

Newbury's Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) Steering Group Meeting

A meeting of the **NDP Steering Group** is scheduled for **Tuesday 22/02/2022 at 7:00 pm**. This meeting will be held via zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87568848425?pwd=TW4wZm9NKzNlbDVzQ2pLSG44ciRXZz09>

Meeting ID: 875 6884 8425

Passcode: 999359

Newbury's NDP Steering Group:

- A) Newbury Town Council (NTC): Councillors Nigel Foot (Chairperson), Martin Colston, David Marsh, Vaughan Miller (Joint Project Manager), Gary Norman, and Martha Vickers
- B) Members of the public: Ian Blake, John Brownell, Paul Millard, Anthony Pick, Louise Sturgess (Deputy-Chairperson), and Kim Whysall-Hammond (Joint Project Manager)

Other Attendees:

Darius Zarazel (NDP Secretary and Democratic Services Officer, Newbury Town Council)

Agenda:

1. **Apologies**
Secretary
2. **Declarations of Interest**
Chairperson
To receive any declarations of interest relating to business to be conducted in this meeting.
3. **Minutes (Appendix 1)**
Chairperson
To approve the minutes of a meeting of the NDP SG held on Tuesday 08/02/2022 (already circulated).
4. **NDP Vision**
Chairperson
To approve the NDP Vision Statement.
5. **NDP Objectives**
Chairperson
To finalise the NDPs Objectives.

6. Forward Work Programme (Appendix 2)

Chairperson

To note and agree any other items to add to the Forward Work Programme.

7. To Fix the Date of the Next Meeting

Chairperson

**Minutes of a meeting of Newbury's Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)
Steering Group
Held via Zoom
08/02/2022 at 7:00pm/19:00**

Present:**Newbury's NDP Steering Group:**

- A) Newbury Town Council (NTC): Councillors Nigel Foot (Chairperson), Vaughan Miller (Joint Project Manager), Gary Norman, and Martha Vickers
- B) Members of the public: Ian Blake, John Brownell, Paul Millard, Anthony Pick, Louise Sturgess (Deputy-Chairperson), and Kim Whysall-Hammond (Joint Project Manager)

Other Attendees:

Darius Zarazel (NDP Secretary and Democratic Services Officer, Newbury Town Council)

24. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Martin Colston and David Marsh.

25. Declarations of Interest

There were none.

26. Minutes

Proposed: Anthony Pick

Seconded: Paul Millard

Resolved: That the minutes of the meeting of the NDP Steering Group held on 27/01/2022, be approved subject to the amendment:

- On Anthony Pick's notes on item 21, amend 'the establishment of Newbury College', into, 'the establishment of the university centre at Newbury College'.
- Removing 'Centre' from 'Keeping town centre vibrant and not a dormitory town (mix or retail, leisure, and resident etc)'.

27. NDP Vision and Objectives

Several Steering Group Members discussed their proposed Vision statements. These proposed Visions were:

Cllr Martha Vickers:

- 1) "Newbury is principally a modern market town closely linked to its surrounding community. This function should remain at its core as part of a vibrant, friendly, and welcoming town centre that is welcoming to all"
- 2) "Our aim is to recognise and consolidate all that is good about Newbury while looking forward to the future and embracing positive, sustainable expansion."

Anthony Pick:

- 1) "Newbury will continue to develop economically through its markets and its attraction of small and medium sized business"
- 2) "The character and integrity of the town, defined through its heritage architecture, and amenities will be conserved and built into the planning process"
- 3) "The social character of the town will be conserved through its retail outlet, school, healthcare, and cultural and leisure facilities"
- 4) "The towns green and blue spaces will be conserved, maintained, and optimised as a social facility"

Cllr Gary Norman:

Would like to see these words included: "Vibrant, thriving, prosperous, market town, Green, environmentally friendly, respectful of atmosphere (feel of the town), and heritage."

Kim Whysall-Hammond:

"Our Vision for Newbury is to promote and nurture the town as a vibrant place which mixes commercial, retail, and residential uses and is accessible to a wide range of residents and attractive to residents and visitors alike. We envisage future development which echoes and enhances the character of the town and introduces good design fit for the coming decades. We will manage development to deliver housing, facilities, and employment opportunities for a diverse population of all age groups.

