

Tarset and Greystead NDP Steering Group

Minutes for meeting held on 29th July 2014 at 9 am

Actions listed in bold

1. Introduction and apologies

Present: Darrell Jackson (Chair), Rex Cooper (Secretary), John Holland, David Watkins, Megan Nixon, Anne Monroe, Jenny Ludman, Kevin Tipple (NCC), Apologies were received from Mary-Lou Downie and Preston Hoggan.

2. Minutes and Matters arising from meeting of 1st July 2014

Minutes:

The Minutes of the last full meeting of 1st July were approved.

One typo on page 2 under 5, Policy writing, line 10: to read ‘Lanehead’ [Rex]

Meetings of 8th, 15, 22nd July:

These were single issue meetings to finalise the Group’s editing of the Spence & Dower document, so by agreement of the Chair there were no formal Agendas or Minutes.

3. Matters arising: actions in bold

Item 5, Policy writing

Concern was expressed that there should be group ownership of draft policies before they were forwarded to Chris Anderson, although present policies are going to Chris only for initial, informal advice.

Agreed that all draft policies will in future go to the Group, Jenny and Kevin before being forwarded to Chris Anderson. [All]

Item 4, Design Guide

Kevin has checked with NCC and they would support the publication of Spence & Dower’s work as a Design Guide.

Jenny has not spoken to NNPA but thinks the Design Guide needs to be slimmed down before it can be used as a SPD. This could perhaps be done later, although the Neighbourhood Plan will need to reference the Design Guide. It was hoped that Spence & Dower would be able to re-format the document as a SPD relatively quickly, given their experience in writing similar guides. It was suggested that we check with NNPA their views on the length of the document, as their view would lend weight to arguments to shorten/reformat it.

It was confirmed that Spence & Dower had received their part payment for work to date.

Check with NCC what further steps are necessary before Guide can be adopted.

[Kevin]

Make similar checks with NNPA.

[Jenny]

Item 5, Policy writing

In hand – All

Item 6 – Review/Update Project Plan

Ongoing. We need to send update of Project Plan to Tony Gates for renewal of Jenny's contract. Bid will be for 3 days of Jenny's time.

Darrell/John to look at timings outside this meeting, then send information to Rex for forwarding to Tony Gates by end of this week.

[Darrell/John/Rex]

Item 7 – Correspondence

Specification for Sarah Dyer input still to be drafted; not urgent at present. [Anne – on return]

Item 8, AOB

Rex has cleared with Emily at NNPA the Marks & Spencer voucher payment.

Megan has dealt with the Locality claim.

MAIN AGENDA

4. Consideration of policy drafts

The rest of the meeting was a single issue session to go through the draft policies to date.

The following general points (actions apart from ongoing policy development highlighted in bold below) emerged:

Date all policy drafts for clarity/include number of draft in header

[All]

Sustainability:

It was confirmed that it is not necessary to include sustainability in all policies. Instead each policy in the draft Plan will be appraised with positive/negative score against sustainability criteria. Important to avoid repetition of material from policy to policy; can be pulled together at end.

Wording

It is appropriate to use forceful language, e.g. 'will not be allowed' will not be permitted/will be permitted rather than vaguer language, e.g. 'will be resisted'.

Numbering of policies

Revised list of policy numbers to be forwarded to members, owing to recent alterations
[Megan]

Policy 1. General design etc

Input from Jenny/Kevin was requested about how prescriptive the policy can be and how much detail can be included. Note that the Policy must include issues such as lights, sustainability, flooding etc as well as design issues.

Forward the first part of the draft to Jenny for comment on overall approach.

[Anne – on return]

Policy 2 – Conversion of redundant buildings

Local need: Jenny advised that we would need to specify that housing is for local need; no scope for non local-need housing. However it was felt that we needed to open out local need to include those who might move into the area permanently and bring new employment (draft policy, p. 2, 1st bullet point). This may be difficult to pilot through but the meeting was in favour and this approach ticks sustainability criteria/ is in accord with national policy.

Add the percentage of people who work from home to strengthen policy; information available from census.

This policy must cover all redundant buildings including settlements as well as open countryside; but there will be extra criteria within settlements.

Policy 3 – New Development in Lanehead/Greenhaugh

Lanehead and Greenhaugh have been amalgamated in the draft policy. After discussion, it was agreed there would be a single policy for new development but there would be a paragraph/section each on Lanehead and Greenhaugh to reflect the different issues in each, focusing on spatial development. The question of whether ‘Wider Lanehead’ and Box Lane will be referred to specifically here was discussed. The area between Lanehead and Box Lane to be defined as unsuitable for development.

Policy to be renamed to avoid word ‘new’; extensions to be included.

Policy 6 - Economic Sustainability

After discussion, it was felt that the text should, as at present, stress the current problems, e.g. slow Broadband. More justifications/solutions could perhaps be added to the narrative in ‘Purpose and Reason for Policy’ section.

Jenny and Kevin to look at this policy and make suggestions. [Jenny/Kevin]

Landscape policy (re-numbering of this and following policies to await Megan's revision)

A Yorkshire Design Guide was tabled – it was agreed that a similar summary of area characteristics should be incorporated.

Point 6.6 to go up front, before paragraph on sensitivities.

Tourism policy

Rename policy 'Sustainable Tourism and Recreational Development'

Policy to explain why the T & G landscape is valued, and add into justification the type of tourism that fits in well with this, e.g. Wild Northumbria.

Dark Skies to be added.

Para 1 – explain at end of sentence what is valued about the special characteristics of T & G.

Renewable Energy Policy

Consideration of this policy deferred to next meeting.

Policies still in process of drafting:

General Development/Design Principles: **Megan/Anne**

Conservation and Historic Environment: **Preston/Anne/Mary-Lou**

Community Assets and Facilities: **Preston/David**

Broadband and mobile phones: **Preston**

5. AOB

It was agreed that discussion at the next meeting will focus on the following issues:

1. Draft of proposed format for Plan prepared by Preston.
2. Timeline
3. Renewable energy policy: comments from Group, Jenny, Kevin.

6. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 5th August, Tarsset Village Hall, 10 am.