

Kendal Fellside and Greenside Community Plan 2016



Introduction by the Chairman of the Fellside and Greenside Forum

When I became chairman of the Fellside and Greenside Forum in 2013 a small group of volunteers, ably led by Bill Tippett, was working on a Community Led Plan. A questionnaire for the plan had only just been circulated when Bill was admitted to hospital where he died shortly afterwards. I felt that we owed it to Bill to continue with the plan so, with help, responses to the survey were recorded and thanks to funding from ACT (Action with Communities in Cumbria) we were able to pay for an analysis of the survey which became the basis of this plan.

By this time many of those who had been involved originally were no longer available and the Forum felt that this was as far as we could go.

The Forum is indebted to a new resident, Robert Finch, who took the process forward and guided us in producing this plan.

Susan Heyes, Chairman



Fellside and Greenside

The Community Led Plan area is relatively compact based around a historic medieval core known as Fellside. It was known from the early development of Kendal as fiercely independent with a strong sense of community and self help. The core is characterised by a network of what would originally have been narrow lanes, now adapted to form a street network with attendant problems. There was an expansion of the core in the Georgian and Victorian period infilling in a piecemeal fashion with

some attractive houses and terraces.

This core later expanded to the south with the development of 'villas' along Greenside from the 1860s on old tenterfields, to the west on Victoria Terrace, now part of Serpentine Road, and north on Queens Road developed and named for Queen Victoria in the 1890s. There was a considerable amount of demolition in the centre – 'slum clearance' – during the 1950s and 60s and, after an interval, rebuilding of social housing in a modern style mixing small traditional houses with low rise blocks of flats. More recent residential developments include Undercliff Road and infill/redevelopment sites across Fellside. The consequence is a wide variety of housing styles, sizes, ages, densities and tenure mixed together. In total there are over 800 residential addresses in the area. Fell Ward, which includes a large part of the plan area, has the lowest number of persons per household in Kendal at 1.9 (and one of the lowest in the Cumbria).

A 'local distributor' road runs through the plan area – High Tenterfell, Serpentine Road through to Queens Road. Originally a quiet road it has now become a rat run for traffic heading for Windermere and the north of the town seeking to avoid the town centre.

There are three allotment sites and several green amenity areas covered by the plan – Serpentine Woods is the largest, followed by Nobles Rest/Town View Field and the smaller village greens towards the southern end.

Over 100 businesses operate in the area, mostly in the shopping areas on the west side of Stricklandgate and on Allhallows Lane but also some within central Fellside. They are mostly retail based but there is also some manufacturing and service industry in the mix.



Background to the Plan

In 2012 Fellside Forum, guided by the experts at ACT (Action with Communities in Cumbria) and SLDC, agreed to initiate a Community Led Plan.

This followed discussions and meetings with residents and local councillors going back to 2010 and led to the development of the survey questionnaire from an initial 106 items that were raised.

A conscious decision was made to exclude businesses in this plan as a significant proportion are national chains and resources within the group were limited.

It is intended that businesses are consulted as the plan is developed and implemented.

The purpose of this community plan is to develop an action plan which reflects the aspirations of the community. It will serve as a basis for a call for resources, from within the community and from other sources of grant funding.

The intent is that this Community Led Plan should be a dynamic document that will be regularly updated to reflect both new projects as well as those completed.

Each action in the plan identifies the resources and partners involved. We will initiate activity on every item, will monitor progress and regularly report back to the members of the Forum.



The survey

In the summer of 2014 the questionnaire was distributed to the approximately 800 households within the area receiving a response from 200.

The analysis of those form the basis of this plan.

A copy of the questionnaire and the analysis can be obtained by contacting Fellside Forum at: fellsideforum@outlook.com

Summary of Results

The survey sought views in six subject areas:

- Travel and transport
- Parking
- Road safety
- Housing (development)
- Energy
- Community

The results indicated that residents are generally happy with the area, feeling its greatest asset is its sense of community.

The main concerns are related to:

- getting about both on foot and on the road
- maintenance of streets and paths
- parking
- controlling change
- ensuring the character of the area is maintained and enhanced.

These points are dealt with in more detail in the Action Plan.



Acknowledgements

This plan is a tribute to Bill Tippett who took the lead in the early stages and to all the volunteers who have helped develop this document.

