

Pownal Comprehensive Plan Committee Focus Group 7

August 28, 2018

6:30 – 8:00pm Pownal Elementary School

Approximately 20 people attended the session, mixture of short, medium and long term residents. Joan Mueller led the meeting with Marcia Bowen acting as scribe. Adam Haynes hosted the meeting and Susan Peters was among the attendees.

Pownal in One Word

Rural (3)	Unique
School	Friendly
Peaceful (4)	Goldi-locks-y
Beautiful	Agrarian
Picturesque	Changing
Remote (in a good way)	Bucolic
Well-located	

What I like about Pownal/What should remain the same

Open Space/rural character(2)	Beacon of County because of Bradbury and other preserved land
The Last Comp. Plan (emphasis on rural character)	Sense of community- lots of volunteer opportunities
Tax Structure that rewards large land owners	Opportunities to discuss the future
Focus on Land Conservations	People live the way they want to live
Removed but central/convenient “Centrally Isolated”	Large forested areas open to the public
School in Town	Small businesses consistent with our character (berry picking, cider, non-chain gas station, Garden Spot)
Dirt Roads (but keep them well maintained)	Cyclists, who help slow traffic
High citizen participation	Community creativity (BMA)
Bastion of democracy- keep Town Meeting (but change date?)	
Use of existing resources (Town Hall, Bradbury)	
Keeping the best of the old ways	

What needs to change?

A place to get a cup of coffee and sandwich

One or more small businesses with small footprint, consistent with rural character

Ability to work in Town with sufficient income to raise a family but maintain rural character

Farmers market

More youth participation

Have one state representative for entire town (currently the Town is divided with 2, neither exclusively for Pownal)

Think creatively to allow small, young farmers to acquire land and housing (could food sovereignty law help this?)

Secure our mandated funds for education

A swap shop

Elder housing

Eliminate tax on greenhouses

Aging in place, respite care, drop in center at PES
Public transportation to Freeport and Pineland
Increased school volunteerism at PES
Return of the Grange
Improved internet and cell phone service
Improved traffic control for speeders
Bike lanes, sidewalks around PES

Pownal in 10 years?

As forested as it is today
Small working farms
Invested in PES with strong volunteer participation
Small nursing home that would allow aging residents to remain in town
Sandwich shop
Driverless cars and busses passing through town
Community swimming pool
Same Town government with more participation
No change
Low enough population so that we can continue to have Town meeting
Creative, participatory community
Adult activities such as pot lucks and classes
BMA or equivalent
Communities posted on website
Independent PK-5 school district