

Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan - Subgroup Report

Topic Group **Education and Youth Activities**

Meeting date 23 Oct 14

Attendees:

- **Will Moses**
- **Alma Dunigan**
- **PC Rob Anderson**

Items discussed

- Subgroup Report
- Castle Morpeth District Local Plan
- Recreation facilities
- Transport Group proposals for School Campus
- School System

Decisions

1. Existing policy for 500m2 play area on sites of 1HA should remain, smaller sites should contribute to this aggregate by way of Sect. 106 or CIL
2. Land at Darras Hall first school is covered by the Trust Deed so thought not to need a policy to protect playing fields
3. High impact facilities should be considered on their merits even if in Green Belt, Low impact facilities should be encouraged subject to other Green Belt policy
4. RA has championed an all weather pitch facility to be located at the High School. This should be written into the Neighbourhood Plan as a policy
5. Young people's initiatives should be channelled to the PCP or PCT but outside scope of Neighbourhood Plan unless requiring physical provision as above
6. School campus is beyond plan life but could be linked to safeguarding land from housing. It was noted that if Green Belt was to be released for this purpose it would at least return it to the community
7. Noted first schools must remain local
8. A sudden surge of housing might imbalance the present school system in that places presently taken by children outside the area would not be available when required for local children. However likely market delivery would restrict this impact
9. The 3 tier system is popular but funding is unlikely to be available for a High School and if the campus were developed it might become a 2 tier system. We will not get an Academy because we do not have an underachieving school. A huge benefit of a campus though would be the possible eventual relocation of Coates there, into the High School which would move to a new larger building
10. A restriction on the release of the land to might be to marginal building and relocation of playing fields, further that new buildings and other facilities must also be available o the community

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Action agreed	Date by	Name
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Outstanding Issues to Follow up

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