

CONCLUSION

Conc.1 Throughout the work of consulting local people, and sifting through the thoughts and information provided, it was clear that most people living on Alston Moor wish to see our community flourish. A few are pessimistic, and see little point in any attempt to work towards a different future. What all agree on, however, is that rural areas like ours are struggling to adapt to changes on the local, the national and international fronts.

Conc.2 To meet the challenges, it is clear that we cannot rely solely on large-scale funded projects, nor on the efforts of a few volunteers. We need to be working ‘in the round’:

- harnessing the energy and determination of young and old to work in a voluntary capacity on the innumerable small-scale activities that are of value to the quality of life in our community;
- finding a variety of ways to encourage people from all over the world to visit, thus supporting our businesses;
- strengthening our community by ‘advertising’ Alston Moor as a good place to live, to work, to bring up children and thus bringing in new residents;
- and by sourcing grant-funding for projects that will have a major impact on the development of the community.

Conc.3 For Alston Moor to remain a sustainable community into the future, we need to attract more people to live and work here. A Regeneration Strategy is therefore proposed for the whole of Alston Moor. This should set out general principles and identify areas of focus for regeneration and development, providing a strategic overview for sustainable economic regeneration and growth. Such a strategy would aim to attract large-scale infrastructure funding for potential larger projects, involving currently redundant buildings, renewable energy, new visitor attractions, and reinstatement of historic features, for example. Referred to in Section 2a, paragraph B.1, and actions 2a1, 2b1, 2c5 and 2c6, such a Regeneration Strategy could in fact encompass much more of the broad actions proposed in the B sub-sections throughout the Plan. Someone to undertake marketing and promotion of the area to potential visitors and to possible residents may be an outcome or adjunct to such a Strategy

Conc.4 Very few people can volunteer at the level and for the time necessary to progress the more major ideas the community has had for ensuring Alston Moor remains a good place to live and work. Hence serious thought must be given to the ways in which money can be raised in order to pay for these tasks to be undertaken – whether by parish precept, through grant-making bodies, fund-raising or other means.

Conc.5 No matter what success we have in raising money for large projects and to pay the people who will progress them, the voluntary work of local people will continue to be absolutely essential to all the very many activities, events and maintenance tasks, and to the social structure of Alston Moor. Appreciation for all those who undertake such selfless

work is something that might be developed more formally, for example through volunteer awards, perhaps through Alston Moor Parish Council.

KEEPING THE PLAN UP-TO-DATE

The action points identified in the C sub-sections of the Plan are those that are immediate possibilities to fulfil the general purpose of the aspirations outlined in the B sub-sections. These sub-sections will need to be updated at regular intervals as governmental policies change, technologies develop, and changes that cannot be predicted open up new possibilities.

The first planned review will take place two years after the publication of this Plan, in the spring of 2021. At that point, it will be decided when the next review should take place.

INTO THE FUTURE

This Community Plan has been prepared from contributions by many people on Alston Moor. It identifies the community's perception of what is good and what needs changing, sets out its aspirations for the future, and puts forward proposals for what might be achieved in the short term.

It will serve its purpose if many people in the community undertake tasks that help to fulfil the aspiration of ensuring that Alston Moor flourishes as a good place to live and work for many years to come.

Alston Moor Partnership is grateful to:

