

**TAVISTOCK NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN**  
**STEERING GROUP MEETING WITH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  
**DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> 2021, 18.00**

**LOCATION: STANNARY BREWING CO., TAVISTOCK**

**STEERING GROUP (SG)**

Attendees:

James Ellis  
Ursula Mann  
Karen Nolan  
Sue Spackman

Apologies:

Andy Hutton  
Stuart Honey  
Janna Sanders

Community Forum:

22 members of the public attended.

Community exercise – not closed an opportunity for public to comment as steering group

Meetings notes to be posted online <https://tavistockplan.info/minutes/>

**Agenda**

Stuart Honey appointed as Secretary by SG

**Report on activity since last meeting**

- Informal SG meeting online to prepare for tonight
- Alex Rehaag, Senior Specialist Affordable Housing West Devon Council to begin collecting data available on housing
- Duncan Smith Neighbourhood Planning Officer, West Devon Borough Council – received information that we don't have to allocate housing as part of joint plan. However we may wish to allocate housing if this comes out of the survey
- Important to keep aware of the latest developments of the Joint local plan beginning in 2024 - joint local plan to be reviewed at that time
- Map area of neighbourhood plan that fell within Dartmoor National Park -has been approved by Dartmoor Forest Parish Council to be included in plan to be overseen by town council
- Devon Communities Together engaged as project manager to work on initial survey. Survey to start in mid February 2022

## **Tonight group activity – Planning the survey questions**

important about feedback on initial planning for survey questions

Tavistock College and youth cafe with Mount Kelly have been invited to widen age range  
Specific video project as virtual assembly to get engagement from younger people

Initial survey to entire town – what is important – what themes to deal in the  
neighbourhood plan – , housing, employment, sports/recreation, sustainability, green  
issues, environment, heritage etc

Open ended questions opportunity for people to put in their thoughts – blue sky thinking  
not ‘closed’ yes and no questions

Using Bovey Tracey and Cornwall guide as example templates for the creating the questions

Questions offered to group at the meeting look at the questions - and opportunity to write  
own questions

Sue Spackman added: Questions do not preempt the situation - survey to get a sense of  
what people want to see Tavistock in 10 years – much is about life in the future of  
Tavistock? E.g. if housing being suggested, right for the future of the town? “Utopia” how  
would it be and how do we get there?

Goal tonight – questions to generate the answers

Also look at comments, form and vocabulary, wording of the questions

20 minutes allocated for the groups to consider the questions

Careful not to overload the questionnaire – comments will come in the free writing boxes

### **Feedback from the individual table groups**

1. What are shortages of economical housing – especially for young and prices beyond many
2. Opportunities for young and infrastructure, travel costs to get to the jobs in Exeter in Plymouth - employment and housing locally - industry
3. If you are 18 why would you stay – what would keep you in Tavistock?
4. Make questions relevant to younger people- design questions that are relevant – the needs for the 18-25s to help them stay; what allows and drives people to stay and what is driving people out?
5. The age gap! Then they come back when a lot older.
6. e.g. late bus reinstated from Plymouth

7. Test and pilot the questionnaire first before it is sent out to the wider community e.g. share with Tavistock college
8. Need for clarity – also encourage people to fill out survey portion relevant to them, different for young and old
9. Need to group questions together types of topics
10. Environmental and climate questions should be expanded on
11. Other infrastructure questions in support of local work – e.g. childcare
12. Some people feel overwhelmed by numbers of questions
13. Suggestion that there should be a broad top line survey out of which the answers can form questions to more focused granular questions in a follow up survey
14. Consultation is ongoing - some of the questions are bit directive; must be opportunity for extra questioning – these questions too drilled down – more top-level questions feeding into the more drilled down questioning

### **General Comments in summary about the survey**

The lead up to the launch of the survey will be important. There will be wide local publicity and social media campaign before the survey is sent electronically or by hand

What motivates people to do the survey – is going to be important

Is it the eye-catching colourful design of the survey; the sense of civic duty; are the questions relevant to me. Suggestion made to use an incentive (financial)

Thought will be given to motivate and encourage people to participate and the message is that this will be a worthwhile process for all.

People will have the opportunity to do survey on paper or electronically.

The whole process is by way of an ongoing consultation – this means there will be ample opportunity to revise and fine tune based on feedback – this is an iterative process over many months and years.

### **Actions arising from tonight's feedback**

Public - Opportunity for people to email the steering group after the meeting.

Individual volunteers - asked to edit questions to be more relevant to younger demographic E.g. prioritizing answers in list order rather than either/or – e.g. types of housing needed.

DCT/SG will test the survey before it is sent out to the wider public.

SG to review comments from community forum and work with project managers to design initial survey for testing.

