



PENRITH TOWN COUNCIL

Notes of the

Neighbourhood Development Plan Group

Held on: Wednesday 21 March 2018

PRESENT:

Cllr Peter Baker	Chairman - PTC	Stephen Macaulay	Chamber of Trade
Roe Baker	CAFs	Juan Shimmin	CYA
Cllr Ron Kenyon	PTC	Michael Wellock	Kirkwells
Cllr Doug Lawson	PTC		

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from John Bodger (PACT); Cllr Julie Monk (PTC); Jane Sullivan (Newton Rigg); Stephen Williams (CT); Ros Richardson (PTC).

2. Notes of Meeting held 16 January 2018

The notes of the meeting were approved for publication.

3. Greenspaces

The notes of the workshop held on 22 January 2018 were noted and the recommendations for protection were accepted.

Allotments to be classified as Greenspaces to ensure their protection in perpetuity. Separate table will be required under Policy 10.

RR

Play Areas and the Penrith Golf course plus Practice Ground to be classified under Leisure. Leisure areas need to be differentiated from greenspaces in mapping.

RR

Some discussion followed on large grass verges (e.g. Kemplay Rise), roundabouts and trees on these features. MW advised that large verges and TPOs on trees were beyond the scope of the NDP but that he would incorporate an Incidental Open Space Policy.

MW

4. Town Centre

The notes of the workshop held on 29 January 2018 were noted and the output is to be incorporated in the NDP **MW**

Current main traffic routes through the town to be mapped alongside a map showing the suggested/proposed new routing (with direction of flow) **RR**

The definition of Heritable Assets was defined by MW. Assets within the conservation area are protected already so we should be considering assets outside the Conservation Area. The group was unaware of any.

Boundary of Town Centre to be as shown in the emerging Local Plan in order to be aligned with National Planning Policy. **RR**

To confirm that Brunswick School and Cowpers, Middlegate are listed. **RR**

Potential locations for a Community Hub were suggested as the Two Lions Building; TIC building if TIC relocates to the town centre; a retail unit in the Co-Op building (section 106?); unit shortly to be vacated by Argos.

For next meeting completed mapping to be printed on AO sheet and printed to pdf for incorporation in the NDP.

5. Young People

JuanS advised the Group that Carlisle's Youth Zone was very popular with young people and that its facilities and the youth groups/activities that it hosted attracted funding. Unfortunately, Penrith misses-out on the funding because it does not have a generic secular youth centre (see attachment taken from the Youth Zone's website).

A permanent facility is a priority if such a project is to attract funding.

DL suggested that it would be worthwhile talking with the people who run The Gathering.

MW advised that, other than the change of use of an existing building, this was not a Planning matter so Supporting Actions will be incorporated into the NDP.

The contribution from JaneS provides useful background and Supporting Actions will be developed although the most obvious are outside the control/influence of the Town Council. The encouragement of the development of a permanent facility for youth groups/activities would be of some help. **MW**

3. Draft Neighbourhood Plan Review

Sustainability

The appropriateness of including a Sustainability Checklist for each section of the plan was discussed. The rationale being that if a developer/development does not satisfy the list a financial contribution is required to fund, for example, conservation of old buildings or retrofitting of measure to improve their

sustainability. MW advised that this may not be legal.

PGB to take the opportunity of attending meetings on EDC's Vision to raise the subject of a Community Infrastructure Levy. **PGB**

Housing

An Issue missing from the Plan is that of the general condition and poor insulation of some of the older buildings in the Conservation Area.

As no fund, such as a CIL exists this is a difficult issue for the Plan to address other than through a Supporting Action. **MW**

AGREED that there would be more issues around viability if a target of more than 30% Affordable Housing was set. To highlight the mismatch between the annual target for new build houses (100) and the target for Affordable Housing (118) **MW**

The Group was in general **agreement** with the Working Draft (6)

Cllr Kenyon and Cllr Lawson left the meeting at 6.20 pm.

NEXT STEPS

The next meeting of the Group will be held to sign-off on the draft plan in order to allow it to be published for informal consultation with: Residents; Businesses; Eden District Council; Cumbria County Council.

