

Burneside Neighbourhood Plan

2016



Our Project Plan

The official owner of the Plan is: Burneside Parish
Council

The official Lead authority is: South Lakeland District
Council, with the Lake District National Park as their
partner authority but really,

This plan belongs to the community of Burneside

Mission Statement

OUR VISION

'Our Vision is to develop a vibrant community and sustainable environment, where we can all live healthy, prosperous lives; within a spectacular landscape, based on our heritage, shared values and unique character'

OUR OBJECTIVES: The 5 CORE ELEMENTS of Our Plan (ideas only, yet to be decided):

- ✓ **Planning and Development**
- ✓ **Traffic and Transport**
- ✓ **Services and Facilities**
- ✓ **Recreation and Leisure**
- ✓ **Environment & Landscape**

Our 8 Step Approach to Planning our Project: (in blue is completed as at 25/5/16)

1. **Getting Started.** This includes submitting our application to our lead authority (SLDC) and inviting our community to be involved, either through representing our community on the Neighbourhood Planning Team or putting their name forward as a candidate for selection on the Steering Group;
2. **Identifying the issues.** Our intention is to group the issues, opportunities and ideas into the **5 CORE ELEMENTS** ;
3. **Develop a vision and objectives for the 5 Core Elements.** These will form the basis for community engagement;
4. **Generate the options.** This will be through a thorough consultation and engagement process. The Steering Group will assess and collate the responses;
5. **Draft our Neighbourhood Plan.** The Steering Group, working closely with our professional consultant, will draft our Neighbourhood Plan, weighing the options and collating the various surveys and reports required;
6. **Consultation & Submission.** The draft plan will be scrutinised by community feedback, through further consultation and assessment, before submission to SLDC;
7. **Submission to an independent, external examiner;**
8. **A Community Referendum;** A 50% Yes vote will result in our Plan being adopted as a legal document. This will provide our community will a clear plan that will influence and inform planning and development. It will have a significant influence on SLDC's strategic planning. Above all else, it will

give us, as a community, ownership and responsibility for our future that will be recognised by our partners and stakeholders.

What the plan can do:

Decide where and what type of development should happen in the neighbourhood;

- ✓ Promote more development than set out in the Local Plan;
- ✓ Include policies. For example, regarding design standards, sustainable development, green spaces, access and connectivity.

What it cannot do:

- Conflict with the strategic policies in the Local Plan.
- Be used to prevent development that is included in the Local Plan.

Typical things that a plan may include:

- ✓ The development of housing, including affordable housing (housing not normally for sale on the open market) and bringing vacant or derelict housing back into use;
- ✓ Provision for businesses to set up or expand their premises.
- ✓ Transport and access (including issues around roads, cycling, walking and disabled access);
- ✓ Development of schools, places of worship, community and youth centres, village hall;.
- ✓ Restriction on certain types of development and change of use, for example to avoid too much of one type of use;
- ✓ The design of buildings and sustainability;
- ✓ Protection and creation of open space, nature reserves, allotments, sports pitches, play areas, parks and gardens, the planting of trees & community woodlands;
- ✓ Protection of important buildings, historic assets such as archaeological remains; and the
- ✓ Promotion and development of renewable and Green energy projects, such as solar energy or wind turbines.

In order to achieve these objectives, the plan must reflect what our community identify as the key issues and priorities, within each of the **5 CORE ELEMENTS**.

This will be achieved through effective engagement and communication with our community, partners, local government, other agencies and stakeholders.

We will examine, review and gather evidence to support our objectives.

We will then draft policies, based on sound evidence and community engagement that is endorsed and clearly understood by our community.

The draft Neighbourhood Development Plan for Burneside Parish will be produced, examined and ultimately, will lead to a referendum.

1. BACKGROUND

Burneside Parish Council is committed to the Localism ethos. Localism is at the heart of central and local government policy. It has cross party support. We have wholeheartedly accepted the challenge of Localism, whereby local communities and individuals take more responsibility and ownership for many aspects of their lives and local environment.

We are prepared to do things differently and better. Our aim is to work more effectively, in partnership with local government and other agencies but, particularly with our own community.

Since 2014, the Burneside Partnership (a partnership between Burneside Parish Council, James Cropper PLC, Ellergreen Estate and the Anglers Inn Trust) has been investigating and assessing just what is possible and realistic, with ambition and determination. The Partnership and the Parish Council believes wholeheartedly that our community has the assets, resources and opportunity to create a sustainable legacy. By working cooperatively with the key stakeholders and our community, we believe we can positively affect the rejuvenation and development of our village and parish as a whole.

In July 2015, the Partnership produced the *Vision for Burneside* document. Its authors were Farrar Huxley Associates, in collaboration with Birds Portchmouth Russum Architects and Steve Smith of Urban Narratives, who were engaged by the Partnership.

