

NDP Steering Group Meeting Public Forum

Tavistock Library

Thank you to the Library and the Friends of the Library for providing the space at the library for the Neighbourhood Development Plan consultation materials and for the April meeting.

We are very grateful for your assistance.

Minutes

13th April 2022 06:00 PM

Steering Group Members Present

Ursula Mann, Chair and Cllr

James Ellis Cllr

Sue Spackman

Stuart Honey, Secretary

Apologies

Andy Hutton Cllr

Karen Nolan*

Janna Sanders

*Karen Nolan stepped down from the steering group, due to current work commitments. The TNDP thanks her for support and input to get the survey up and running. Karen will continue to support the TNDP with her contacts and insight in the charities sector.

Public Attendees: 6

1/ Update on survey progress

About 600 responses to date which is equivalent to around 10% of Tavistock households so far – we also have responses from surrounding parishes, including Yelverton and Horrabridge.

All in all, an encouraging response so far.

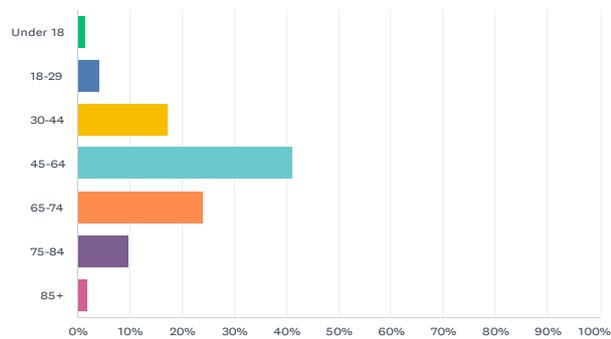
45-64 is the biggest age range response so far at 41%

Under 18 response is 1.5% so far.

The graph below indicates all of the age ranges although over 100 respondents have skipped the demographic questions and there are also paper survey responses which have yet to be included in the total below.

Q16 What age are you?

Answered: 399 Skipped: 107



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Under 18	1.50% 6
18-29	4.26% 17
30-44	17.29% 69
45-64	41.10% 164
65-74	24.06% 96
75-84	9.77% 39
85+	2.01% 8
TOTAL	399

1 / 1

We are about halfway through - the deadline is **2nd May for completion**

The last big push for the surveys will be with the attendance of the town crier will be at Bedford Square on Saturday 23rd April when we will have our stall once more, at the market.

In addition, HQ bar will be doing a survey drive with a prize as an incentive.

Email will be sent after Easter to Tavistock College and Mount Kelly for a final push.

Without doubt, personal engagement with people at the stall and other events has been successful – leading to people filling out the survey promptly.

We encourage everyone to chat with their family, friends and neighbours to complete the survey.

At first glance, people are taking time to write in full written comments and responses - not just ticking boxes. Also, it is clear that the responses are mainly positive. These will be included anonymously for people to read once the survey is analysed and available to the public at large to read.

All the comments will be taken into account, as we consider the next phase of the plan.

2/ Survey press coverage

Enthusiastic support from local press.

Articles with QR code

Tavistock Times Gazette: 3 consecutive weeks in March – another article 21st April

Tavy Links: April/May issue

Moorlander 15th-28th April

In addition – Facebook page, Instagram, and Twitter are updated regularly

3/ Consultation Events in Community

We have had stalls at Saturday Market, Rugby Club, and Football Club with support from our volunteers – thank you!

Big thank you also to volunteers who presented to U3A and to regular Tavistock Area Churches Together events.

4/ Recent planning decision in the area and the importance of neighbourhood development plans

Some initial comments from individuals at events and consultations about the TNDP have been that it will have little or no impact. This seems to indicate a degree of apathy towards local community engagement and consultation because individuals feel that nothing can be done.

A local example of why an NDP can be important and have influence is the recent result of a planning inspectorate appeal of a decision on a housing development in Milton Abbot. (0016/20/OPA)

The Milton Abbot NDP is not yet adopted. Nonetheless the Planning inspector was able to give moderate weight to the NDP as part of the decision which refused the appeal because it did not align with the proposed development in the NDP and sat outside the settlement boundary established in the plan. This shows that an NDP can be effective as part of the development plan.

We will continue to seek advice and monitor the effectiveness of NDP plans in local communities around us. We keep in close contact with the chairs of NPDs and Parish Councils.

We also can use responses to the survey to achieve things that may fall outside of the neighbourhood plan. These community initiatives will have more weight if they have been evidenced through a consultation like the initial survey.

5/ Review of Terms of Reference and Project Plan

With the survey completing on 2nd May there will be a couple of weeks when the details will be analysed by our independent consultants, Devon Communities Together. A report will be prepared based on the survey data.

A second report, consisting of information that is demographic and statistical in nature regarding various public data relating to Tavistock will also be prepared by Devon Communities Together. This will be delayed to take advantage of the data that will become available when the 2021 census is published in the next few months.

When the survey data report is available, the next meeting of the steering group and public forum will be held. Also, at that stage, we will seek to expand the membership of the steering group to include the skill sets needed to take decisions and move the plan forward.

There are plenty of resources available to assist us – much of it free – but it will require time and commitment on the part of steering group members to read through and understand policy documents and information to shape the development plan on behalf of the community. We are also considering hiring a planning professional as a project manager to guide the NDP Steering Group. We will engage in a formal tender process and there are a couple of good candidates with the requisite planning and NDP experience who have indicated interest.

We can apply for a grant for £10,000 from the Localities Fund to help fund the costs of the NDP work next year. The Town Council has budgeted some money towards the project as well. There is free technical support from Locality for certain evidence gathering exercises that may be useful depending on the interests of the community that may also be requested.

When the steering group is formed, we will work with the survey results and evidence base and the project manager to decide on the aims, vision and objectives for the plan.

No AOB, meeting adjourned at 6.45pm

Stuart Honey, Secretary 18/04/22