ACTion with Communities in Cumbria



Eden District Council



Alston Moor Parish Council

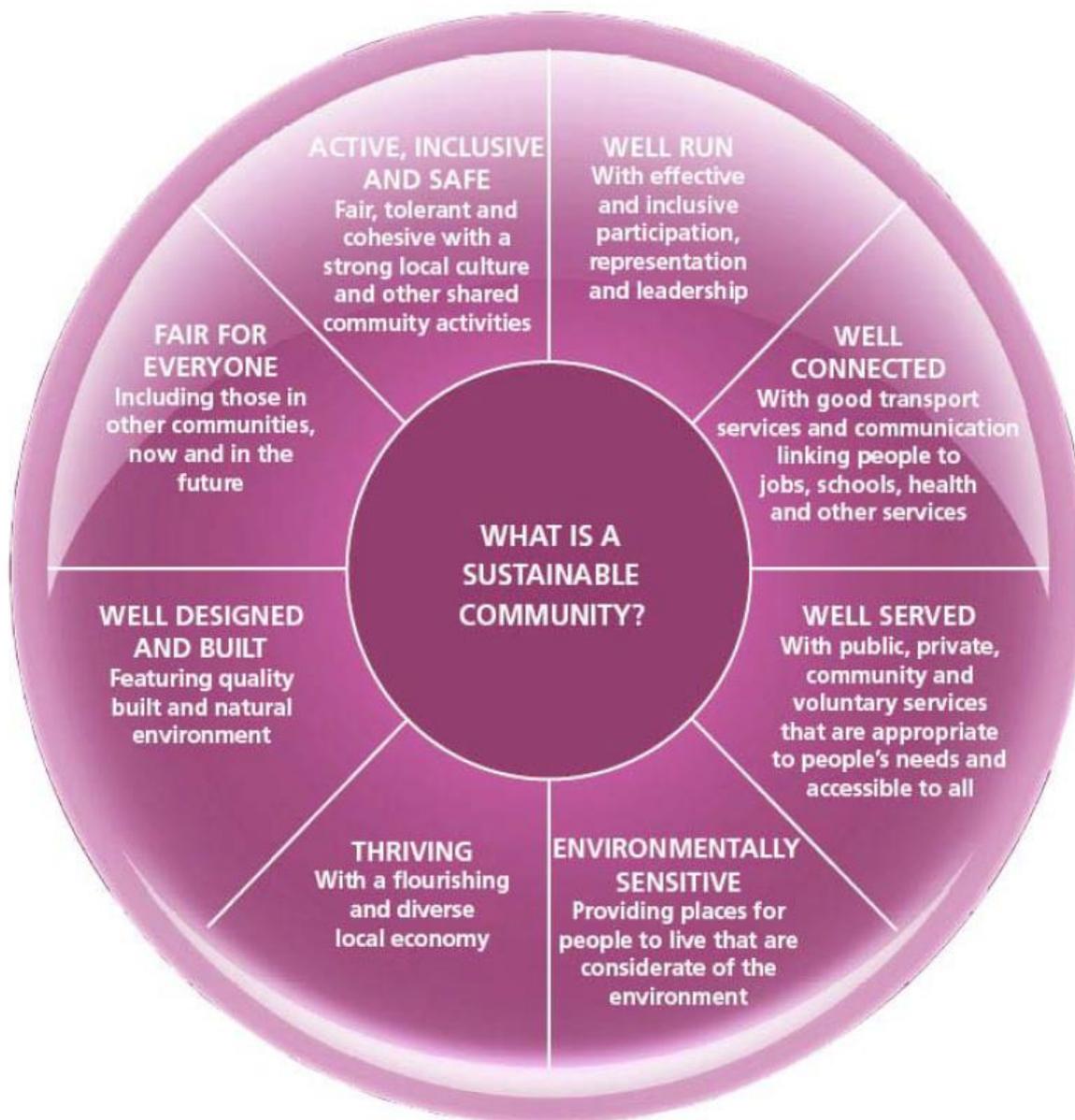


for their financial support to enable the production of this Community Plan.

APPENDIX I

WHAT IS A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY?

This diagram comes from a 2005 document produced as part of a “ministerial informal” of the EU during the UK Presidency. It is known as the ‘Bristol Accord’. We used this during initial discussions about how to approach our Community Plan, and it remains a useful reference point.



APPENDIX 2

THE ALSTON MOOR COMMUNITY PLAN PROCESS CALENDAR

7 Sept 2016	First meeting with Alston Moor Partnership members to establish the key issues and approach for a new Community Plan.
31 Oct 2016	Follow-up AMP members' meeting
18 Jan 2017	Follow-up AMP members' meeting
28 Feb 2017	Follow-up AMP members' meeting
Mar-Apr 2017	List of groups that meet on Alston Moor drawn up, with contact details. Two AMP members allocated to as many as possible, to make own arrangements to visit and take 20-30 minutes to get ideas in response to "What do you like most about living on Alston Moor? What do you like least? What might make things worse? What could make things better?"
May-Jul 2017	Visits to 24 groups that meet on Alston Moor, including schools. Individual AMP members visited between one and six different groups; fifteen members involved.
July 2017	Initial list of the issues that were raised drawn up
18 Nov 2017	Open day in conjunction with information day about post-hospital provision, involving ambulance, police support officers, councillors – gleaning thoughts on services and needs
Jan-Feb 2018	Seven open consultation Saturday mornings at Alston Town Hall, advertised through
24 Jan 2018	Meeting with event organisers to discuss key issues, needs, plans, co-operation
9 Feb 2018	Meeting with those involved in buildings renting out space – issues, co-operative working
Mar-Apr 2018	Three open consultation mornings at Nenthead Community Shop
28 Mar 2018	Meeting with group of farmers to identify key issues
3 Oct 2018	First draft of Introduction and Section 1 circulated to AMP members and promoted on Facebook and via meeting posters for others, comments invited
9 Oct 2018	Garrigill Village Hall, meeting to discuss first draft of Introduction and Section 1
4 Dec 2018	First draft of Sections 2 & 3 circulated to AMP members and promoted on Facebook and via meeting posters for others, comments invited
10 Jan 2019	Nenthead Village Hall, meeting to discuss first draft of Sections 2 & 3
4 Feb 2019	Penultimate version of Introduction and Sections 1-3 (all revised from comments received) posted to website. First draft of Sections 4 & 5 circulated to AMP members

Articles were published in the Alston Moor Newsletters of Winter 2016-17, Spring 2017, Summer 2017, Spring 2018, Summer 2018, Winter 2018-19 and Spring 2019. All invited ideas and comments on the relevant stage of the Community Plan.

Throughout the period, research was being undertaken on aspects of the plan via meetings with individuals e.g. at South Tynedale Railway, U3A organiser in Penrith, Cumbria County Council staff re footpath maintenance, youth club staff and others providing activities for young people; phone and internet research concerning e.g. micro-dairying, the law on dog faeces, means of broadband provision, mobile phone coverage. The named topics and individuals are just a small sample of all that has been researched.

First draft

APPENDIX 3

ACRONYMS – WHAT THE LETTERS MEAN

AGM	Annual General Meeting
AMBA	Alston Moor Business Association
AMCE	Alston Moor Community Energy
AMP	Alston Moor Partnership
AMPC	Alston Moor Parish Council
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
ATM	Automated Teller Machine, in other words a cash machine
C2C	Sea-to-Sea, a long-distance cycle route
CAfS	Cumbria Action for Sustainability
CCC	Cumbria County Council
EDC	Eden District Council
MP	Member of Parliament
NP	North Pennines
PCSO	Police Community Support Officer
PTA	Parent-Teachers' Association
SKS	Samuel King's School (Alston Moor's secondary school)
STR(PS)	South Tynedale Railway (Preservation Society)
TIC	Tourist Information Centre
WI	Women's Institute