

**BRACKENFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
MEETING OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN GROUP
AT THE PLOUGH, BRACKENFIELD
ON TUESDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 6PM**

Present: Linda Walker, Caroline Wakefield, Neal Steeper, Rachel Robson (Consultant); Peter Pilsbury, Mike Edwards, Christine Edwards, Anne Edgar, Jane Bush

Apologies: David Wakefield, Stefan Priest, Michael Poole, Billie-Jean Poole, Martin Philips, Graham Keeton

Community Survey feedback:

Surveys were hand delivered and collected by several volunteers and some were completed on line, resulting in a return of 57 (individual and household) completed forms. This represents just over 70 individuals, or about 43% of the Electoral role of the Parish.

Rachel presented a brief initial overview of the key findings, relating to Vision and Objectives:

- Most popular positive features of Brackenfield: Open green spaces; rural character; wildlife and habitats
- Least valued features: housing for retirement and young families; sense of community
- Most popular “what could be improved”: Limiting speed of traffic; condition of roads; community facilities; use of Church Hall; transport; broadband and utilities
- Most popular “vision”: Unchanged or relatively unchanged; some growth but small and absorbed into the village; encourage families to come/stay in the village
- Most popular to retain: Charm; tranquility; peace; rural landscape; habitats
- Most popular improvements: Family friendly; affordable choices of home; community facilities; cafe; play area; Hall as a focal point
- Policy direction: Protection and enhancement of footpaths; landscape; natural features; archaeology
- Housing needs: 49% said small starter homes are needed. 21% chose retirement properties; 16% chose family homes and 2% chose large detached houses.
- Design: “Respect the current character” was popular with innovative and one-off designs the least popular.
- Traffic and transport: Speed, traffic danger and fly tipping were highlighted as concerns. Community transport and signposting were least chosen.

- There was recognition of conflict between feelings of not wanting any change and acknowledging the need for some housing for younger people.

Some issues raised in the survey can be addressed through the Neighbourhood Plan. Others can be acknowledged and added as an appendix for reference in respect of future village projects and may be picked up by the Parish Council.

Vision and Objectives:

The draft Vision and Objectives was discussed and considered alongside the initial feedback from the survey. It was agreed that the draft broadly reflects the majority view from the survey and could therefore be used as an initial working document, subject to some editing to make it more concise.

Rachel agreed to edit the draft Vision and Objectives.

Next steps:

Rachel outlined what would be involved in making a Character Assessment of the Parish. This would be a detailed study (drawing on existing documentation and physical investigation into the area) that could describe the character of different areas of the Parish e.g. the Green and surrounding area; the Turbutt/Ogston development; outlying former hamlets.

This detailed study, including photographs and historical background, would drill down to a greater level of detail than the broad descriptions in NE Derbyshire's "Historical Landscape Character" and DCC's "Landscape Character" documents and would form the basis for many elements of the Neighbourhood Plan. Important aspects include: Topography, Land Use, Layout, Lane Ways, Buildings, Landmarks, Natural Areas, Roads and Views.

There was a lot of enthusiasm expressed for creating a Character Assessment and it was agreed that we should discuss this in more detail at the next meeting and try to define some areas within the Parish for investigation.

Rachel will send some Character Assessment tools and associated documents for us to read.

An offshoot of this discussion was a high level of interest in capturing the history of Brackenfield and how the village has changed and developed. There are several older villagers who have a wealth of information and personal accounts which could be captured through interviews, recordings etc.

Next meeting: Tuesday 5 December 6pm at The Plough (all welcome)

To be discussed:

Further feedback from the Survey

Character Assessment

