
- New bus route to link Littlecombe.
- Improve signage for and on footpaths and walking routes.
- Better style and maintenance of footpaths.
- Look at local walks e.g. Nibley walks.

Other comments:

- Dursley is a great town
- Fantastic people and facilities

Dursley Day Centre (01/08/14)

Councillor Jonathan Bird and Anita Gambie, NDP Project Administrator attended the Dursley Day Centre on Friday 1st August 2014 and facilitated an informal drop in session.

Approximately 20 people attended between 10am– 12.30 pm. The day centre is open 5 mornings a week and provides refreshments including light snacks to those who attend. It provides a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere and company to potentially isolated and vulnerable members of the local community in the 50+ age range.

This summary of discussions is captured under the headings in Neighbourhood Plan.

Housing

- Dursley has a lot of new housing. Many of these houses are too small, with buildings which are becoming taller.
- There is inadequate parking provision for many of the new dwellings and estates.
- Dursley can take appropriate size developments, examples include Library Terrace.
- New housing should be for locals and there needs to be a bigger supply of affordable housing.
- Many thought that they would be living in the same home in 5 years' time; however there were others that expected to move to smaller places within Dursley.
- There were a lot of views expressed about the quantity of new homes planned for Dursley and the subsequent impact in infrastructure.
- There was a question put for the Littlecombe development about how are the new houses going to connect with Dursley?
 1. There was recognition by many that land is at a premium in Dursley.
 2. Any new housing should fit in with the existing style of the current stock.
 3. There should not be too many modern houses.
- No more flats or high rise, nothing over 3 storey.
- Need 2-3 bed homes, particularly bungalows for elderly people to downsize and started homes.
- Not social housing, "too much trouble", yet also "what about poorer people" – there was debate about this item.
- Adaptive/adapted housing a good idea but never heard of it.
- Locate new housing towards A38 because of access and space.

Design

- Variety very often mentioned but need to move with the times.
- More for older people
- Not build too tall.
- Not pokey little windows.
- Not like a prison.
- Ideal features are/would be: fantastic new hospital, a by-pass/less busy traffic, surrounding countryside and trees, need more employment.
- Include in new developments: trees, greens, speed humps

Economy, business and employment

- Many of the comments generated a real sense of nostalgia for a time when there were three large employers in Dursley (Listers, Bymacks and Mawdsleys). Many referred to the scene of hundreds of employees walking up and down Long Street during lunch breaks and the end of the day.
- There were a number of comments made about the reduction in the number of business units at Littlecombe and the potential loss of new jobs.
- More should be done to promote the town as a tourist destination. B&B and other local businesses should work together on joint marketing initiatives.
- More apprenticeships should be available locally.
- Greater effort should go into reusing existing buildings.
- More retail, hotels, manufacturing, food outlets (also fewer cafes), a shoe shop, a clothes shop
- More tourist interest, cinema. Good for supermarkets.
- Need to improve Silver Street pavement.
- Need crossing by bus station.
- Better policing on Friday and Saturday nights.
- Shut Capones at 1am.
- Lots of comments were made about trying to support the local shops through buying products locally.
- The shops shut too early on Saturday and Wednesday.
- The Vintage clothes shop and Clifton camera shop are encouraging visitors from outside the area into Dursley.
- There are some products you are not able to get in Dursley, a broad range of shoes and clothes.
- Many local people would like to see Parsonage street thriving again.

Green spaces/Environment

- Dursley would benefit from having more allotments.
- There is a lot of wildlife around Poets Corner.
- Not build on green space, leave as fields.
- Not make children's playgrounds
- Too many cars
- Woods all around the town, lovely to keep and see the fields.
- See badgers, rabbits, foxes, deer and all the birds. Feed the birds.
- Educate the children about the environment, to keep it.
- Important green spaces = The Rec, Long Street Green (put back trees they were lovely), Woodmancote Green, Twinberrow Woods, Ganzells Farm, Kingshill Play Park.

Facilities and Services (also see economy above)

- There were lots of comments made about the impact of rerouting the Stroud bus (21) and subsequent reduction in the numbers using the day centre. The bus no longer stops at the bus station. Passengers now have to catch it at either Castle Street or outside St Remo's restaurant.
- Lots of clubs use the community centre.
- The local churches work well together.

