

BRIDPORT AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – PROJECTS

PRIORITY & RESOURCE NEEDS OVERVIEW – Post BANP SG Meeting 27th July 2021 update, JT

Centre of Bridport – Linked Projects						
No	Title & Lead	Project Precis	Notes & Summary Status	Comment	Resourcing	Priority
11	Land Use and Transport Study: Town Centre WG	Study of the relationship between land-use and transport to inform sustainable improvements to accessing the Centre of Bridport and movement within it.	Project 1,3 and 11 are all connected and will be managed in sequence starting with Project 11. BTC is working with Dorset Council on an Access & Movement Study (which covered the NP urban areas). The study report was concluded in early June and presented to the BTC Planning Committee with recommendations.	This work is completed.	None extra required	High: .
1	Centre of Bridport Public Realm: BTC	Set out actions to create a visually integrated, uncluttered and fully accessible streetscape for the main retail streets in the town centre. The study should explore the idea of distinct 'Quarters'. Incorporate actions into the NP review.		The TCWG will be used as a sounding board for projects 1 & 3 with recommendations going to the Planning or Environment Committees.	Part of the Scope depends on the outcome of the Access & Movement study. The idea of 'Quarters' is not an Access & Movement issue.	Medium:
3	Heritage Interpretation Strategy: JCC	Frame a strategy to define, guide and plan the heritage interpretation activities across the NP area . Draw on the output from Project 01 and extensive consultation with parishes, voluntary groups and statutory agencies. Incorporate actions into the NP review. [Note: Heritage interpretation is the ways in which information is communicated to profile Bridport's heritage].	These three linked project outcomes will need to feed into the first review of the BANP but this does not mean actions can't be progressed ahead of BANP review should funding be made available. [Note: The BANP Review is currently scheduled for May 2022 but this may change depending on Local Plan review schedule]	Lead is shown as JCC.	In developing a brief for Projects 1 and 3 we will look to integrate the public realm and heritage needs into a single study. This work is scheduled for Winter 2021/22 but will be dependent on funding being available.	Medium:

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Centre of Bridport cont'd						
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2	Town Centre Health Checks. Chamber of Trade	Commission on a regular basis 'Town Centre Health Checks' Use findings to commission delivery of business growth support and advice targeted at new and growth businesses in NP area.	Health Check 2019 was led by BTC with input from the Chamber; see: https://www.bridport-tc.gov.uk/healthcheck/ BTC are preparing to repeat the Health Check process in July-Oct 2021, with additional questions regarding post covid changes for retailers and shoppers.	In hand	Part of BTC planned activity. Health Check 2021 costed into Project Manager Post.	High (but scheduled). Higher now that there is a need to assess and address Covid impacts.

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Climate Change						
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4	Climate Smart Activities: Transition Town Bridport	Support 'climate smart' initiatives.	SG to discuss with TTB how best to monitor the many small projects that would fall under Project 4 and 5.	SG to meet with TTB to identify candidate initiatives they are taking or are aware of.	No additional resources foreseen beyond SG & TTB personnel.	Low But minimal effort required to close this out.
5	Energy Conservation Initiatives: Transition Town Bridport	Support community scale energy conservation measures.		The outcome of this meeting and any action needed will be discussed with the JCC.	Potential projects may emerge but these would be 'stand-alone' hence independent of BANP.	
20	Zero Carbon Homes Transition Town Bridport	Establish a "zero-carbon home" working group to investigate how to apply energy conservation principles to the NP area and to promote energy efficiency in both new-build and established homes, including encouraging "zero-carbon" promoters to bid for pilot projects with the neighbourhood plan area.	BANP SG developing Terms of Reference with TTB making connections with projects 4/5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Synthesise principles. • Inventorise local homes/ initiatives that demonstrate principles • Survey relevant national and local policies, identifying opportunities and gaps. • Propose future action. 	This project nests with 4 & 5 so has been moved.	Resourcing needs will be outcome of discussions with TTB. Potential projects / actions may emerge but these would be 'stand-alone' hence independent of BANP.	Medium Maybe High given Vearse Farm energy efficiency policy?
6	Electric Car Charging Points: JCC	Support will be given to the installation of electric car charging points.	JCC to discuss with Dorset Council how best to support installing points across the BANP area.	Lead on this project is JCC but drive coming from DC. If no EV points foreseen other than in public car parks then Lead should be transferred to DC.	BTC is interested in supporting EV charging points – the understanding is that DC is taking the lead with EV charging in car parks.	Medium Whilst EV charging points are needed present demand is low but will grow over next few years?

