

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION JANUARY 2020

RESPONSES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE (As at 06.02.20)

Q1 Do you support the draft vision of the Neighbourhood Plan?			
Votes Cast	Yes - 31	No - 1	Partly - 1
Comments			
1	That housing is affordable for people who live in the area. That housing is in keeping with the village of Boulmer. That they may not be second homes or holiday homes. Preferably not an estate but built throughout the village. They must have private parking.		
2	Not entirely, No. There is no mention of increasing (even protecting current levels) biodiversity – only mentions people plus buildings and environmental character.		
3	Suggest that new developments are of good quality and appropriate scale and design.		
4	It is very heartening that the parish will have some autonomy over its future and what it may look like.		
5	Fully support the Draft Vision and especially the fact that residents can be involved and that the plan is to maintain the essential character of the Parishes. Progress is always good but even better if the natural, historic and environmental character can be maintained at the same time.		
6	When the Longhoughton Quarry returns to public use it would be helpful to refer to some of the ancient history , flora and fauna associated with it before quarrying commenced. I can supply some documentation of this written in 1861. Also church records could be of assistance in providing information.		
7	Agree. We visited the consultation at Longhoughton Community centre and found it very informative - thank you.		
8	Yes... good to have a voice in future plans.		
9	We feel that it is important for residents to have a say in any development, rather than it be imposed by landowners.		

Q2 Do you support the draft objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan?			
Votes Cast	Yes - 31	No - 1	Partly - 1
Comments			
20	Small business such as a café close to the car park at the south end of Boulmer as the opposite end is not a suitable site and too congested already. Car park to be hidden by hedging.		
21	No mention of biodiversity – its protection and how it can be increased – habitats created with the ‘correct’ planting to attract and maintain it.		
22	Business – ‘Appropriate and sustainable’ - refer to a value applied from where? Community – Do we assume that leisure is embedded in ‘community’? (‘Recreation’?)		
23	Support items 1-4-5-6		
2.	Business - cannot support wording `appropriate and sustainable levels` this suggests that this plan would govern appropriate and sustainable levels - therefore WHO has set these boundaries and WHAT are they? these two words are much too prescriptive and should be deleted.		
23.	What is an \'internationally designated coastal sites\' this is a local plan not international plan further clarification regarding this wording needs disseminated as it is meaningless jargon as it stands.		
24	Longhoughton in particular is becoming bigger but with no added amenities to support it and has never had a vision for what it could (and should) be. It is a beautiful and friendly village and this will ensure that it remains a living village into the future instead of becoming a Dukes \'estate\' or a dead commuter/holiday village.		
25	Fully support the Draft Objectives and in particular the improvement in the quality of roads, pavements and footpaths as these have been sadly neglected and the patching jobs have been of a very poor quality. Pleased to hear of the Green Necklace project and sure this will help the area.		
26	One of the advertising points for new housing is the availability of Alnmouth Station. However parking and public transport to/from the station is inadequate. Pavements in the village are unsafe, too narrow, and 20 mph limit still not observed. All footpaths require signage		

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and clearing of overgrowth to encourage use.
27 If it isn't broken don't fix it
28 To preserve the community heritage and character will be important for future generations.
29 The utilisation and development of transport services such as NEED will be necessary for an ageing population, particularly in the outlying areas. The draft planning themes covers most points.
30 Whatever can be done to improve the environment and make the village an amenity for all we should do.
31 The objectives cover the main areas which impact on the growth of the parish. Maintaining essential services locally will be of even higher priority in the future to reduce our carbon footprint.
32 Yes we do support the draft objectives and plan but their preliminary nature makes it difficult to comment beyond the basic answers this form demands.

Q3 Do you support the draft planning themes?

Votes Cast	Yes - 30	No - 2	Partly - 1
Comments			
50 A controlled development of tourists/community attractions will be of benefit. Tourist accommodation, sign post paths, local maps for walkers, sustainable activities, where locals/visitors can engage			
51 Designated substantial cycle paths and footpaths to protect more fragile areas especially where coastal erosion is a problem. Heritage - history of Boulmer displayed on Boards of high quality possibly in some part of the lifeboat house. The preservation of a coble.			
52 Again, biodiversity – should be mentioned especially in the housing section – planning – migration, No mention in the Environment Section either.			
53 Again, do we assume that leisure comes under community? (recreation)			
54 I agree with the draft Planning Policy Themes as laid out. I would like to think that the 'important green infrastructure networks' includes the public footpaths around Longhoughton.			
55 Agree with all Draft Planning themes especially the affordable local housing but doubt if such a thing is either workable or practical but willing to be proved wrong on this subject.			
56 If it isn't broken don't fix it			
57 All of the themes are important, particularly protecting the environment to maintain a village feel and community spirit. Any housing required should meet the needs of the community, e.g. low cost housing for the young and elderly to allow a mix of ages to stay in the villages when their needs change.			
58 Again yes we do but the themes are too broad in their nature. We are not 100% convinced that such broad questioning is fully inclusive for the parish members and the content beyond these broad themes appears to be largely driven and consulted by sub-committees. The future plan of the village should be a in depth fully consultative process with an engaged community which currently it isn't.			