- The parish rooms at St James Church are well used.
- The transformation of the Chantry Centre is viewed by many as very positive in bringing some vibrancy back to Long Street.
- Good library, health centres but Doctors waiting list 10 days.
- Fast broadband all over (used for Skype a lot)
- Schools are good but what about the new people?

Getting around /local transport

- Dursley needs to maintain its bus station.
- Operate more frequent and later buses, better bus service and more stops up Woodmancote.
- There are difficulties crossing the road at the bottom of Silver Street. The top of Woodmancote is also challenging to cross on foot.
- There are problems with the pavement at Silver Street.
- There are not enough parking spaces at the railway station in Cam.
- One resident raised the question about whether the local road structure and surfaces are fit for purpose.
- There should be 20mph limit in the town.
- There is a blind corner outside bus station, need speed bumps and pedestrian crossing to Doctor's surgery.

Zumba Class (10/09/14)

The Zumba Class was held on 10th September 2014 in Dursley.

Attended by Krystyna Dembny (Volunteer and Environment and Greenspaces lead).

Feedback was gathered from the 8 members of the class and 1 newcomer to Dursley. All members were aged over 60 years and women.

1 comment from the dance lead (aged 20 years+).

Housing

What type of housing do you think Dursley needs?

- 1 bedroom flats (from the dance lead)
- 3 bed housing for families.
- Bungalows (for the aged and less mobile population)
- Only 1 person said they might need to downsize to a smaller house in the future.
- The need for housing for families was a unanimous agreement.

Where do you think new homes should be located in Dursley?

- The overall feeling was that Dursley is overcrowded, due to its topography. That any building after Littlecombe should be concentrated on land in Cam giving easy access to the A38.

In 5 years time, do you expect to still be living in Dursley?

- All expected to remain in Dursley, this could be due to the age group surveyed who have been in Dursley for many years.

Design

What do you think new buildings and housing in Dursley should look like?

(e.g. building materials, design features, housing style, housing layout, room sizes, gardens, storage space, driveways, building height, building type, bin stores, accessibility, parking, etc.)

- The overall feeling of the group is that the design of the houses should vary (one said "Not like in Crest Nicolson"). There should be adequate parking on drives or in garages to prevent road parking.
- No tall (4 storey) housing (not in keeping).
- There should be gardens or at least good sized green spaces and play areas. (The Leap? At Crest Nicolson was considered "pathetic").

If you were looking for your ideal home in Dursley, what three features are most important to you?

General view:

- Neighbours and neighbourhood
- Position and location (good views)
- Convenience to amenities

One respondent:

- Garage

All said they liked living in Dursley because of the nice scenery and views. Several of the group said that that affordability was a key feature for their children and grandchildren.

What other design features do you think should be included in any new developments in Dursley?

(e.g. open spaces, connections to and from homes to other places, shared/communal spaces, environment, energy efficiency, , conservation of historic features, road/estate layout, links to landscape, home zones, safe residential streets, etc.)

5 out of 8 said:

- Transport links appeared to be important – bus services to Gloucester, Stroud and Bristol as well as the rail service which was restricted due to parking issues.
- An opinion expressed was that the road links would be overwhelmed with significant rise in development.

3 out of 8 said:

- More green areas and trees should be included to merge with the overall surrounding of Dursley.

The local economy, business and employment

What type of businesses and jobs do you think Dursley needs?

- Retail – to encourage better range of retail shops to reduce business rates.
- Manufacturing – there was a feeling that local people could not get local jobs.
- Leisure & tourism – this was flagged up as an underdeveloped area. No B&B's or Hotels to cater for the increase in tourist numbers. Dursley as a route of the Cotswold way needs to spruce up areas where the walker go through.
- Health service – this would only offer specialist jobs.

Comments:

- Overwhelming agreement that free, long stay car parking should be maintained.

Where should they be located in Dursley?

- Retail and tourism should be Town centre based.

What could be done to improve Dursley's town centre?

