

Notes from the Neighbourhood Development Plan Meeting held at Dobwalls United Church Schoolroom, Dobwalls on Monday 21st November 2016, commencing at 7.00pm.

Present: Cllrs J Dunn, M Mackie, T Kitto, H Francis, D Finch and M Hasshill

In attendance: L Coles, Parish Clerk

There were 19 members of the public present

Cllr Dunn welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a brief overview of the merits of having a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and covered the aims of this meeting.

Cllr Dunn handed the floor to Cllr Mackie who gave a Power Point Presentation on Neighbourhood Development Planning. Cllr Mackie explained the Neighbourhood Planning Activity Map.

Cllr Mackie's presentation raised questions such as 'Should Dobwalls and Trewidland Parish have a NDP', 'What's involved in putting a plan together', 'How long will it take to complete' and 'How will it be funded'. Examples of some adopted NDPs in Cornwall were circulated to the members of the public present.

It was explained that a NDP allows the local community to decide what its priorities are. The NDP will be specific to Dobwalls and Trewidland Parish. It provides a legal document to help Cornwall Council when making planning decisions. It also provides guidance for the Parish Council on how it responds to future planning applications for development in the Parish.

Cllr Mackie spoke about developing a vision, objectives and policies for the Parish through a NDP and gave an outline of the process, which will be long and could be complicated. Cllr Mackie said that the Parish Council will need the support of the skills and experience of the members of the community in developing a Plan, and signposted the Cornwall Council website for the very well documented information on NDPs.

There is DCLG funding available, up to £9k, to enable the Parish Council to develop a NDP.

The next step is to establish whether the Parish Council has the support of the Electorate. The final meeting on the 5th December will decide whether the Plan will be taken forward and a Steering Group (10-12 people, including 5 Parish Councillors) will be set up to develop it. Topic Groups (15-20 people, split into groups of 4) will be set up to collect information for developing objectives and policies. The Steering Group will meet monthly and the Topic Groups will have regular meetings whilst they are working on specific information gathering.

Cllr Dunn said that the villages of Dobwalls and Trewidland are very different from each other but the NDP will be for the whole Parish, will be comprehensive and will suit the differing needs of both villages.

If there is support for the development of the NDP then, hopefully, the process can start in January 2017. Questionnaires will be sent to every household in the Parish as a starting point but there will be much public consultation during the process.

Cllr Mackie passed around a form for those present to include their names and contact details. A Straw Poll was taken to gauge support and the result was a unanimous show of hands.

Cllr Dunn thanked all those who attended and closed the meeting at 8.15pm