

Porlock Parish Council Community Plan

Future Plans and Priorities

Title	Comments/Ideas
Implement key findings from Traffic consultation	Pursue 20 mph and SID very positive moves. Yes. Publicise reporting of incidents procedure on Facebook. Recognise that proper policing will be needed. Timescales ? Only some.
Investigate future needs of the elderly. Mobility, accessibility, dropped kerbs etc.	Introduce specific times for elderly and disabled in Spar and One Stop to shop at quiet times ? Wide strip level with the kerb (raised different colour) rather than a protected parking area. Yes. No pedestrian crossings please – enough holdups already. Very difficult in a small village. Dropped curbs are a very good idea.
Better footpaths on the marsh and to Bossington. Better access to marsh from Sparkhayes Lane. Improved access to beach including signs. Better pedestrian connections between Porlock and Porlock Weir	N/A ! OK with what we have in our lovely village. Boardwalk is slippery. Dog poo bins on marsh, but not sure who would monitor and empty them. An off road direct walking route to the Weir would be good, the woodland walk is often very muddy and quite a long way round. Yes. This was previously covered by (? a lady ?) who drew up a marsh plan. No need. The footpaths around Porlock are amazing. Any more work risks spoiling the environment that footpaths help you to reach. The main problem with ‘access’ to the marsh is dogs off lead. The marsh is a natural area and should be left that way. People need to put on proper walking boots/shoes and there will be no problem. There are already 2 footpaths to Porlock Weir.

Improved public transport. Ways to encourage bus travel, protect no. 10 service, bus shelter at OSC, better timetabling. Weekend/ evening bus services.	Regular bus to the Wier in summer months and when events are on. Yes. At what cost ? People do not use the buses we already have. What is 'better' timetabling ? Definite priority – the more people who use public transport the better. Use it as much as possible for leisure etc. Is there room for a bus shelter ? Unfortunately, cars are more convenient for people than buses, so there will probably always need to be subsidies.
Establish an Emergency Plan, in the event of power outages, flooding, fire, telecoms outages, disrupted water supply etc.	Great idea ! How about emergency scenarios ? Good idea. Yes. I thought we had a flood plan and warden ? There is already an extensive plan run by Somerset Council – no need to duplicate it.
Better care and maintenance of our local environment, and responding locally to global issues. Strive to bring more green spaces into village use with the aim of having a 'village green'.	Where could a village green be located ? What about a working group to address global issues ? Make better use of the churchyard and as a wildlife area, some areas left unmown. Engage with While We Still Can to promote awareness of environmental issues. Wild flower/meadow areas and less mowing ! Promote 'no mow May' (Plant-life charity). Not in favour. PPC is local not global. Why a village green – the Rec is used for this ? A more environmentally sensitive management regime for existing spaces, especially grass areas. Where would a village green be ? Nice idea, but is it realistic ?
Care of Porlock Marsh via a PPC representative coordinating with other key stakeholders such as Somerset Council, Exmoor National Park and the National Trust.	100% ! Marsh seems to look after itself. Maybe more provision to take beach debris away and contact number for removing large debris. A spotters guide to wildlife perhaps. Yes. Not in favour. What is the point of this ? There is already a coastal communities group.

Support local jobs and businesses. Develop Porlock's digital footprint and encouraging related work for start-up businesses. Support the Traders' website 'Discover Porlock'.	What about a 'Porlock in Business' group (physical rather than online) ? Yes, needed. Yes. Important – we need to bring younger working people into the village. Local shops/businesses need to open regular hours (though it has improved). Never heard of 'Discover Porlock'. Anything to promote local businesses is good, but how ? This is up to the traders.
Promotion of Exmoor and surrounding areas, active support of tourism information. Encourage more people to visit and shop in Porlock.	Yes, required. Yes. ENP should promote Exmoor. Not much open on Sundays. People will come and shop in Porlock more when the range of shops and goods increases. A grocer and a baker would be a good start. Yes, but not the PPC itself, who should just support others to do this, such as the Visitor Centre.
Active support for Dovedale Manor Museum as custodian trustee of the museum.	Yes. Yes. A valuable village asset. Yes. Where appropriate.
Promotion of Ada Lovelace to attract people to the area and encourage girls into computing and science.	Via 6th form and colleges ? Work placements in library, digital centre and info centre. Advertise where to get this information. Replace 'encourage girls' with 'encourage everybody'. Digital story trail/quizzes/science competition/get a well known female scientist to promote your activity. Just girls ? Can you say just girls ? Encourage boys too ? Or do you wish them to be excluded ? Definitely a good idea. Ada Lovelace isn't promoted enough, but don't just focus on girls – encourage everyone !

Create a forum to enable council and community development of events. Set up a summer event/version of late night shopping. Porlock Day. Projects such as "Dark Skies Porlock" / Bird Watching on The Marsh (maybe set up a hide) / "Bat Conservancy around Porlock" "Community Clean up Day". Etc etc...	More ads on Facebook and social media. Free first aid and defib training run quarterly at Village Hall. Great idea. Yes. This is for ENP. If we can't fill PPC vacancies who will volunteer ? You could engage with the existing 'dark skies' events and encourage more Porlock based events perhaps, with shops being open late. A bird hide would be good. Most of this is way beyond what the PPC should be doing.
Support the arts and creative initiatives, including 'Porlock Creative'.	How about a 'pop up shop' for Exmoor creatives ? Yes, do. Yes ! Culture as a way to enhance people's mental and physical health and sense of place/peace/pride. The information centre and tourist association do a good job of this already.
Engagement with SC/Exmoor LCN sub groups (highways, housing, economic regeneration).	Sounds as though the Parish Council has this covered. Yes. Do we have a rep on ENPA ? Yes of course, that's what you're here for !
Develop PPC communications with community and enhance community engagement.	Sounds as though the Parish Council has this covered. This needs some work and it needs to be two way communication. Too much duplication, council meetings are open to anyone who wants to engage with you.
Creation of a People's Assembly, or similar, to improve engagement with PPC to better understand the issues and priorities in the community, and create more two way communication.	Under the impression that LCN was to be part of SC's plan ? Is this not the Parish meeting ? Perhaps running quarterly facilitated by a non-PPC member. Not necessary. This needs some work and it needs to be two way communication. You shouldn't need a People's Assembly, council meetings are open to anyone who wants to engage with you.

Have an open day/days for community awareness "Meet your Councillors" discuss the ambitions of the council and seek volunteers who would like to offer new ideas and participate in working groups.	Good idea...monthly ? This should be at PPC meetings. Good idea. That's what this meeting was about !
Aim to become a 'competent council' to enhance the council's powers and improve local control over our resources.	Why...benefits ? Obviously needs Clerk with appropriate qualification. Depends on Clerk gaining CILCA exam. Are we not competent ? Are you saying you're not competent !? In what way would you want to enhance your powers ?
Develop closer working relationship with neighbouring parishes and town councils.	Why...benefits ? Good to share best practice and learn from each other. Yes. Why ? What is the aim/benefit ? Yes.

Other Ideas not Already Mentioned

ALL villagers to be canvassed for the views/input.

We don't make enough of our local coffee producer – Miles. A centre of excellence that should be promoted more.