

LUXULYAN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN BRIEFING SHEET

What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

The Localism Act has allowed such plans to be made. It allows a community to guide its future development and growth. Neighbourhood Plans concern the use and development of land and associated social, economic and environmental issues. Once it has been approved by local and central government, parishioners vote on whether or not to approve it in a referendum. The Luxulyan Parish Plan of 2005 is a great document but it doesn't have to be taken into account in planning matters: a Neighbourhood Plan must be.

Why do we need one?

At the moment, planning decisions have to fit in with the National Planning Policy Framework of 2012 and with the Cornwall Local Plan (when it is ready). But this doesn't allow local people much say. Big developers, and those with small amounts of land, are in a very strong position to build, even if their plans are unpopular. A Neighbourhood Plan won't stop all development but it can influence where it happens - and where it does not.

How is a Neighbourhood Plan made?

The parish council starts it. Then a Steering Committee takes charge. This must be made up of local people. The Parish Council will be represented on this group but it is not in charge. The Steering Committee may set up smaller working parties to look into different topics, such as the economy or environment. Then the Plan is written. It will take over a year, maybe two, to do all this. Help is available from Cornwall Council and Cornwall Rural Community Charity. Grants are available to cover costs. The Plan is submitted to Cornwall Council to be checked and independently examined. After any changes are made, local people vote yes or no. If they approve, it will become a policy that has to be considered in planning decisions, along with the National Planning Policy Framework and the Cornwall Local Plan.

Who makes the Plan?

Local people do. It is important that people get involved. If they don't, they can't complain if future development is not what they want. The only qualifications needed are: an interest in Luxulyan Parish; time; a willingness to work with others and to listen to local views.

Where can more information be found?

There is plenty of information. For example: Cornwall Council has plenty of advice and examples of local plans at <http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/> .