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7	Community Woodfuel. Dorset AONB	Local community woodfuel initiatives will be encouraged that lead to sustainable timber extraction, hedgerow management, and new planting for both fuel and amenity, and as a means of addressing fuel poverty.	Dorset Woodhub is working with Dorset AONB on a project to support volunteer groups in managing local woodlands and sharing a proportion of the wood fuel with local families experiencing fuel poverty.	Dorset Woodhub is driving this.	No extra resources required.	Low But in hand.

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Community Facilities						
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8	Facilities for young People: JCC/BTC [Discrete activities split for clarity].	Support will be given to projects and actions that provide new or upgraded community facilities for young people where needs are confirmed through community support and/or research.....	BTC is working to extend facilities for young people through the Bus Station re development and the re development of Plottingham Play Area/ Skate Park. Other related, smaller scale, activities have reportedly taken place.	This project has progressed well. Since the project close-out will presumably be a report stating what was done and achieved then all NP area Parish Council initiatives with respect to this project could be captured (e.g., upgrades of children's play areas)	Gore Cross & Plottingham presumably resourced via Parish/BTC (finance & human)? Other playpark maintenance and improvements presumably resourced by relevant Parish?	Partly in hand.
	for example, an Indoor Skate Park.	Planning approval for the Indoor Skate Park at Gore Cross secured.			In hand
		Support the youth and community centre to a point where it is seen as a compelling offer for the young people in the neighbourhood area.		Any progress on the Youth Community Centre aspect?		High
9	Additional Allotments. Bridport and District Allotment Society	Support will be given to proposals for additional allotments in response to demand, where suitable sites can be identified.	Allotment provision in BANP area increased via new allotments at Cemetery and additions to St Cecelia's.	This is a standing project with opportunities to create new allotments being taken.		In hand

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Economy & Employment						
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10	A Timber Fabrication Facility: Wessex Community Assets	Support will be given to proposals for the development of a timber fabrication facility in the neighbourhood plan area to drive greater use of locally sourced timber and support innovation in local construction projects. The fabrication facility would offer access to specialised timber fabrication technology, with training and apprenticeship opportunities to support and encourage young entrants to the building trade.	Wessex Community Assets has secured significant funding for a second phase of the raise the Roof project. Over the next two years RR2 will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with local farmers and foresters to increase the supply of natural materials (timber/Hemp/Fibres) available for local construction projects. • Run skills training • Construct prototype structures using natural materials • Work with the BACH CLT. 	Progressing well with grant funding support. Bridport Housing Event planned for w/c 24th October.	Current resourcing appears sufficient.	High Valuable for related initiatives.

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Access & Movement						
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11	Land Use and Transport Study:	Refer above				
12	Community Bus Schemes: Western Area Transport Advisory Group, WATAG	Support will be given to community led transport solutions where they can demonstrate local community support and can demonstrate both low carbon and economic viability.	Community bus restarted in October 2020 with Dorset Community transport on an initial contract of 6 months. Same route and timetable as previously.	Has contract been renewed? Is there more that could/should be done to provide support?		?
13	Footpath and cycle path maintenance: JCC	Developer contributions will be sought towards the costs of maintaining and improving the network of footpaths and cycle paths within the neighbourhood plan area.	Project 13 applies to all paths in the BANP area so should be kept separate from the Town Centre projects. Requests for developer contributions to Public RoW maintenance should be taken as opportunities arise.	This Project applies to all significant development in the BANP area. Note that Section 106 funds from the VF development are already agreed with Dorset Council.	Financial resources will rely on developer contributions. The A&M study and the additional work commissioned by BTC provides detailed proposals for a walking/cycling priority route between VF and the Centre of Bridport. The opportunity is to use this to convince Dorset Council to spend the Vearse Farm S106 funds on the proposed route that lies outside the defined development area.	High

