

Dunblane Development Trust

Development Working Group

Note of Inaugural Meeting

Wednesday 16 June 2010 in the Braeport Centre

Attendance

Alan Booth (Chair)	Helen Gourley
Chris Finnerty	Sue Finnerty
David Gill	Bryan Grieve
Tim Hughes	Bill Maclean
Ken Mitchell	Alistair Pringle
Tom Smith	Ian Stein
Dougal Thornton	Trudy Whyte
Grant Wilson	

Apologies: Ian Dalglish, David Prescott and Hugh England

These individuals collectively represent at least 250 years of both living in Dunblane and being involved with past development activity in the town! So the author of this piece, representing <1% of that, sat quietly to studiously absorb their experience and wisdom.

A short introduction by Alan informed the meeting that the *LDP Main Issues Report* was to be separately considered by a joint DDT/DCC sub-group. The purpose of the Development Working Group was to consider realistic community led projects that could complement and inform the "higher level" planning process. While the Community Plan is a guide to setting priorities, this initial gathering was an opportunity to share further ideas on developing town infrastructure that could be turned into agreed action at subsequent sessions.

There was a wide ranging and open discussion; revealed differing views and priorities but highlighting the importance of:

- Considering past experience in community led planning; including previous activity of the *Dunblane Forum* in relation to the High Street.
- Accepting that what the town/community has indicated it "wants" for the future may well not be what it "needs".
- Sponsoring an objective *Spatial Town Planning* exercise to balance the current fragmented approach that relies on individual landowner/developer led "expressions of (vested) interests" process.
- Promoting creative approaches to *town centre development* that serve the current population. Ideas included:- pedestrianisation and abattoir relocation
- Deciding the next stage in *High Street regeneration*; the previous "Co-op" premises suggested as a realistic project option.
- Challenging the view that long term *retail activity needs* in the centre may not be best served by just deciding where the next super-market is situated. Wider involvement of traders in the group's activities required.
- Engaging with transport issues:
 - Reviewing car parking facilities - starting with Mill Row
 - Seeking community gain from activity of train/rail providers

Date of next meeting : Wednesday 28th July at 7.30 in the Braeport Centre

This meeting is open to anyone interested in development issues in Dunblane. There is no need to be a member of DDT.

For more information contact Alan Booth on alan @ environmentalsurveys.co.uk