

Dunblane Development Trust

Development Group Meeting

Notes on the Meeting Held in the Braeport Centre On Thursday 3rd February 2011

1. Attendance.

Alan Booth, Chairman

Keir Bloomer, Bridget Clark, Julie Forrest, Tim Hughes, Bill Maclean, Ken Mitchell, Terence O'Byrne, David Prescott, Ian Stein, Dougal Thornton, G Wilson.

2. Apologies

Veryan Farr, Hugh England, Kate Fawcette, Mary Kane, Ian Dalglish, Tom Smith.

3. Agenda.

The chairman opened the meeting by referring to the consultancy firm of Urban Animation Planning and Urban Design's (UA) proposals document submitted in response to an invitation from the board of the DDT following discussions during December 2010 and January 2011, to provide a consultancy service in the development of a spatial strategy and action plan for future change in Dunblane. The fee for their service being £11,520.00, AB explained that sufficient funding was not yet in place to pay for this service but that there was two likely sources providing almost half of the amount, the remainder being sourced by the DDT board.

Initial concerns were expressed about (a) the need for the spatial strategy, (b) the time scale for completion and (c) funding. It was felt by some that enough community consultation had already been carried out and that the Stirling Council Planners now knew the views of the Dunblane community. A vigorous debate took place over the aims and objectives of the study, whether it could influence the deliberations of the planners dealing with the LDP and what topics it would cover. There was a shared concern that if the study went ahead, it should build on rather than repeat the findings of the Community development Plan. It was also felt that, should funding be obtained, then the Development Working Group should play a significant role in guiding the work of the planning consultants. By the end of the evening there appeared to be a majority view that the involvement of the consultants would give added weight and objectivity to the study to the benefit of influencing the LDP and subject to funding being available, should be appointed.

The competing supermarket proposals and the retail impact assessments were discussed as were aspects of office and business use and green space development, which so far had not figured strongly in the local plan. Regarding the supermarket issues, some of the group felt strongly that it was more important to address the development of the High Street rather than that of further supermarkets, the view being expressed that the High Street was resident driven whereas the supermarkets were a desire of the developers. It was felt that Phase 2 of the High Street improvement scheme should come under the remit of the Development Group rather than the Environment Group and Morag Watson has to be contacted regarding this proposed change. Discussion on the need for further commercial space centred on the high rentals charged in Dunblane and the lack of take-up for this type of accommodation on the Barbush site.

4.AOB.

There being no other business the meeting closed.

5.Date of next meeting - to be arranged.

Notes compiled by: Bill Maclean, Dougal Thornton and Ken Mitchell.