

Tuxford Neighbourhood Plan Group. Report for Tuxford Town Annual Meeting

21st May, 2026

The past year has been a mix of busy and frustrating, as progress towards a finalised plan has been slower than optimal, though much of the delay resulted from changes in outlook in the area which will undoubtedly have major impacts. Mostly these will be positive but, potentially, some less so. This resulted in several additional steps being required in developing the Plan.

The good news is that Tuxford has an almost complete new draft Neighbourhood Plan document, along with a finalised list of development sites which meet – and exceed – the required housing commitment. It has an adopted Design Codes document, which defines the way new development will look. It has a clear set of community priorities for additional infrastructure. We also have a traffic report with an proposed route for a bypass, which has been accepted as a viable base for a united campaign to alleviate Tuxford's No 1 complaint – HGV traffic through the centre. This is likely to see a major increase with the level of new infrastructure associated with the Trent Valley Supercluster over the Plan period.

All of this has been done following close engagement with the community via several online surveys. Our appreciation is extended to everyone who participated in one or more of these, your input has been vital to provide an evidence base for the Plan. The good news is that this level of engagement – which is far above the usual levels seen in Bassetlaw – makes it very hard for BDC not to adopt the Draft Plan once it has been submitted and when it has been voted on by the community.

All this has been achieved thanks to the dedication and participation of many people over the past two years or so, and using to the maximum possible extent central Government funding. It has therefore, so far, not cost the residents of Tuxford a single penny – but a lot of what is nicely referred to as “sweat equity”. There is agreed budget of £7,000 from TTC to complete the process.

Keith and Robin have both been involved in various other activities, notably pursuing the somewhat lacklustre historical activity from BDC related to the £1M Town Centre Grant. However, with new people looking at this in BDC, we are confident that the community priorities, which have been clearly expressed via the various surveys and other work, will be listened to by BDC and this important grant spent wisely and efficiently to the benefit of all Tuxford residents.

For the coming year, we expect to see the Neighbourhood Plan go from a “nearly finished” draft to a “Final and adopted” Made Plan, or as near as possible to this, with a clear and positive Plan for Tuxford's future which will withstand future changes to Local government and will be “fit for purpose” given the Trent Valley Supercluster developments. Robin was able to visit the future STEP Fusion site and it is clear that this will result in an additional 450 or more permanent jobs, not to mention a number several times this during the several years construction. The other sites might be smaller but will also add significantly. It is therefore important that Tuxford engages positively with the various bodies involved in this, to ensure we get a fair share of the growth, but matched with a fair share of the funding to develop the infrastructure – roads, green spaces, community amenities and school and medical facilities without losing the “village” feel and maintaining Tuxford as a place people want to live in and visit.

Whilst the people who have generously participated in the Neighbourhood Plan Group may feel they have been slightly ignored in the past months, please understand that we have been waiting on BDC and others to approve incremental steps, and we shall be going full blast in the coming months. Expect a call!