



# PENRITH TOWN COUNCIL

Notes of the

## Neighbourhood Development Plan Group

Held on: Wednesday 19 July 2017

### PRESENT:

Roe Baker	CAFs	Cllr R Kenyon	Penrith Town Council
Cllr Peter Baker	Penrith Town Council	Stephen Williams	Churches Together
Cllr Fiona Johnson	Penrith Town Council	Michael Wellock	Kirkwells
Cllr Scott Jackson	Penrith Town Council		

Also present: Rosalyn Richardson – Deputy Town Clerk

### 1. Apologies

Apologies were received from John Bodger (PACT), Paul Buckland (QEGS), Cllr Duncan Graham (Penrith Town Council), Cllr D Lawson (Penrith Town Council) and Cllr Julie Monk (Penrith Town Council).

### 2. Membership of the Group

FJ reported that as Heather Walker (Eden Arts) had gone on maternity leave and not been replaced and Chris Dunning (Cumbria Youth Alliance) had stepped down it would be good to replace them. SW reported that he knew of someone that may like to be involved whilst RR said that it might be good asking a representative of Cumbria YFC if they wished to be involved.

**AGREED** that RR would email Eden Valley Artistic Network (EVAN) and Cumbria YFC to see if they wished to send a representative.

### 3. Notes of Meeting held 14 June 2017

The notes of the meeting held on 14 June 2017 were approved for publication with an amendment to the time Cllr Jackson left the meeting.

### 4. Vision

FJ suggested that the Neighbourhood Plan needed an overarching vision such as 'A Place People Want to Live and Work' or 'Visit Here, Love Here, Stay Here'. She saw the aims being along the lines of

- Creating inward investment by tackling the low wage economy
- Developing housing that local people can afford

- Maintaining the character and status as a market town.

MW explained that a vision was required to address objectives but suggested that rather than trying to agree it at the meeting it would be better if someone could play with words to come up with 2-3 succinct statements. The primary purpose was to set out what the group wanted to achieve in planning policy terms. He suggested something along the lines of 'By 2032, Penrith will be a highly successful and sustainable market town providing an environment for investment, quality living and tourism whilst protecting the best of its built and natural character'. A statement / vision that could also be used in marketing the town.

**AGREED** that thought be given to the statement provided by MW with a view to bringing something back to a future meeting giving it a more personalised Penrith 'feel'.

### **3. Sustainability (RB)**

RB reported that the group had met and looked at the information from the Centre for Sustainable Energy along with other information on building regulations etc and drafted initial policies on reducing carbon emissions, SUDs and sustainability requirements of new builds with a view to making the town more resilient in the longer term.

The group were to meet with MW immediately after the meeting to get a professional opinion before refining the draft policies and bringing them back to this group for consideration.

### **4. Research Information**

The information on housing availability and population projections was noted. FJ explained that she had attended a presentation at EDC when their affordable housing officer had explained about the affordable housing numbers and the Community Housing Fund as EDC had been awarded £950k to deliver housing that people could afford. It was understood that some of the money would be used by EDC to fund a housing needs survey although FJ hoped to meet with GT to determine whether any of the funding could be accessed by the NP Group to support the NP process.

**AGREED** that additional information be sourced on:

1. The total number of 1 bed through to 5 bed plus properties within Penrith (split by size), social housing and rented housing;
2. The number of new property completions since 2011 within Penrith (split as above); and
3. When a housing needs survey for Penrith was likely to be completed.

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**Stephen Williams left the meeting at 6.00pm.**

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**Scott Jackson left the meeting at 6.05pm.**

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## **5. Green Spaces in Penrith**

The Group noted the green space information and were reminded by MW that local green space conditions state that the land has to be in close proximity to the population using it, demonstrably used by the local community, special but not an extensive tract of open land.

Local Green space cannot be built on. The template needs to be used for scoring each space. **AGREED** that a completed scoring be brought back to a future meeting of the group.

## **6. Draft Policies for Inclusion**

It was felt that Penrith may need a different affordability policy to include housing mix and tenure. **AGREED** that MW would look at pulling the summary data together from information used for EDCs Local Plan

**AGREED** to consider each policy separately.

Objective 2 – Housing - FJ, RK and SJ to meet to consider potential policies on housing over 2-3 meetings and JM be invited to join them.

## **8. Next Meeting**

**AGREED** that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 4.30pm

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.

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Chairman

For the attention of members of the Neighbourhood Plan Group:

Michael Wellock – Kirkwells Planning Consultancy

### **Planning Committee Members**

Councillor Fiona Johnson - **Chair**  
Councillor Jamie Ayres  
Councillor Scott Jackson

Councillor Ron Kenyon – **Vice-Chair**  
Councillor Duncan Graham  
Councillor James Shorrocks

### **Additional Members**

Roe Baker – CAFs  
Paul Buckland – QEGS  
Dan Harding – Penrith BiD  
Councillor Doug Lawson  
Heather Walker – Eden Arts  
Stephen Williams – Churches Together

John Bodger – PACT  
Chris Dunning – Cumbria Youth Alliance  
Heidi Marshall- Chamber of Trade  
Councillor Julie Monk  
Mariusz Waluk