Lanteglos-by-Fowey Neighbourhood Plan

Update

Since our last report the Steering Group has now met. The present members of the group are Mr Robin Sainsbury, Miss Karen Toms, Mr Kevin Parsons, Miss Dawn Parsons, Miss Tessa Skola, Ms Liz Luck, Mr Graham Brooks, Mr Andy Simmonds, Cllrs Adrian Fisher and Cllr Pat Moore; Cllr John Adams is an ex officio member. Cllr was elected as Chairman. Mrs Gillian Thompson has agreed to clerk our meetings and the minutes have been posted on the notice boards and on the website.

The grant money from Groundwork has now been paid and part of that is already being used on a more detailed analysis and report carried out by Cornwall Rural Communities Charity on the Parish Survey we launched at the beginning of the year. A dedicated website is being set up by Western Web and will eventually hold all details of meetings, members of the Steering group and Working groups as these are set up together with the Group's Terms of Reference. The Steering Group is not a public body but a group of local residents and councillors. As such it is not bound by the Code of Conduct adopted by Cornwall Councils. We will also have further surveys as these are developed, as well as reports and updates. There will be a link to this from the Parish Council website.

The Steering Group has also agreed to carry out a Housing Needs Survey commissioned from Cornwall Council. A letter will be sent out to every household in the parish which has a Council Tax Account inviting them to take part in an on-line survey. This is a much more efficient of gathering important information and will show us where we need to focus our efforts in planning terms. We are aware that not everyone in on email or may not have access. We plan to solve this issue by inviting those residents who wish to take part to a morning at Whitecross Village Hall where laptops and assistance will be available. We hope to get as wide a response as we possibly can as the information provided is detailed, up-to-date and reliable. One has been developed for Lostwithiel and we have details of the one carried out in Carn Brea. The surveys will be completely confidential and will not be handled by the Steering Group nor Parish Council. We are not ready to do this yet as WiFi facilities are required to be set up at Whiecross. The Parish Council has made a grant to support this installation. WiFi will be of benefit not just for the purposes of the survey but will have many more applications for the benefit of the Parish.

There are several emerging themes in the report from CRCC. These include Housing, both affordable and market, Commercial development and what this might mean, Renewable energy and how relevant this and how it might be developed without detriment to the area. Community facilities and services are also important issues and how many of them are inter-dependent; this will need further investigation. Support for more local planning decisions is seen as important but we need to gather more evidence before developing the policies we will need to go into the Neighbourhood Plan. need

At the next meeting of the Steering Group on 27th July a draft outline project plan will be discussed together with the report from CRCC. Time is relatively short but whatever goes into our plan has to be permissive and have broad community support. It will be about land use planning and be produced by members of our community. It will enable development but give us the ability to influence that development. Our plan cannot conflict with local or national policy nor propose less growth than is contained in Cornwall Council's strategic plan. We can say where we think new houses, businesses and shops should go, and what they should look like. The whole community has the right to vote on whether to accept our Neighbourhood Plan at a referendum. If accepted the plan will be adopted and will have to be referred to before planning decisions are made.

There is much to be done but also a lot of support and encouragement in doing it. Our aim is to produce a plan, derived and developed by the whole community that sets out how we wish Lanteglos-by-Fowey to develop by 2030.

P A Moore Chairman Lanteglos-by-Fowey Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group July 2016