

Section 4: Vision for the Parish and Key Objectives

Vision

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To conserve and enhance the character, heritage and identity of the Parish of Kirkby Malzeard, Laverton and Dallowgill, while supporting development that is sustainable and appropriate to the scale and nature of the Parish.

Developments should be consistent with delivering a balanced mix of housing, conserving the built heritage and natural rural environment of the Parish, maintaining and improving community facilities, investing in transport and service infrastructure, and enhancing the local economy.

Objectives

1. This Vision has emerged from the core objectives which were identified from the responses produced by the community engagement process. They are designed to exist within the context of the existing planning structure.

- **Housing. (Section 5.1)**

Balance the competing needs for growth and development with the protection and enhancement of the natural and physical environment. Seek to achieve a housing mix on new developments which reflects the local needs for all age groups with an emphasis on smaller homes suitable for younger people and for those in older age groups who are seeking to down-size.

- **Built Heritage (Section 5.2)**

To conserve and enhance the rich built heritage of the parish by identifying appropriate buildings and structures as 'non-designated heritage assets' and create a 'Local Area of

Special Character and Heritage’ in the centre of Kirkby Malzeard to ensure that this local setting enhances the historic buildings contained within it.

- **Natural Environment (Section 5.3)**

Enhance and conserve natural habitat whilst at the same time supporting agriculture and encouraging modern diversification. Identify Green Spaces that are important to the community and wildlife and give them further protection against development. Balance recreational use of the countryside with the needs of those who live and work there.

- **Community Facilities (Section 5.4)**

Ensure that the parish has an extensive and varied range of community facilities including leisure and recreational opportunities, which cater for all age groups. Existing facilities which are viable are to be protected and enhanced with new ones encouraged, where they do not detract from the existing character of the area.

Note: The Neighbourhood Plan is a document for the next decade, so there is no explicit reference to the future of the Henry Jenkins public house, as this is in flux at the moment. However, the plan is supportive of the protection, maintenance and development of community facilities, including public houses.

- **Infrastructure (Section 5.5)**

Ensure that existing and planned development proposals have suitable and sustainable infrastructure. Work towards the improvement of the transport and service infrastructure of the parish and wider local area.

- **Local Economy (Section 5.6)**

Ensure that the parish boasts a diverse and extensive array of businesses. Existing viable enterprises should be safeguarded and improved, appropriate farming diversification should be encouraged, and new businesses supported, providing these align with the area’s existing character and AONB designation.

2. The Policies set out in Section 5 seek to influence planning and development outcomes in the parish. The policies are complementary and in support of the Plan objectives.

3. Neighbourhood plan policies must relate to development and land use. However, this does not mean that neighbourhood plans cannot include other non-planning related policies that the community would like to achieve. It is important however, that the Plan makes a clear distinction between planning and non-planning policies. This Plan achieves this by referencing the former as a 'Policy' and the latter as a 'Parish Action.'
4. It is important to note that when using the Plan to form a view on a proposed development all the policies contained in it must be considered alongside the Local Plan and national planning policies.