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Housing						
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14	Community Led Housing. JCC	Enable and support CLTs, self-build and other iprojects that provide genuinely affordable housing by carrying out a study of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pros and cons. • Development types most suitable. • Measures to assist passage of planning applications. 	The envisaged ‘formal study’ will not be made. Instead, the activities of, and direct experience from, the newly formed Bridport Area Community Housing (BACH) CLT will address these project objectives.	BACH is actively trying to support and promote the development of affordable housing. Their experience will input to the study outputs.	BACH members & grants.	Medium
15	New Homes Calculation. JCC	Monitor and update the basis for calculation of preferred new home numbers, sizes and tenure with a new NP Area Housing Database. Use this to update the Housing Needs Assessment...	The govt Planning for the Future proposes a standard method of calculating new home numbers. The consequences of this, or other, change will be determined by Dorset Council. The JCC and BANP SG will monitor any changes in new home allocations and assess the consequences therefrom.	Planning for the Future still being discussed by the govt.	None required – output will be input for HNA update as part of NP Review.	N/A
16	Brownfield Register. JCC	Prepare and maintain a register of brownfield sites in the NP area including a statement on the potential for housing development and related challenges associated with developing each location.	This is a potentially high value activity. Even if no, or very few, opportunities arise in terms of development potential the existence of an up to date and widely available Register will, in itself, be valuable.	BANP SG ToR approved by JCC.	Consultancy support would be most effective.	Medium

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17	Second and Holiday Homes: JCC	Monitor the levels of second and holiday homes across the neighbourhood plan area and review the justification for a 'Primary Residence restriction' as part of the Plan review.	BANP SG ToR being re drafted following JCC review.	Initial scope confined to quantifying second/holiday home numbers and identifying location 'hot spots', if any. Draft revised ToR issued 27/07/21 (JT)	Consultancy support would be most effective.	Medium
18	Housing Needs of Older People. JCC	Assess the need for, and develop policies that encourage and support the delivery of housing suited to the needs of older people. Such a project may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison with local authorities • Consideration of options for home types • Planning flexibility (more freedom to adapt homes) • Current supply status • Viability 	Since developing the aims of this of project there have been a number of developments, e.g.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Lane Assisted Living has been approved.¹ • The Bridport Gateway project progresses.² • Govt. consultation paper 'Raising accessibility standards for new homes'³ • DC's Climate and ecological emergency strategy⁴ talks about modifying homes (energy saving as the main driver but 'adapt homes' principles apply) 	The solution to housing needs for older people is broader based than an increase in supply of Retirement Homes. However, given subsequent developments and overall resource constraints the effort needed to carry out this project would probably outweigh the benefits. It is therefor proposed to suspend this Project.	Were the project to go ahead at any time the use of consultancy support would be most effective.	N/A Suspend or close.

¹ <https://www.bridportnews.co.uk/news/17881251.plans-turn-former-mountjoy-site-retirement-accommodation-approved/>

² <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/care-and-support-for-adults/building-better-lives/building-better-lives-bridport-gateway-project.aspx>

³ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/930274/200813_con_doc_final_1.pdf

⁴ <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/emergencies-severe-weather/climate-emergency/climate-ecological-emergency-strategy/climate-ecological-emergency-strategy-buildings.aspx>

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19	Downsizing Working group. JCC	Establish a “downsizing” working group to research and propose a practical way of making it easier for older residents to move into smaller properties, should they wish to.	This project has strong potential to free up much needed affordable and open-market homes by making it more tolerable for older people to leave much loved family homes. This project will provide feed material for Project 18 above.	BANP SG draft was considered by JCC. The JCC expressed little enthusiasm for this project. Propose this Project be dropped.		N/A Close