

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Keele is a unique community in which the village, countryside and university combine to create a delightful place to live, work, learn, research or just relax. The last hundred years have seen great change in the parish and undoubtedly the coming decades will bring further change.

The purpose of the Keele Neighbourhood Plan is to work with whole community to develop a vision to guide development in such a way that the rural character of the parish is maintained, its economy supported and heritage conserved. As the national population grows so may the local population and we recognise there will be a need to provide additional housing within the parish. Our Green Belt is not a given and may be subject to change in the development of the Joint Local Plan of Newcastle and Stoke Councils. Nevertheless, the Parish Council remains absolutely committed to resisting high density development which would see Keele becoming a suburb of Newcastle. Areas do exist, both within and outside the village, where small scale building projects of appropriately designed houses could provide for a growing population and offer a range of dwellings including much needed starter homes and affordable accommodation.

Keele is a welcoming and closely knit community, maintaining this cohesiveness will be important in preserving its character. The village pub and Hawthorns' shop are very important assets and we would seek to protect them from the fate which has already befallen the village post-office. Other facilities could be developed in the village to complement those on the university campus. As the population grows and changes, we may need to consider a redevelopment of the village hall, we lack a children's playground and we are a village without a village green!

The Neighbourhood Plan will be developed using the information we gather in consultation **with you** and by volunteers from **within the community**. Once a plan has been drafted in response to this and other consultations, it will be available to you to comment upon. Following the finalisation of the draft it will be submitted to Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council for approval and then independently examined. Once the plan passes the examination stage it will t will be subject to a referendum of all those registered to vote within the Parish. **ONLY IF THE MAJORITY WHO VOTE APPROVE WILL THE PLAN BECOME A STATUTORY PART OF THE BOROUGH'S PLANNING PROCESS, HAVE LEGAL STATUS AND GIVE OUR SHARED VISION THE FORCE OF LAW.**

THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Your questionnaire has been distributed by your Neighbourhood Representative:

Name

If you have any questions or need help filling the questionnaire in please contact:

House/ No, Street, Keele

Email

When you have finished the questionnaire, please place it in the envelope provided and return it to your Neighbourhood Representative by the **28th of February**.

Additional copies of the questionnaire are available from your Neighbourhood Representative.

Web address www.keelenpd.wordpress.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KeelePlan/>

Email: keeleneighbourhood@gmail.com