

PAG Working Party

North Somerset Local Plan 2038 Challenges and Choices Part 1: Challenges for the Future

Held on Wednesday 19th August 2020 @ 6.00pm

Remotely by Office Teams

Taking Part: Councillors Mason, Holland, Cartwright, Sterndale, Snaden and Davey

M.Salisbury (Town Clerk)

Clerking: S.Sherborne

Public: Members of the public had been invited to take part via the Town Council's website. The two participants did not stay online for the whole duration of the meeting

1. Introduction

Councillor Mason welcomed everyone and stressed how important it was for everyone to have their say about the consultation and that it is possible for people to comment individually.

2. Nomination of a Chairperson for the meeting

Councillor Mason offered to chair the meeting. All agreed.

The Working Party worked its way through the 13 questions in this the first stage of the consultation:

What are the benefits of new homes and jobs?

1: What are your hopes and fears about having new development near where you live?

- basic infrastructure around development e.g. doctors, school, retail
- lack of infrastructure to support developments
- insufficient suitable housing e.g. social housing and starter homes with 1-2 bedrooms
- loss of employment land to accommodate housing
- loss of office space due to flat conversions
- limited area to build due to Green Belt and floodplain

Challenges and opportunities of change

QUESTION 2: What changes over the next 15 years do you think will affect how we need to plan for residents, businesses, and communities?

- increase in number of older generation that will need to be catered for
- increase in health facilities in the town
- community transport hub (hop on and hop off) in Town
- increased electricity charge points for cars and bikes
- increase numbers of business hubs
- improved wifi network across the town
- more people working from home
- rethink road networks to include cycle paths
- linking up areas e.g. Marina with main High Street shopping area
- access in to and out of the Town
- increase in people cycling and therefore a need for increase in cycle parks / racks
- more online shopping

Climate Emergency

QUESTION 3: Are you concerned that climate change may impact you or your family, business or local community in the future? And if so in what way?

- increase flooding across the flood plains in Portishead
- pipes under certain roads (Lipgate Place) are 100 years old and cannot cope with the levels of rainfall in the current climate
- Sea defence walls will need raising in line with climate change to accommodate increase in rain fall

Supporting our economy

QUESTION 4: How should we plan for how you and your family will work in the future, or the future needs of your business?

- community transport hub (hop on and hop off) in Town
- increased electricity charge points for cars and bikes
- needs business hub area for residents to use technology / hot desking
- improved wifi network across the town
- rethink road networks to include cycle paths
- linking up areas e.g. Marina with main High Street shopping area
- access into and out of the Town
- increase in people cycling and therefore a need for increase in cycle park
- to promote a variety of business premises
- promote tourism with an attractive town
- offer education to residents in new technology
- reopening of railway

Providing homes and creating sustainable communities

QUESTION 5: What sort of types and sizes of houses do you think will be needed for your community in the future?

- social housing and starter homes with 1-2 bedrooms
- promotion of eco-friendly / zero carbon homes

Infrastructure required to support new homes:

QUESTION 6: What do you think makes a good community?

- a variety of shops for people to use
- halls for clubs, groups and organisations to meet
- outside meeting places (play areas, parks, recreational areas) for balanced wellbeing
- gyms, swimming pool

Creating a sustainable future

QUESTION 7: Do you agree with these? Are there any others which are important to you?

- Yes, but there should be more allotment areas within the town available for residents to grow their own and increase sustainability and sufficient garden space in new homes, including shared space for flats.

Protecting important green and blue spaces

QUESTION 8: We have come to value our local footpaths and green space more since Covid-19. How can we ensure that future residents benefit from access to green spaces?

- more public rights away over fields
- making sure adequate garden space for new homes
- apply for Town Village Green status on open spaces

The future role of the Green Belt

QUESTION 9: Should we be thinking about adjusting the Green Belt boundary if necessary?

- No

Are these the right Challenges?

QUESTION 10: The previous sections set out the six challenges that we feel the Local Plan should address (shown below). Are there any other challenges you feel we need to address through the Local Plan?

- Adult and Child Social Care – to improve the service, protecting our older generation and catering for the youth. Protecting our vulnerable communities.

What should our vision be for 2038?

QUESTION 11: In light of the world we now live in is this vision still appropriate for the future?

- we hold on to our past and traditions so that our traditions should shape our future

What should be our aims? Tackle the climate change challenge: Build sustainable development: Treasure valued assets: Raise design quality: Improve the life prospects of local people: Regenerate our towns and communities:

QUESTION 12: Do these reflect your aims, those of your family, community or business?

- yes, reflect our aims

What should the priorities be?

QUESTION 13: Have we identified the right priorities and are there any missing, which do you think are the most important and why?

- yes, identified the right priorities
- improved infrastructure
- supporting economy and job opportunities
- supporting the vulnerable in our communities

Further Comments?

Increase in renewable energy e.g. wind turbines and solar farms

Meeting closed 7.35pm