

**Minutes of Kirk Ireton Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
Meeting held at the Village Hall 7.30pm Thursday 4th August 2016**

1. Present

Nick Delves, Joe Dugdale, Rad Neville, Jan Hall, Irene Dougan, Maurice Coey, Neville Taylor, Gill Lockett,

2. Apologies

Niamh Goulder, Mac Maclennan, Nigel Hallisey

3. Agenda Alterations

None

4. Minutes of the last meeting

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July were approved.

5. The Questionnaire & analysis of the results

Maurice Coey displayed some of the results of the survey using Bar Charts and Pie Charts.

It was agreed that bar charts offered the clearest visual interpretation of the results. Maurice will prepare these to be exhibited at the next Public Meeting.

Rad had looked at the Bradwell neighbourhood plan. Bradwell is a much larger settlement than Kirk Ireton and so their plan probably has a wider scope than ours will have, with a bigger focus on business and development of a large brownfield site. However, it is professionally written and very well presented and organised. The group felt that we will be able to use some of their presentational ideas in our plan. Sometimes the Bradwell plan is so professional it can be difficult for the layperson to understand. We discussed writing our plan in plain English. Joe advised that we need to strike a balance, as the plan also needs to satisfy the Neighbourhood Plan Examiner.

Rad, Jan and Nick had analysed the results of the Questionnaire and tried to identify what policies could be supported by the data.

It was noted that some data in the survey does not generate policy but could be used to make a village action plan or influence the actions of the Parish Council.

The Steering Group then collectively discussed these potential policy areas with the aim of trying to identify what kind of policies the village might want to ultimately include in the NP.

- **A quiet safe environment**

80% of people said they liked the quiet safe environment of the village. This data could support other policies or it could generate a policy to restrict the development of noisy businesses. (NB - traffic is outside of our remit).

The NP will need to include a “vision” for the village. Joe pointed out that support for a “quiet safe environment” could be part of that vision.

- **Parking.**

Parking is a major concern for the village.

Policies could include:

- All new houses required to have 2 off road car parking spaces.
- Small developments should provide additional visitor car parking spaces.
- Discouraging home owners from converting garages into extra rooms if there isn't sufficient alternative car parking space at the property.
- Opposing the removal of public village car parking areas.

Discussion also took place about whether the village could purchase land for a village car park.

Joe reminded us that traffic is not in our remit - so things such as parking permits, traffic calming, double yellow lines, residents parking and school parking is dealt with by Highways.

- **Preserve the ‘traditional character’ of the village by adopting many of the principles of the Conservation Area Character Appraisal.**

Much of this is contained in the ‘Conservation Area Appraisal’.

Jan H offered to go through the document and also find the work on this done previously by John Kippax. We will need to be precise about which elements of the Conservation Area Appraisal we want to reiterate in the NP.

- **Protect Views**

94% of villagers answering the questionnaire said that “views of the village and from the village” should be protected.

We discussed whether this would be a “general” policy or whether we would need to identify specific views.

Joe said that, if we wanted to, we could identify specific views into and from the village that people want to preserve. It was acknowledged that how these locations/views could be agreed would require further discussion.

Jan proposed the view from the top of the Main Street. Views from Top Lons were discussed. Nick D reminded the group that he and Lewis Hancock had taken photos of views from footpaths and public places, as part of research done within the ‘Environment Group’. Also information and photographs are in the Conservation document.

Are there areas of habitat / walks we want to protect?

- **Adopt the current settlement boundary.**

Joe D said in the latest Draft Local Plan Kirk Ireton village is in the fourth tier of settlement hierarchies. Fourth tier villages (because Derbyshire Dales deems them unsuitable for development) will no longer have settlement boundaries. However, our NP should be able to adopt one. Joe will confirm.

71% of the questionnaire responders give a clear mandate in Question 9 for adopting the existing Settlement Boundary.

- **2nd homes.**

An increase in second homes in the village was a concern for 25% of respondents. However, this is a difficult area for policy. St Ives in Cornwall have a policy that forbids new housing becoming second homes. But St Ives have a major problem with second homes.

Gill L asked if we could have a policy around 'Change of Use' from private dwelling to 2nd homes. Joe D said restrictions are being relaxed by planners not tightened.

- **The Village Field**

We could have a Policy that protects the Village Field from future development. There was discussion about green spaces within the settlement boundary and whether any should be identified and protected by the NP.

- **Do not permit wind farms / caravan parks / industrial farming.**

The data supports policies to oppose the building of wind turbines, new caravan parks and industrial farms within the parish. 61% of people opposed solar panel farms - there was debate as to whether this constitutes strong enough opposition to warrant a policy. Joe felt that it was.

- **No more Housing Association homes. Village preference for 'Family Homes' and 'Starter Homes'.**

(It was noted that quite a number of the answers to Question 20 were confused and had to be rejected.)

However, there is strong evidence within the answers to Question 20 that 'Housing Association' houses are considered unnecessary for the village. This is anecdotally backed by empty homes on Hardings Close.

The most popular choices for new housing were family homes and starter homes. There was debate in the meeting on whether quality residential homes for older people would release larger properties within the village for younger families.

- **Converted old farm buildings not to be sold as second homes.**

A high proportion of responders were opposed to converted farm buildings becoming second homes. However, Joe said that Planners are encouraging old barns to be converted into housing. So this may be a difficult area for policy.

- **Modern agricultural sheds should be subject to greater planning scrutiny.**

87% of respondents answered 'Yes' to Question 22 and it was suggested that agricultural sheds should require a full planning application and in the process the planning officer should require to see evidence about the scale of the holding.

Data gathered on the shop and the pub should be used for a future village action plan through the Parish Council, but this is unlikely to be an area for NP policy. Although there was some discussion as to whether we could have policies that supported the shop and other village amenities.

6. Finance

There was nothing further to add since the last meeting.

7. AOB

Just before leaving the meeting at 8.30pm Joe advised that the scope of the NP needs to meet the objectives and vision for the future of Kirk Ireton.

Future Action:

Next step is to develop the proposals.

Rad agreed to go through the original lists of possible policies that had been discussed this evening and filter out the ones that the group had decided were unnecessary or unworkable. This would give us a more focused list. He also agreed to set the policies out in the framework of a Neighbourhood Plan, using the headings from other plans such as Bradwell and Idridgehay. A lot of detail and information and text will eventually be needed for the NP. We thought that by laying the information / policies out in this way it will help us see what we need to do in order to progress.

Maurice agreed to produce large scale bar charts of the data which could be displayed at a future village meeting and also ultimately be used in the NP itself.

8. Next Meeting

Thursday 8th Sep 2016, 7.30pm at the Village Hall

* The date for this meeting was later re-arranged to the 15th Sep 2016

The meeting was closed by Nick Delves at 9:07pm