Overwhelming:

- Spruce up back of shops along Castle Street. Improve frontages of Silver Street.
- Clean up weeds and pavement and generally improve tidiness.
- Reduce business rates and first time occupiers of businesses to get them started.
- Wide range of shops.

Our local environment and green spaces

What do you think we can do to protect, conserve and enhance Dursley's local environment?

Single or concurring opinions:

- No building below tree line of the woods
- Make sure no building takes place on the protected green areas such as memorial rec ground.
- To stop the cutting down of trees on new developments.
- To make sure new housing has adequate gardens.
- To get the community involved in protecting wildlife.

Which green spaces in Dursley are important to you and why?

- The Rec.
- Gardens
- Woods
- Areas round the woods, which people use.
- Play areas for grandchildren
(When informed about the importance of wildlife corridor, all concurred that there should be preserved!!!)

What can we do to make our community in Dursley more sustainable?

Individual/group ideas:

- Improve transport links
- Make Dursley affordable for families as this gives more stable population
- Develop local employment
- Make the most of the natural environment and the fact that Dursley has pretty views and attracts walkers.

What can we do to encourage wildlife and biodiversity in Dursley?

Individual/group ideas:

- Preserve the woods

- Preserve areas below the tree line.
- Make wildlife corridors 9(after group told of their importance)
- Let public know of the biodiversity
- Get schools involved
- People to encourage wildlife into their gardens. All seemed to like the bird feeders.

Local services, facilities and infrastructure

What type of services, facilities and infrastructure do you think Dursley needs? (Which 3 are most important?)

Mixed responses:

- Health services (majority)
- Shopping and retail (good range to encourage customers)
- Transport infrastructure (unanimous)

Comments

- Reduce business rates, allow new shops to become established.

Where do you think services and facilities should be located in Dursley?

- Within the Dursley area (given the choices this seemed self-evident)

Getting around: local transport

What type of transport and infrastructure to help you get around do you think Dursley needs? (Which 3 do you think are most important?)

- Bus services
- Train services
- Parking facilities (important)

Also:

- Improvement to existing roads (get rid of pot holes)
- Keep footpaths and pavements clean (Long Street was singled out for criticism as being littered and not a good advert for tourists and visitors). Also path uneven.

Where should this go?

Where it already exists.

How should this be provided?

For Council to arrange!

Transition Cam and Dursley (20/09/14)

Feedback from consultation event with Transition Cam and Dursley on Saturday 20th September between 10.00 – 2.30pm at the Secret Garden, in the Chantry Centre, Long Street.

Attended by Krystyna Dembny (Volunteer and Environment and Greenspaces lead). Anita Gambie (Project Administrator for NDP).

Transition explores and develops ways people can change from energy-hungry ways of living – that are totally dependent on oil – to ways of living that are significantly less so. In reality Transition is about people taking a greater interest in their present and future needs; being more aware of the world in which they live; thinking about the way they really want to live and getting stuck in to make that happen, in whatever ways work for them.

Attendance was lower than expected, so we used this as an opportunity to have one to one discussions with individual volunteers who are part of the Secret Garden Working Party. Krystyna and myself also had a facilitated discussion with the three core members (Rachel Savage, Laura Pardoe and ?) of Transition Cam and Dursley.

A further opportunity to publicise both the Dursley NDP and Transition Cam and Dursley (TC&D) was provided by a short live radio broadcast on radio Gloucestershire. This had been organised by TC&D.

Comments from Transition Cam and Dursley

Housing

- The respondents identified a need for affordable and low cost housing incorporating ecological and sustainable design principles and materials.
- They wanted to know if land could be set aside for individuals who wanted to build their own house e.g. self-build. Kevin McCloud's housing project in Cashes Green, Stroud was suggested as a good example of scheme that could be replicated elsewhere.
- Two of the three interviewees expected to be living in the same house in 5 years time.

Design

- The respondents wanted new houses to use natural building material and be ecological sound. The houses should have bigger gardens and bedrooms should have adequate storage.
- Important features for an ideal home in Dursley included:
 - Decent size garden
 - Use of sustainable technologies
 - Low energy ratings
 - Decent size bedrooms
 - Good transport links; and
 - Close proximity to local schools.
- Other features which should be included in any new development included:
 - Spacious gardens so that householders can grow food.
 - SUDS, sustainable urban drainage system can be designed.

