



HELPING TO  
SHAPE THE  
FUTURE OF  
PODSMEAD





Welcome to the first of the **Shaping Podsmead Community** newsletters. These will be sent out to every home and business in Podsmead so that everyone is kept fully informed about the programme of renewal. More importantly, the newsletters will be a good way to make sure that everyone who lives or works in Podsmead is given the opportunity to come to the consultation events and study visits, so that you have every opportunity to help guide the process and shape the design of your community.

We will be working with residents and community stakeholders to agree the principles for redevelopment which will form part of a Supplementary Planning Document or SPD. This will be a legal planning document, developed through a wide consultation process, for final agreement by Gloucester City Council in 2018. Once in place, this type of SPD provides a 'blueprint' for how the area will continue to develop over the next 20 years or more. This is really important to ensure that Podsmead keeps pace with the city-wide renewal programme

and that it is fully connected with our wonderful historic city, so that existing and future communities are much better served.

This proposed SPD will be a local policy document for Podsmead that will form part of the emerging city-wide Local Plan for Gloucester. The Local Plan sets out how the local planning process needs to guide the city's programme of social, economic and environmental enhancement. Being involved in this process provides a real opportunity to shape your neighbourhood.

**Tibbalds** CampbellReith

Multidisciplinary Joint Venture

Kevin  
Murray  
Associates



For more information please contact GCH on  
01452 424344 or [contact@gch.co.uk](mailto:contact@gch.co.uk)



# JOIN US WEDNESDAY 15TH NOVEMBER

## Community Design Workshop

At Scott Avenue,  
Gloucester, GL2 5BD  
(Marquee opposite Podsmead  
shops)

3.30pm to 7.00pm  
with presentations at 4.00pm  
and 5.30pm

All welcome – bring the whole  
family.

Light refreshments will be  
provided.

This first community design  
workshop will give you a chance  
to meet the masterplanning  
design team Tibbalds Campbell  
Reith. The Tibbalds team will  
work with the community to  
help put together a plan for  
Podsmead.

We hope that everyone will see  
this as a real opportunity for  
change, because by working  
together we can lay the  
foundations for positive change  
that will endure for generations  
to come.



## MEET THE MASTERPLANNERS



Sarah Jenkinson

"Tibbalds were appointed in  
September 2017 by GCH to  
provide design services to  
lead the development of the  
Supplementary Planning  
Document (SPD).

We are a team of planners,  
urban designers, engineers and  
landscape architects who will work  
together, with GCH, the Council, local  
service providers, businesses and residents  
to look at the different factors that currently  
impact the estate. This will allow us to work  
out the real options that are available for the  
best possible redevelopment proposal for  
Podsmead.

The SPD will present the principles for a  
successful masterplan which is programmed

for completion in April 2018. It will then go out  
to formal public consultation with the aim of  
being adopted as part of local planning policy  
later in 2018.

Only after this has happened would the  
more detailed design work take place for a  
planning application to get approval for the  
redevelopment. This design work takes many  
months; typically over at least a year for  
projects of this size.

It's important that everyone is aware that  
this is a long process and your involvement  
along the way will make the proposals more  
successful and meaningful to Podsmead as  
a neighbourhood. We really look forward to  
meeting you and working with you to develop  
the SPD.

WE HAVE ALREADY  
STARTED  
CONVERSATIONS  
WITH RESIDENTS  
AND PARTNERS OF  
THE PODSMEAD  
COMMUNITY AND  
THIS IS WHAT  
RESIDENTS HAVE  
TOLD US SO FAR  
ABOUT WHAT ITS  
LIKE TO LIVE IN  
PODSMEAD

In August and early September this  
year, residents were invited to take part  
in two 'walkabouts' led by community  
engagement consultants Kevin Murray  
Associates. Members of the community  
who came on each walkabout  
completed a feedback form based on  
the Place Standard tool to give us more  
information about what it's like living on  
the estate; what they like about it and  
what frustrates them.



**1. Moving Around**  
Overall the estate is  
seen as easy to get  
around but some  
streets have poor paving making  
it difficult for mobility scooters,  
pushchairs and wheelchairs  
– some people don't use their  
mobility scooters for fear of  
them tipping over. Poor lighting,  
unsafe junctions and narrow  
roads with parked cars, e.g. next  
to shops, makes life harder for  
pedestrians.

**2. Public Transport**  
The No 10 service  
is considered to be  
a good, frequent  
service but Swanbrook is poor.  
All journeys go into the city  
centre but there are no direct  
routes to large supermarkets.

**3. Traffic And Parking**  
Lots of pavement  
parking. Traffic  
speeds are a concern  
and speed bumps are not  
effective. Crypt school traffic  
causes disruption in the morning  
and mid-afternoon during term  
times. Buses struggle to get by  
parked cars.

**4. Streets And Spaces**  
Better lighting would  
benefit some streets,  
public areas could  
have more seating.

**5. Natural Spaces**  
Could make more  
of the greenspace,  
improving  
maintenance and tackling dog  
fouling. There is potential for  
underused land behind flats  
and houses in some areas to  
be better used as safe play  
areas for children from adjacent  
homes, for family barbecues, etc  
and to enhance wildlife.

**6. Play And Recreation**  
Need more facilities  
for young people;  
benches around play/  
recreation areas for parents/  
carers to sit on; outdoor cover  
for people like a 'bandstand' and  
a skate park for youngsters.