The brief to the consultancy team was:

The Partnership aspires to transform Burneside into a world-class village, for the benefit of the whole community. A world class business, James Cropper PLC, exists at the heart of the village, which provides a catalyst and benchmark for the transformation and rejuvenation of the village.

The Parish Council has subsequently voted unanimously to endorse the entire document, as an aspirational platform; to launch our community into a vibrant, sustainable future.

We discussed the ramifications and the protocols of a neighbourhood plan with our lead authority, South Lakeland District Council, at the earliest opportunity, with the aim of creating a close working relationship. We also included the Lake District National Park Authority and Kendal Town Council in early discussions, wishing to be open and honest about our intentions. We wanted to lay good foundations from the outset. We believe, between us all, we have establish a good working relationship. That will guide us through this project and, indeed, into the future.

During these discussions we have agreed, as a parish council, to exclude the land allocation, West of High Sparrowmire and a parcel of land at the land allocation for Laurel Gardens, for the purposes of this plan.

There was an extensive consultation period, between July 2015 and March 2016, with our key partners and stakeholders, as well as with many in our local community. In March 2016 the parish council voted unanimously to proceed with a neighbourhood plan.

Burneside Parish Council has concluded that a neighbourhood plan is the most effective way of legitimising all the aspirations, hopes and ideas that will emerge, as a consequence of the *Vision for Burneside* document. In creating our neighbourhood plan, the Parish Council wants to create a strategic document that has real potency and relevance that leaves a positive legacy for future generations.

We have engaged the professional services of Mr Nigel McGurk, who has much experience with working on neighbourhood plans, as well as an examiner, to work with us on the production of the plan.

We are committed to producing a plan that is both realistic and achievable.

In May 2016 South Lakeland District Council gave formal notice of our plan, published on their website and in the Westmorland Gazette.

To this end, our parish council has given this plan priority. The Partnership has committed to fund and resource the development and production of our neighbourhood plan. We believe that this already demonstrates a solidarity and commitment to Localism and inclusivity. We have the key stakeholders in our community working together, with a clear understanding and determination to create a vibrant, prosperous and sustainable future.

At the heart of the plan will be our community. It will be their neighbourhood plan. We are determined that it will be inclusive. We will confront difficult and sensitive issues. We are committed to be open and honest, taking everyone's opinions and views into consideration.

The development of the draft neighbourhood plan will be led by a steering group. The Parish Council invited members of our community to step forward and volunteer to represent our community on this group. We believe we have a committed team who have the skills and capacity to achieve the aims and objectives, we have set out in this project plan. This team will be supported by a wider group of volunteers, representing *Burneside Neighbourhood Planning Team*. In reality, however, everyone in our community should consider themselves part of the planning team.

Nb. See Appendix 1 for the *Project Structure* (flowchart)

2. THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN OBJECTIVES

(These are the **5 CORE ELEMENTS** that have been identified, so far, as being the basis for consultation and communication, which are pivotal for the development of our neighbourhood plan).

Planning and Development: To develop a vibrant and prosperous neighbourhood by encouraging appropriate sustainable development that supports quality jobs, businesses, shops, services and facilities; whilst ensuring that any development meets the needs of local people, protects the environment, enhances landscape and contributes to the quality of our lives;

Traffic and Transport: To resolve long-standing traffic and transport issues, to create a safer and healthier environment for all. To enhance existing public transport links and to create new and sustainable routes for pedestrians, as well as other 'green' transport initiatives;

Services and Facilities: To enhance our local services and facilities and develop new environmental projects that contribute to a self-sufficient neighbourhood where there is less reliance on travel to other service areas;

Recreation and Leisure: To resolve issues in relation to our existing, traditional sports and leisure facilities. To create new opportunities that are both innovative and inclusive, to promote the health and well-being for all, including a renewed sense of 'community' and participation;

Environment & Landscape: To preserve and enhance our natural and built environment, with due regard to the surrounding landscape and proximity to the Lake District National Park and Kendal Town;

3. THE AIM OF THE PROJECT PLAN

To produce a Neighbourhood Plan for Burneside parish that is a reflection of our Vision. This plan will be based on collaboration and consensus, through a process of effective engagement within our community and others with a stake in our community. Evidence will be gathered that will be representative of our community. This is to ensure that we have an appropriate, sustainable planning and development approach in our parish that is in close partnership with our local government and other agencies.

4. THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS PROJECT PLAN

To develop a closer sense of community in our parish. To re-connect our community, both spatially and personally, through effective consultation and communication with everyone, to ascertain what we want for the future of our community.

To identify and prioritise the key issues, under the four main objective headings.

To develop, examine and gather evidence in relation to the key issues.

To work closely with the support agencies and our local government partners, to effectively consider our options, in order to address the key issues identified.

