

Botus Fleming Parish Plan

A sustainable parish

Trevor Aughey

Table of Contents

1.	Parish Plan 2018 – 2023	3
2.	Introduction.....	3
3.	Sustainable Communities	3
4.	From here to there.....	4
5.	Community vision.....	4
6.	Governance.....	5
7.	Transport and connectivity	5
8.	Services.....	5
9.	Environment.....	5
10.	Equity	5
11.	Economy	5
12.	Housing and the built environment	5
13.	Social and cultural	5

Parish Plan 2018 – 2023

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Town and parish councils (PCs) are the first level of local government. They provide communities with a democratic voice and a structure for taking community action. Prior to the passing of the Localism Act in 2011, PCs had very limited powers. The Act has enabled PCs to extend their role and have more say about issues that affect the daily lives of residents.
- 1.2. The Act has also promoted the concept of sustainability and this is something that should be considered in all actions and decisions taken by the PC
- 1.3. So, with increased powers and freedoms, along with the need to provide sustainability, it is no longer appropriate for the PC to adopt a reactive role, merely responding to issues as they arise. We should be looking at both the present and the future and have a clear vision of what our sustainable parish community will look like and robust plans for turning that vision into reality.
- 1.4. This plan contains a review of the factors that contribute towards a sustainable community and reflects the views of the residents as expressed in the Neighbourhood Development Plan community consultations.

2. Sustainable Communities

- 2.1. The concept of sustainability is not new and there is now a wealth of literature relating to the subject. While this covers many different communities around the world, facing different challenges in diverse cultural settings, there are some threads that run through the different perceptions and definitions of sustainability. For the purposes of our plan we have taken the overview produced by the Institute for Sustainable Communities.¹
- 2.2. “A sustainable community is one that is economically, environmentally, and socially healthy and resilient. It meets challenges through integrated solutions rather than through fragmented approaches that meet one of those goals at the expense of the others. And it takes a long-term

¹ <http://www.iscvt.org>

perspective – one that’s focused on both the present and future, well beyond the next budget or election cycle.”

- 2.3. “A sustainable community’s success depends upon its members’ commitment and involvement through:
 - Active, organized, and informed citizenship.
 - Inspiring, effective, and responsive leadership.
 - Responsible, caring, and healthy community institutions, services, and businesses.

- 2.4. As a result, a sustainable community manages its human, natural, and financial resources to meet current needs while ensuring that adequate resources are equitably available for future generations. It seeks:
 - A better quality of life
 - A better quality of life for the whole community without compromising the wellbeing of other communities.
 - Healthy ecosystems.
 - Effective governance supported by meaningful and broad-based citizen participation.
 - Economic security.

- 2.5. A sustainable community’s success depends upon its members’ commitment and involvement through:
 - Active, organized, and informed citizenship.
 - Inspiring, effective, and responsive leadership.
 - Responsible, caring, and healthy community institutions, services, and businesses.”

3. From here to there

- 3.1. In making the journey towards a more sustainable parish we have made an assessment of where we are now, including the opinions and assessments of parish residents. We have also identified issues that we need to address to move us in the direction of sustainability. However, it is not possible to identify a destination in the journey towards sustainability. While embracing the overall concepts that define the destination we have to accept that the pace of change will necessarily be slow and that circumstances and priorities may change in the future. The aim of this plan is to lay the foundations for sustainability and promote the resilience that will enable us to grow and develop as a parish to meet the challenges of the present and the future.

4. Community vision

- 4.1. From NDP

5. Governance

5.1. Well run with effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership.

6. Transport and connectivity

6.1. Well connected with good transport services and communication linking people to jobs, health and other services and amenities.

7. Services

7.1. Well served with public, private, community and voluntary services that are appropriate to peoples' needs and accessible to all.

8. Environment

8.1. Environmentally sensitive providing places for people to live that are considerate of the environment

9. Equity

9.1. Fair for everyone, including those in other communities.

10. Economy

10.1. Thriving with a local and diverse local economy.

11. Housing and the built environment

11.1. Well designed and built

12. Social and cultural

12.1. Active, inclusive and safe – fair, tolerant and cohesive with a strong local culture.

13. Heritage