

DISLEY PARISH COUNCIL

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Disley Parish Council Disposal of Land Assets Policy

At a meeting of Disley Parish Council (the Council) held on the 14th day of July 2022 the Council resolved to adopt the following policy in relation to land owned by the Council in the parish of Disley & Newtown (DPC Land).

Except in exceptional circumstances, Disley Parish Council will not dispose of, agree to dispose of, or enter into long-term leases for any of its land assets in full or part, during the term of the current Cheshire East Council Local Plan. This policy will be reviewed on the expiry of the current Cheshire East Local Plan in 2030.

The Council considered the following points before resolving to adopt this policy:

- 1. The surveys conducted by the Disley & Newtown Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group in preparation for the Neighbourhood Plan, indicated a strong desire among residents of the parish to preserve the Greenbelt and green open spaces in and around Disley & Newtown.
- 2. The Disley & Newtown Neighbourhood Plan 2017 2030 Policy 6.4 states the following objective: To protect the Green Belt and enhance access to the open countryside.
- 3. Recent consultation with residents in relation to the proposal to designate greenbelt land at Lymewood Drive as safeguarded land indicated a very strong desire to preserve the Greenbelt in the village.
- 4. Much of the DPC Land is either greenbelt or green open space and one of the most certain ways to avoid the risk of any change to this status is for the Council to retain ownership thereby retaining control to prevent development of the DPC Land.
- 5. It is evident from recent meetings of the Disley Parish Council Air Quality Project Team that there is considerable concern about the impact of development on road traffic, and thus air quality, within Disley & Newtown. The most certain way for the Council to ensure that inappropriate development does not take place on DPC Land is for the Council to retain ownership and control of the land.
- 6. There is general recognition (borne out by representations made by and conversations with residents of Disley & Newtown) that the environment is under increasing pressure with significant habitat loss caused by development. Retaining ownership of the DPC Land ensures that the habitat it contains can be maintained and improved.
- 7. The DPC Land represents a legacy that the Council holds on behalf of its residents now and in the future, and as such it should remain in the ownership and control of the Council so the potential for use and enjoyment by residents is preserved.
- 8. The Council is currently financially secure and does not envisage the need to sell irreplaceable assets to fund its future plans.

14th July 2022