**7. Facilities And  
Amenities**  
Need a GP & mental  
healthcare, pharmacy,  
dentist, a 'mainstream' food  
shop like Tesco or Co-op for  
fresh produce and a coffee shop/  
café, plus a community hub.  
There is no primary school on  
the estate.

**8. Work And Local  
Economy**  
There are no  
employment  
opportunities; no space for  
business in the immediate  
estate.

**9. Housing And  
Community**  
Some housing is  
reaching the end of  
its life; more family housing.  
Pre-fabs, especially refurbished  
ones are popular to purchase  
(cheaper than bungalows), good  
for older people moving into or  
back to the area.

**10. Social  
Contact**  
Few places or  
opportunities  
to enjoy social contact, although  
the central area is a well-used  
space for events. Could do  
with a community centre for  
everyone.

**11. Identity And  
Belonging**  
Multi-  
generation  
families live in the area, giving  
a sense of connection; but for  
others this is low and there  
are negative perceptions of  
Podsmead.

**12. Feeling Safe**  
Generally  
safe, pockets  
of 'amazing  
community' but also 'no go'  
areas after dark that are best  
avoided. Moped and motorbikes  
are a problem in central area  
after dark.

**13. Care And  
Maintenance**  
Has improved  
a lot over the  
years; ongoing problem with dog  
fouling. Recycling and refuse bin  
areas are unsightly, some even  
block ground floor windows.  
Grass-cutting of public spaces  
could be more frequent to avoid  
them looking unsightly/not cared  
for.

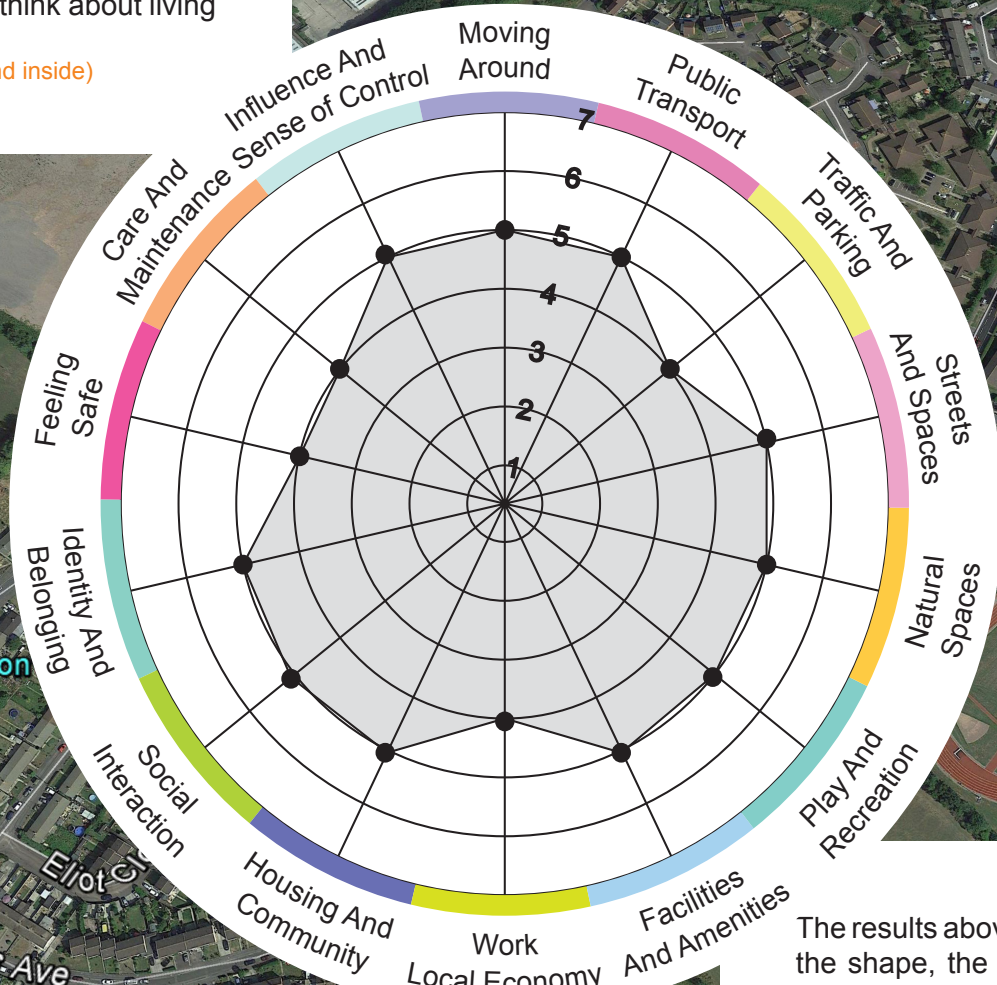
**14. Influence  
And Sense of  
Control**  
Establishing  
a Residents' Panel would help  
this; current low trust in the local  
authority. General feeling is that  
community groups and voluntary  
organisations help interface with  
official support services.

Are these statements ones  
that you agree with? Is  
this a good description of  
the Podsmead that you  
know and live in? Come to  
the Design event at Scott  
Avenue on Wednesday  
15th November to have  
your say, your views are  
really important.



This graph represents what you as a community think about living in Podsmead.

(Further details found inside)



The results above show, the wider the shape, the higher the score, e.g. moving around scored quite well but work and local economy had the lowest score



[www.gch.co.uk/shapethefutureglos](http://www.gch.co.uk/shapethefutureglos)