The plan will be published on the Town Council's website and hard copies will be made available in the offices of the Town Council, the Town Hall and Penrith Library. The consultation will be publicised in the local press (weekly editorial for the 3 weeks duration of the consultation), local radio and social media. To raise awareness short presentations will be given to local groups such as Penrith Lions, Women's Institute, Penrith PROBUS, Penrith Rotary Club, etc.

AGREED that as significant editing is required MW would amend the Draft Plan. To allow the group time to read the Final draft it should be ready at least 14 days before the next meeting of the Group (e.g. 30th April for a meeting on 15th May 2018).

6. Next Meeting

As numbers were depleted it was **AGREED** that the next meeting would be held late April/early May at 4.30pm, 19-24 Friargate, Penrith

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

Cllr Peter Baker

Cllr Scott Jackson

Cllr Ron Kenyon

Additional Members

Roe Baker – CAFS

Stephen Macaulay – Chamber of Trade

John Bodger – PACT

Cllr Julie Monk

Paul Buckland – QEGS

Jane Sullivan – Newton Rigg

Nick Ellery - UCC

Mariusz Waluk – Minority & Health

Dan Harding – Penrith BID

Stephen Williams – Churches Together

Cllr Doug Lawson

Simon Whalley - EVAN

YOUTH ZONE, Carlisle

The History:

Youth Zones are modelled on the highly successful Bolton Lads and Girls Club, and are developed to meet local needs in other towns and cities across the Country. It is driven by private sector business leaders and as a charity is funded by Business partners, commissioned contracts, Trusts and Grants and donations.

Local businessman Brian Scowcroft had experienced Bolton Lads and Girls Club and was keen to get involved. Brian linked with local business people David Allen, Andrew Tinkler and William Stobart and they set about getting Carlisle a Youth Zone – without these founders to push the development of Carlisle Youth Zone forward we may not be here today.

Carlisle Youth Zone benefited from a one off £5m grant to build a state-of-the-art facility for a wide range of sporting, artistic, cultural and general recreational activities and targeted services for young people aged between 8 and 21. Carlisle Youth Zone was the first of many Youth Zones initiated by the OnSide charity.

Starting with strong foundations from the Bolton model and a Board made up of local people, Carlisle Youth Zone was developed with local young people as a response to the clear, ongoing demand from young people, parents and communities for more and better places for young people to go.

What we are now:

We are open 6 nights a week and during school holidays we run our successful Holiday Club. The Youth Zone provides a safe meeting place for young people, particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, where they can, for a nominal entrance fee, participate in a wide range of positive activities. The Youth Zone also runs other targeted projects to improve the lives of those with additional needs, social and emotional needs and vulnerable young people in the area. We employ professional staff and recruit and train volunteers to work with them.

The Youth Zone is entirely independent of the Richard Rose Central Academy and other schools and colleges, but we strive to work in partnership with them and other youth service providers. The three-storey building, is an open, bright and attractive environment to enable young people to chill and socialise alongside opportunities to engage in sport and fitness with access to a quality gym, dance and performing arts spaces, pool tables, table tennis and a wide range of team sports.

Personal development is encouraged by using the IT facilities and enterprise support. Creativity is

also encouraged through art and craft and the sound studio. There are opportunities to develop both skills and knowledge contributing to health and well-being through cooking and access to supervised kitchen facilities, in addition to the café providing subsidised hot meals and tuck shop. Some sports facilities including the sports hall with climbing wall and outdoor all-weather pitches are shared with the Academy.

Carlisle has a high employment/low wage economy and this has had a major impact on many young people, leading over the past 25 years to increasingly poor levels of engagement in education for low-achieving pupils. The Youth Zone's aim is to raise young people's aspirations by involving them in positive activities that they enjoy and in which they can achieve. Our aim is that Carlisle can be increasingly proud of its young people and they in turn increasingly proud to grow up in and be part of the Carlisle community.

Carlisle Youth Zone is now run by a dedicated and committed, private sector led board, chaired by Chris Holmes.