

North East Derbyshire District Council

Council

3 January 2017

Dronfield and Killamarsh Regeneration Frameworks
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Report of Councillor Michael Gordon, Portfolio Holder with Responsibility for Environment

This report is public

Purpose of the Report

- To provide an update on the production of regeneration frameworks for Dronfield and Killamarsh town centres.
- To recommend adoption of the frameworks.

1 Report Details

- 1.1 The Housing and Economic Development Strategy (2015-2020) contains a recommendation to create a regeneration framework for each of the district's four town centres.
- 1.2 Regeneration frameworks have already been developed for Eckington (2012) and Clay Cross (2009, revised 2013), as such the Housing and Economic Development Strategy proposed action 4.1 'Create a Regeneration Framework or Planning Document for each Town Centre' relates only to Dronfield and Killamarsh.
- 1.3 Following a competitive tender, consultants OPUN were appointed in August 2015 to carry out the work required for the production of regeneration frameworks for Dronfield and Killamarsh.
- 1.4 The focus of the consultant's brief was to produce regeneration frameworks for Dronfield and Killamarsh through an innovative and collaborative process by engaging with all key stakeholders in both settlements.
- 1.5 To ensure the maximum amount of community feedback and evidence was captured, an intensive consultation exercise was carried out in both towns during October 2016. This included walkabouts to directly engage with people using local facilities, drop-in events held in community buildings, attendance at local interest groups, and extensive engagement through social media. In recognition of the innovative approach taken, the consultation techniques employed in Killamarsh and Dronfield were used as a case study in a recent published academic paper exploring community participation and placemaking.

- 1.6 The methods used allowed the consultants to feedback their findings to the community less than a week after the consultation period. The principle of creating frameworks for both towns was well received, with a clear consensus emerging over a number of specific issues.
- 1.7 For Dronfield, the overall impression received was that the town is a very popular place to live, and that there were no significant issues concerning residents. Those consulted were asked to identify what they viewed as challenges that needed addressing, but also what opportunities were presented by Dronfield. In summary, these were:

Main challenges:

- Identifying suitable sites for new housing
- Connections into Callywhite Lane
- Wider variety of shops needs encouraging into the civic area
- The market could be improved with more variety of offer
- Traffic enforcement needs improving
- More housing needed for all age groups
- Dronfield Bottom is an underperforming area of the town centre
- Station parking provision needs extending and protecting

Main opportunities:

- Dronfield is seen as an attractive and well located town
- People feel safe, with low crime levels
- Green areas are well used, and heritage is a positive element
- Railway station, library and sports centre are well liked community assets
- Strong sense of community
- The Forge and Medieval Centre are good visitor attractors
- Civic Hall has potential for a wider variety of use

- 1.8 Killamarsh residents and other stakeholders were also positive about their community, with the overall consensus that the town is a good place to live and that no significant interventions or changes are required.

Main challenges:

- Traffic and parking issues
- Green spaces underexploited
- Competition from Crystal Peaks
- Anti-social behaviour
- Footpaths and green spaces not maintained
- Need to attract more Rother Valley Park visitors into the town
- HS2

Main opportunities:

- Killamarsh is seen as a good place to live
- Strong sense of community

- Heritage, green space, and the canal are of great importance to residents
- More places for families to eat out would be positive
- Gulliver's Valley would be good for the town
- Rother Valley Park
- Trans-Pennine Trail

1.9 From the feedback collected, it became clear that in developing a vision for both Dronfield and Killamarsh, and whilst addressing the challenges and taking full advantage of the opportunities offered, a number of common themes emerged, which are:

- Access and movement
- Green routes and spaces
- The town (or village) centre
- Heritage and character
- Community and social networks

1.10 Within these themes, a number of interventions are outlined in principle, for delivery where opportunities arise. This approach has proven successful in Clay Cross and Eckington town centres when implementing the interventions proposed in the respective framework documents.

1.11 If the frameworks are adopted in their presented format and with enclosed content, the next step will be to prepare action plans for both towns setting out timescales, delivery options etc., for the interventions proposed.

2 Conclusions and Reasons for Recommendation

2.1 To adopt the Dronfield and Killamarsh Regeneration Frameworks to guide future development and regeneration projects in Dronfield and Killamarsh.

3 Consultation and Equality Impact

3.1 If the recommendation is approved, then consultation exercises will be undertaken to determine the views of relevant stakeholders as opportunities arise to deliver the interventions contained in the frameworks.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 Not to adopt the frameworks, which would be contrary to the adopted Housing and Economic Development Strategy

5 Implications

5.1 Finance and Risk Implications

5.1.1 There are no financial implications for the authority in adopting the frameworks.

5.2 Legal Implications including Data Protection

5.2.1 No implications.

5.3 Human Resources Implications

- 5.3.1 NEDDC officers will lead and manage the delivery of the frameworks, but there is sufficient experience and capacity in the Economic Development Team to do this.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 That Council adopts the Dronfield and Killamarsh Regeneration Frameworks.

7 Decision Information

Is the decision a Key Decision? (A Key Decision is an executive decision which results in income or expenditure to the Council of £50,000 or more or which has a significant impact on two or more District wards)	N/A
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	N/A
District Wards Affected	Dronfield North, Dronfield South, Killamarsh East, Killamarsh West
Links to Corporate Plan priorities or Policy Framework	Unlocking our Growth Potential

8 Document Information

Appendix No	Title
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet (NEDDC) or Executive (BDC) you must provide copies of the background papers)	
Dronfield Regeneration Framework Killamarsh Regeneration Framework DUE TO THE SIZE OF THESE DOCUMENTS A HARD COPY WILL BE AVAILABLE TO VIEW IN THE MEMBERS ROOM	
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