Local economy, business and employment

- Leisure, tourism, hospitality, technology and communications businesses were identified as the sectors in which more jobs were needed in Dursley.
- Creating a local Enterprise hub so that individuals can share facilities;
- Growing local food on a large scale (on a marketing scale).
- Smarter more upmarket and artisan shops.
- The retail offer should be more varied and diverse.
- There should be a greater range of restaurants and food outlets.
- Local pubs should be more family friendly.
- The local area needs a community newspaper.

Suggestions to improve **Dursley's town centre** included:

- Pedestrians should have priority.
- Access to Parsonage Street could be improved.
- The back of the shops on Castle Street needs to be tidied up.
- Is there a way to make the old BT exchange more aesthetically pleasing?
- Improve the town centre aesthetics through installing more planters.
- Improve customer service in some of the shops.

Local environment and green space

Suggestions to protect, conserve and enhance the local environment included:

- Making the woodlands part of the sustainable environment: through utilising woodcraft and tourism opportunities that these offer.
- Introduce more trees and shrubs 'edible spaces'
- Investigate opportunities for community energy projects.
- Protecting green spaces and wildlife corridors were identified as ways to encourage more biodiversity and wildlife in Gloucestershire.

Important green spaces identified included:

- The War Memorial Recreation Ground
- Access to woodlands and other green spaces.

Local services facilities and infrastructure

- Strong support was expressed for the need to use Community buildings. It was noted that there are a number of community buildings which need to be better used.

Feedback from consultation event at the Secret Garden, at the Chantry Centre, Long Street. This is a summary note of discussions with 2-3 volunteers. The event was held on Saturday 20th September between 10am – 2.30pm.

General comments

- Some views were expressed about the need for Dursley's reputation to catch up with improvements in the town.
- The town would benefit from more support for community projects e.g. selling the benefits of these to those who aren't interested.

Housing

- All consultees expected to be living in the same accommodation in 5 years time.

Design

- New buildings and housing should encompass new builds as well as better use of old and existing buildings.
- Large gardens were identified as an ideal feature if consultees were looking for an ideal home in Dursley.
- It was felt that new developments should be in keeping with the existing building stock. The Littlecombe development was described as a good example of new development.

The local economy, business and employment

- Respondents would like to see more clothes shops in Dursley. A suggestion was made that it would be good to have a community supported agriculture scheme in Dursley. Seed swapping events could be held and these would also provide an opportunity for growers to share their experiences.

Local environment and green spaces

- It was noted that Dursley looks good at the moment , this is due in part to the success of Dursley in Bloom.
- Cam Peak and Stinchcombe hill were identified as important green spaces.

Suggestions for making the community more sustainable included:

- providing support for local producers; and
- holding a larger and more frequent farmers market.
- Holding events to raise awareness of wildlife and biodiversity in Dursley were suggested as a way to encourage these important features.

Local services facilities and infrastructure

- It was noted that the library could have a bigger and better supply of books.
- Dursley is well resourced in terms of community buildings.
- Respondents were excited by the prospect of a community cinema.
- It would be good to have a larger fruit and vegetable shop.
- Better use could be made of the noticeboards for local information and advice services.

Getting around and local transport

- More frequent train services would be useful.
- Parking facilities within the town were thought to be adequate.
- The footpaths and pavements were thought to be OK.

APPENDIX 1

DURSLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Where do you live? (post code) _____

What sort of development does Dursley need?

Houses?

Employment?

What sort of social and leisure facilities need to be provided?

Are any other improvements needed in the town?

To help us understand what sort of design people like, please look at the photos on the board and then write the numbers of the photos in the boxes below.

Which buildings do you like the most?

Which buildings do you like the least?

Are you interested in finding out more about the Neighbourhood Development Plan for Dursley? Please provide your details below so that we can let you know what is going on. *(Your details will be held securely and not used for any other purpose.)*

Name	
Telephone number	
Address	
Email address	