



# NEWPORT (Shropshire) TOWN COUNCIL

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LJ/2014/NDP

27<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Summary of **notes, recommendations and actions** following a meeting of the **Newport Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group** held in The Guildhall, The High Street on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Oct 2014**

## **Present:**

Cllr Tim Nelson – Steering Group Chairman  
Cllr Terry Spooner – Newport Town Council  
Cllr Peter Scott – Newport Town Council  
Cllr Lyn Fowler – Town Council  
Janet Clarke – Newport & District Civic Society  
Patrick Beech – Chairman Newport Chamber of Commerce  
Cath Edwards – Newport 21  
Rev Steve Mitchell- Newport Churches Together  
Eric Carter – Newport Regeneration Partnership  
Steve Jones – Town Plan Steering Group  
Bernie Jones – Shrewsbury & Newport Canal Trust  
Lee Jakeman - Town Clerk  
Sheila Atkinson - Deputy Town Clerk

## **Apologies:**

Cllr Nigel Borrett  
Clare Francis – Telford & Wrekin Council  
Tim Pryce – Newport Tourist Information  
Charles Worth – Newport 21  
Michael Atherton – Newport Town Team  
Tony Finch – Newport Cricket Club

## **Absent:**

Cllr Phil Norton – Town Council

<b>Agenda Topic</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>Actions/ comments/ outcomes</b>
<b>Welcome</b>	Cllr Nelson welcomed members. Attention was drawn to the Town Plan which was now available in hard copy and provides many elements of the evidence that was driving the themes of the NDP.	Noted.
<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr Nigel Borrett Clare Francis – Telford & Wrekin Council Tim Pryce – Newport Tourist Information Charles Worth – Newport 21 Michael Atherton – Newport Town Team	Noted
<b>Previous Minutes</b>	Noted.	Noted
<b>Sustainable Transport</b>	Cllr Nelson appraised members of recent dialogue with Telford & Wrekin Council's Group Manager – Transport, Strategy & Road Safety, as a positive consequence of attendance at a recent T&W Bicycle Users Group. The dialogue centred around sustainable transport and Telford & Wrekin Council's strategy, a theme that had been of some debate by the ND steering group. It was agreed that members of the Process Management Group and the Newport 21 representative meet with T&WC (Group Manager, Transport et al) to understand where the emerging local plan and the NDP have potential to overlap or where there might be gaps in policy.	Cllr Nelson to liaise with T&WC to arrange a meeting of the PMG + Newport 21 rep.
<b>Process Management Group</b>	The PMG minutes were intended to be used to provide the framework and general direction of the latter agenda 'NDP Workshop 8 Sep 14'	Noted
<b>NRP Report</b>	Eric Carter – tabled a report from the Newport Regeneration Partnership.  Clarity of the boundary and in turn the NDP's remit was discussed. Matters outside the physical parish boundary will provide some context and influence the NDP and are of course are of concern to the Town Council (in its wider remit). However, the NDP is likely to fail examination if policy	Copy of NRP report circulated to interested parties and saved 'as evidence' on the Town Council's ND web page.

	<p>relates to land 'outside the boundary'.</p> <p>The proposals in the report would need some form of public consultation evidence in order that it can be used as evidence that will withstand the scrutiny of the independent examiner.</p>	<p>NRP to consult with the wider public and provide documentary evidence on their proposals.</p>
<p><b>NDP Workshop 8 Sep 2014</b></p>	<p>The report was discussed a few comments were made about the salient points identified, to help shape the agreed themes (later agenda item).</p> <p>It was noted that a number of the aspirations were identified as not necessarily being appropriate to achieve through the NDP process.</p> <p>Of note were the next steps – once a vision had been confirmed and policy themes agreed, there would be an analysis the evidence available. The external consultant would carry out the analysis with assistance from the Town Council and produce a report to capture available evidence and identify evidence gaps.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p><b>Confirming a Vision</b></p>	<p>The PMG tabled a draft vision based on the 3 'postcards' exercise at the workshop on 8 Sep 14 and with due regard for the recently produced Town Plan's visioning exercise:</p> <p><i>A haven of independence and community, a place that always feels like home. Bustling shops and services, busy streets, vibrant weekly indoor general markets and a regular farmer's market, all encompassed within the character and historical quaintness of a conservation area enhanced by numerous listed buildings of varying architectural importance. A town with good transport links to major centres of commercial and employment activity, blessed with the best of modern communications and technology; one that is prosperous, educated, a seat and centre of learning, across the full spectrum of educational needs, with plenty of jobs - from high tech to retail to public service.</i></p> <p><i>A town that provides; opportunities to help in the community with volunteering roles, a range of (high build quality) houses and tenures, a wealth of pubs or clubs or institutions, 'Something for one and all'.</i></p> <p><i>A town with sustainable transport linked to the national cycle network where the car is no</i></p>	<p>General agreement that the draft was about right. Steering Group members asked to forward comments to the Town Clerk within the week to refine.</p> <p>PMG to confirm vision and forward to URS.</p>

	<p><i>longer as dominant as it once was, 'greener' with more trees and more green and blue space for everyone to enjoy.</i></p> <p><i>Home to an attractive canal with picnic areas on the adjacent Victoria Park. A variety of parks (Norbroom/Shuker and new) that house community buildings with first class facilities to accommodate traditional sports pitches and a cycle track.</i></p> <p><i>A glad host to a burgeoning University, Harper Adams, one of the first in Shropshire; providing a rare partnership where the town welcomes the students, and the students respect the town.</i></p> <p><i>A town that marries the best of the future, with a love for it's past.</i></p> <p><i>A happy place.</i></p>	
<b>Agreeing the Themes</b>	<p>Having considered the workshop report and the PMG minutes (1 Oct), the following were agreed as the proposed policy themes of the Newport NDP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identifying/ encouraging recycling premises.</li> <li>○ Sustainable transport infrastructure.</li> <li>○ Existing and New Green and Blue Spaces to include an increase in playing fields.</li> <li>○ Houses / schools - High standards of build quality and energy retention. mitigate against future parking demand.</li> <li>○ High grade communications infrastructure.</li> <li>○ Benefits of increased employment opportunities in connection with HAU expertise.</li> <li>○ Water Lane Development – mixed use.</li> <li>○ Policies to reduce the 'studentification' of Newport.</li> <li>○ Affordable Housing – on site and to national targets (not watered down post planning approval).</li> </ul>	<p>PMG to forward to consultant.</p> <p>Steering group members asked to attempt producing bullet point policies.</p>
<b>Next Meeting</b>	To be confirmed	Clerk to advise members accordingly.

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