Further information

Fellside Forum generally meets on the first Tuesday of each month at The Rifleman's Arms on Greenside and is open to all. We can be contacted at:

fellsideforum@outlook.com

or via our website: fellsideforum.org.uk

ACTION PLAN

	Issue	Action	Resource
TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT			
1.1	<p>Residents felt that local transport could be improved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cheaper fares More timetable information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise residents where to find timetables, bus-stops and details of concessionary fares. Lobby bus companies to provide timetables and details of routes on all bus stops. 	<p>Fellside Forum SLDC CCC KTC Stagecoach</p>
1.2	<p>Residents felt that improved cycle safety might encourage more people to cycle regularly.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact SLDC Cycle Officer to establish what facilities are in place and are planned and what cycle training is available and advise residents. Consult and engage with Kendal Cycle Network Action Plan. 	<p>Fellside Forum SLDC Kendal District Cycle Scene</p>
1.3	<p>Residents felt that maintenance of roads and footpaths could be improved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Control of dog fouling Control of litter Drain clearance Gritting of paths and steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work alongside 'Keep Kendal Mint Clean' to liaise with litter picking. Recruit more volunteers for litter picking 'parties'. Lobby SLDC to be more active in identification and prosecution of dog fouling. Encourage 'embarrassment' biodegradable spray marking of dog fouling. Advise residents of process to report blocked drains. Advise residents of locations and use of gritting and salt bins for public use and of process to report empty bins. Set up Street Coordinators to create volunteer grit spreading and snow clearing groups. Explore sponsorship for community activities. Explore the possibility of area coordinators/responsible persons. 	<p>Fellside Forum SLDC KTC CCC</p>

	Issues	Action	Resources
1.4	Maintenance of steps (eg Fountain Brow) is felt to be inadequate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise residents for process of reporting damage or required maintenance. Use of independent web sites e.g. 'Fix my Street'. Advise residents which Authority is responsible for which steps. 	Fellside Forum SLDC CCC
PARKING			
2.1	Car parking 'at home' is seen as a problem because of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of spaces Lack of enforcement Inconsiderate parking Restriction of visitor parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise residents of extent of car parking zones that are available. Identify problem locations. Use of 'Polite Notices' on inconsiderate or improperly parked vehicles. Advise residents of facilities in private car parks for out of hours parking. Create Working Group to discuss with SLDC/CCC what improvements could be made. 	Fellside Forum SLDC CCC
ROAD SAFETY			
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of safe places for pedestrians to cross roads - Gillinggate/ Bankfield Road & Beast Banks, exit from Serpentine Woods, access to Booths car park. Incomplete continuous footpaths - Beast Banks, High Tenterfell. Lack of respect for speed limits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through further investigations, identify areas concerned and consult with SLDC/CCC to seek solutions. Lobby SLDC/CCC to provide continuous footpaths in these locations. Lobby SLDC/CCC to undertake further studies for better road markings and speed indicators. 	Fellside Forum SLDC CCC

	Issue	Action	Resource
3.2	Poor visibility for vehicles at some junctions – Queens Road/Windermere Road, High Tenterfell/Greenside, Low Fellside/All Hallows Lane.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through a Working Group identify areas of concern (eg road priorities, parked vehicles, lack of road signs) to present to SLDC/CCC. Lobby SLDC/CCC for further traffic studies. 	Fellside Forum Working Group SLDC CCC
HOUSING (DEVELOPMENT)			
4.1	Levels of concern indicated that residents would like to be advised of future developments in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise residents how they can be aware of and engage with the planning process. Publicise relevant Planning Applications in newsletter/website/notice boards. 	Fellside Forum SLDC KTC Planning Committee
ENERGY			
5.1	Some residents find it difficult to pay energy bills possibly linked to not being very well informed how to reduce energy consumption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise residents where to find information about payment of bills and how to check if they are on the most economical rate. 	Fellside Forum Energy Suppliers SLDC Cumbria Action for Sustainability
5.2	A large proportion of residents support the use of local alternative energy sources but are concerned with aesthetic and environmental impacts.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise residents of current planning conditions and restrictions related to alternative energy sources and how they can become involved in the planning process. 	Fellside Forum SLDC
5.3	Awareness of ways to reduce energy consumption.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise residents where to find information about ways of reducing energy consumption. 	Fellside Forum Energy Saving Trust SLDC
COMMUNITY			
6.1	Some residents felt that teenagers, young children and people with disabilities need to have more local facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create working group to establish more details of what is required. Advise residents of what facilities are currently available. 	Fellside Forum Working Group

	Issue	Action	Resource
6.2	Residents would like to see Post Office services and a small basic provision shop in the area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create working group to explore the option of multiple use facilities e.g. at The Rifleman's. 	Fellside Forum Working Group
6.3	Communication with Fellside Forum could be improved in some areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss and develop within the forum the use of: The Forum website, Facebook, Dedicated notice boards, The development of a Fellside and Greenside Handbook, e-mails to residents, the appointment of a 'communications officer', a quarterly newsletter (paper copy) 	Fellside Forum

NOTES

Abbreviations:

SLDC - South Lakeland District Council

CCC - Cumbria County Council

KTC - Kendal Town Council

ACT - Action with Communities in Cumbria

Discussion is ongoing within Fellside Forum to develop priorities, resources and timescales for the actions.