

Rednock School Focus group discussions about Dursley

Date: 10th July 2015

Methodology: Three Year 12 students from Rednock School were provided with training on the Future Dursley NDP objectives and ran two mixed age (11- 15) focus groups with 10 students each on 10th July 2015. They aimed to gain the perspective of young people on issues affecting the community and check that these were reflected in the draft objectives for the NDP. As it was a facilitated discussion conducted over a 30 minute period, there was no opportunity to prioritise or vote on points made.

Objective area	Group 1 points raised	Group 2 points raised
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aesthetics- the surrounding countryside is nice to look at • More green space is needed. • Go up Stinchcombe woods a lot (dog walking/recreation) • Don't like seeing dead animals and plants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dursley has lots of woodlands • Makes it look nicer
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less homes. • This is a small town • There are too many food shops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highfields could look better • Improve housing – looks messy
Recreation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highfield Park has some reputation as a drugs meeting area. • Potholes should be filled 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kingshill pub/DFC - Open or change it • Better skate park • Permanent football pitch • Hotel • Want: Cinema, Go karting, Paintball – young to older people
Shopping/ town centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Games • Lots of shops in Dursley for young people <p>Ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New toilets • Outdoor swimming pool/update pool • Cinema • Improve general highstreet/ Longstreet • Topshop/ New Look - invite greater range of shops and people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highstreet looks bad • Too many supermarkets • Don't Use town centre • Sainsbury's & Library look too modern compared to the rest of Dursley. (keep it traditional) • Shops in Cirencester look good • Give it better shops e.g. clothes, present shops
Accessibility/ public transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expensive transport • Don't use buses much • Train station more popular 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More bus services to more places/ more frequently • timetables available
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some people work in Dursley. For younger people (more shop job) • Parents generally work in surrounding areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most local employment is in schools, hospital and supermarkets

Additional points

Individuals in one group drew up some ideas for improvements:

1. The Rec- 3 gym areas plus a skate park as well as the 2 'park' areas
2. More gym equipment; Make a skatepark so we don't always have to go to Cam; proper football pitch
3. Town centre- more designer shops; update the shop fronts so that they don't look so 1970s
4. Water Park; Hotel
5. Better high street- shops and café
6. Modernised shops- High street: school uniform, e-shop, restaurant, Primark, card shop, H&M, Sports Direct; Charity Shop, New Look, sweet shop. In a separate area, cinema and McDonalds
7. Kingshill- Chinese, fish and chips, KFC and Mc Donalds. More parking
8. Lidl, DFC, Great British Takeaway, Kingshill Pub (not many people go here). Possible- expand GBT into DFC because DFC is not popular but GBT is. Employ more people who just left school in order to help fund for things like petrol for their car etc