It will enable new school and surgery provisions as required. We will provide for long term sustainability, developments will be required to provide green spaces and all such spaces in our town will be managed to promote biodiversity and sustainability."

Ian Blake:

"Newbury should become known as the gatekeeper of the Thames valley."

Louise Sturgess:

“To protect and enhance Newbury’s market town character and build a vibrant, connected community where everyone can live healthy, safe, and satisfying lives.”

Cllr Nigel Foot:

“To make Newbury an inclusive market town of character, heritage, and culture where business and people can thrive.”

The Steering Group discussed a potential Vision for Newbury’s NDP. The first draft Vision Statement agreed upon was:

“Newbury shall enhance its historic position as gatekeeper of the Thames Valley by continuing to build a diverse, vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive market town where businesses thrive and people (of all ages) can lead healthy, safe, and satisfying lives whilst respecting its heritage, architecture, and culture. (where diversity is celebrated)”

The Steering Group then discussed some potential Objectives for Newbury’s NDP:

Topic	Content
Design and Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keeping the town centre vibrant and not a dormitory town (mix of retail, leisure, residential and business) - Increasing standards for new developments (EV charging points, inclusion of street trees, carbon neutral or net gain) - The pedestrianisation of the town centre - Shifting the dwelling mix (houses versus flats and social and affordable family housing) - Promoting heritage (through an adequate Conservation Area Appraisal) - Attracting new business (starting incubator and accelerator hubs) - Petition for revision of permitted development rights - <i>Promoting new design with an award?</i> - <i>Building heights</i> - <i>Garden suburbs</i> - <i>Local listing, esp. 17,18,19 C buildings</i> - <i>Define landmark buildings</i> - <i>Develop green and blue spaces – connectivity between green spaces., to/from Vic park, to/from Station</i> - <i>Bridge over Kennet at Wharf</i>
Economy and Enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attracting new business (starting incubator and accelerator hubs)
Sustainability and Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing climate resilience - tree planting - The Wharf is wasted as a car park - Increasing standards for new developments (EV charging points, inclusion of street trees, carbon neutral or net gain)
Transport and Access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Better bus services (more frequent and cheaper) - Free parking to encourage footfall in town centre - Addressing traffic issues

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improving the walking environment (improvement of pavements, signage, pedestrian lights, and so on) - Improve cycling and walking routes - <i>East/west road route?</i>
Biodiversity and Wildlife	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Including open and green spaces in developments - Protecting and developing existing green spaces - Trees for shade - Identify and connect green spaces
Community Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing access to health care (a centre per number of houses) and an NHS dentist - Promoting co-working spaces - Increasing the quality of neighbourhoods (15-minute neighbourhoods) - Increasing the town's cultural and leisure facilities (especially for young people) as well as a sporting/cultural hub - <i>Facilities for young families</i>
Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Increased facilities for young people (centres and places to chat)</i> - <i>Safe transport in evening - is this a planning issue</i> - <i>Make Newbury a place for young people to go out for the night</i>

Key: *Italics* – Items added during the meeting
~~Strikethrough~~ – Items that could be removed

28. Forward Work Programme

It was agreed to add the following items to the Forward Work Programme for the NDP Steering Group:

- That the next meeting finalises a draft of the NDP Vision and Objectives, for review by Bluestone Planning.

Tasks:

- For all members to read the Town Centre Masterplan document.
- For Louise Sturgess to revise this Vision Statement.
- For all members to revise the draft Objectives (in reference to the Masterplan and suggested Objectives from Bluestone Planning) in preparation for the next NDP Steering Group meeting where they can be finalised.

29. To fix the date of the next meeting

The next meeting was previously agreed to be held on the 22/02/2022 at 7:00pm via zoom.

There being no other business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 20:58 hrs.

Newbury's Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

Forward Work Programme for NDP Steering Group: 22nd of February 2022.

Standing Items on each (ordinary meeting) agenda:

1. Apologies
2. Declarations of Interests
3. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting
4. Forward Work Programme
5. To Fix the Date of the Next Meeting

22/02/2022	To approve the NDP Vision Statement.
	To finalise the NDP Objectives.
To be confirmed	To draft questions for the community questionnaire