To produce a draft neighbourhood plan that reflects the key issues and is based on firm evidence and engagement.

The draft Neighbourhood Plan will be an inspirational and sustainable plan, realistic and achievable that will pass examination by an external adjudicator.

To produce a Neighbourhood Plan that will ultimately pass a local referendum.

5. REVIEWING AND MONITORING THE PROJECT

At each stage and throughout the project, the Steering Group, working with our Neighbourhood Planning Team, will continually monitor and review progress, together with close consideration of the issues raised through community engagement and consultation.

We have engaged Mr Nigel McGurk, who have much experience of neighbourhood plan development and examination. We will also work closely with our partners, particularly SLDC and LDNP, as our lead authorities. They will provide us with a wider perspective and advice on planning and development issues. They will also, inevitably require surveys and assessments, for example, environmental impact.

We have 3 Community Monitors who will assess the effectiveness of our Steering Group, community engagement, as well as ensuring that the project team is developing a draft neighbourhood plan that is truly reflective of local opinion.

We will ask other partners to review and assess our progress, as well as evaluate our plan. We will ask advice and not shy away from constructive criticism, in fact, we will welcome it.

6. THE TIMETABLE UP TO THE ADOPTION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

We have not set a firm timetable. We have already completed a lot of work relating to background, context and need, which inform the aspirations, pre-eminent in the Vision for Burneside document. The Partnership has been a great success, in terms of teamwork, understanding and outcomes. We will use this as a role model and benchmark for our project. Indeed, most of the Partnership is represented on the Steering Group.

Our intention is to be focussed, efficient and effective; maximising the time we have with our professional consultant.

We know there is likely to be quite a lot of research and assessment work, centred on issues such as flooding and sewerage, as examples.

We aim to complete our draft plan by December 2016. But we are realistic enough to realise that other issues may prolong our project. We have identified this as a constraint, but one we can manage.

7. RISKS AND CONSTRAINTS

We have already been through the initial stages of attempting to develop a neighbourhood plan several years ago. We learnt so much from that experience.

Re-read the paragraph 1, Background.

We believe we have a project structure that is robust. We have engaged the services of a highly experienced professional consultant, resourced by the Partnership. This indicates a strong commitment to the Vision and, by implication the Neighbourhood Plan. This is reinforced by a steering group and an extended neighbourhood planning team that is composed of individuals who reflect the diverse nature of our community. They have the skills, commitment and sense of purpose that are required for a project of this scale.

Our track record as a parish council recently, together with the Burneside Partnership, has already demonstrated that the key stakeholders within our community can work effectively together. They very quickly formed an effective team that produced *A Vision for Burneside* document, which is both aspirational and highly ambitious in its scope.

We are mindful of a comment made by Peter Thornton, SLDC councillor, at a meeting in 2015. He said, 'If anyone can do this, it is Burneside.'

There is a resilience and motivation within our community leadership that will galvanise and inspire positive change.

We have already reached the end of Step Three. We are now at the crucial and most important stage of our project. This is where the community will be fully involved, from now until the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan. Even then there will be much work to do to achieve our vision. This is our blueprint for the future.

There has been a great deal of work put into this project by members of our community. Now the onus is on everybody to contribute.

The Project Team is tasked with guiding this plan to fruition. The team will provide an audit trail for the entire project, which will be available for public scrutiny. The team will endeavour, to the best of its ability, to effectively communicate listen and respond to everybody. The team will also learn and develop as they progress the plan, mainly by using the services of community monitors and external friends of the

Burneside Neighbourhood Plan. The team will encourage positive, critical responses throughout.

We have the strong support of our partners. We have sound professional help and advice from various agencies throughout the process. We also have both the financial and human resources to achieve the success of our plan.

We are endeavouring to lead the way in South Lakeland and to be exemplars of Neighbourhood Planning.

8. OUR COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

See Appendix 2.

Author: Tony Hill

On behalf of the Burneside Neighbourhood Steering Group

25 May 2016

BURNESIDE COMMUNITY



BURNESIDE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING TEAM
(including our community monitors)



The 5 KEY ELEMENTS

Traffic & Transport Planning & Development
Services & Facilities Recreation & Leisure
Environment & Landscape



STEERING GROUP (parish council sub-committee)

Tony Hill (team leader), Pennie Ridyard (deputy leader) John McCurdie (secretary), Claire Ellwood, Patrick Willink, Sue Cook and Mark Cropper, David Ginsberg,) chair Burneside PC) is ex-officio

Professional Consultancy: Nigel Mc Gurk Advisor: Noel Farrar



BURNESIDE PARISH COUNCIL (BPC)

(Owner of Burneside Neighbourhood Plan)



SOUTH LAKELAND DISTRICT COUNCIL (SLDC)

(our Lead Authority)

LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK (LDNP)

(partner to SLDC)