Q4 Do you feel that the Neighbourhood Plan should identify any areas for development or protection, for example, for housing, employment or protected green space. If so, would you please tell us why you feel the areas or site should be identified and describe its location?

Comments
70 The area at Boulmer known as the Village Green, the Meadow and all the linked land rented by

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Longhoughton Parish Council should be given the protection of a 'Green Space'.
71 I think there should be a designated site for offices in Longhoughton. They should be good sources of employment.
72 Outdoor display boards to raise awareness of what is in the area, wildlife, flora and fauna. A look out building as on Holy Island to point out places of interest. Plant trees for coastal area. Pots of flowers. Some bird hides for perfect photography or a glimpse of rare species.
73 Yes, I think it should mention habitats, preserving them (the wetland area is a feeding area at Boulmer –soon to be a car park. Boulmer coastal dunes (both sides of Boulmer) used to be wildflowers no over grazed by sheep. Nettle docks – too much nitrogen.
74 As discussed in Steering Group meetings, I would like to see more affordable housing 'peppered' around development sites rather than concentrated and designed to include green spaces and trees.
75 There is wording within the draft planning policy which is far outside the reach of a small rural parish council. I am firmly against the Parish Council through this plan having '\genuine influence\ over and above \government\' stipulated guidelines for planning in our area as this draft planning policy suggests. We do not live in a conservation area and what some of these draft policy themes suggest is driving the parish via the back door into a conservation area governed by the Parish Council. We have due and proper government/council guidelines which deal with build and design issues. I also do not feel it is within the Parish Councils remit to decide on locations for the development of tourism accommodation. I do agree with the need for restrictions on homes both new and existing to be used as second homes and holiday lets - especially in Boulmer where the village is suffering from lack of affordable housing. I do not agree with restrictions being placed on a person who may wish to purpose build holiday accommodation as a business development, so long as the application reflected the business opportunity.
76 I would like to put forward my thanks to those who have given their time and energy into drafting this NDP for the parish.
77 For the Longhoughton to retain its village status we need the green spaces between the housing to remain eg: the green next to the vicarage in Longhoughton and the green spaces as you enter the village on all sides. Also the old centre of the village eg the green between the cemetery and chancel place to remain at least in part a green space. We need houses but they need to be in keeping with the village and at an appropriate size. I feel Longhoughton s particularly vulnerable from the Northumberland Estates expansion in a way Howick and Boulmer are not as one is protected by Lord Howick and the other from being directly in an AONB.
78 Many thanks to all those prepared to undertake such an extensive and time consuming task and one that is so far reaching. Hopefully all 3 Parishes will contribute to help put the plan in place to safeguard the natural, historic and environmental beauty of our area.
79 It is very important to provide building restrictions on second/holiday homes and guidance on affordable housing mix. The Co-operative store is a valuable asset it may well need to be extended to absorb increase in business. As it is in a central position in the village if further business is to be developed would the open area near this be appropriate to put some new business?
80 The old football field at the end of Crawley Road and start of the road to Sugar sands beach should be designated as a dog walking area. It already (albeit unofficially) serves this purpose, as many people in the village will confirm.
81 It is important to get the right balance here.
82 Fully support. Protection of current green spaces where possible.
83 Protecting green areas in all the villages is paramount to the physical and psychological wellbeing of all residents. In Boulmer the whole of the area rented by the Parish Council, including the dunes to Seaton Point and the Steele, should be conserved and protected from further car parking and building.
84 Important to identify areas that need protection, to avoid over development of housing in the village. Eg, woodland at the far north of village.
85 Limit new holiday lets. Improve and publicise open spaces and footpaths.
86 The AONB must be carefully considered. Any housing development should enhance rather than detract from

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the overall appearance of the villages, with limited housing sympathetic to surrounding buildings. Green spaces at the entrance to, and within villages, eg. Longhoughton Pond field and opposite field. Any new building should be of Eco-friendly construction. It is disappointing that recent housing developments have not considered community need or environmental impact.
87 Yes the plan should identify areas of green space for community use and enjoyment ie: School playing fields, Old village pond, North Field and large green space to the north of the village next to the allotments. It would be important that these areas are given purpose and not safe guarded as simply open space but incorporated in community and parish life. The green necklace proposal is an example where by it should in compass Chancel Place as there have already been significant attempts to provide landscaped pathways into the village and a proposed circular public foot path should not look to bypass this nor the residents who live there.
88 Green areas as identified by the Plants, People and Paths Group who are working to enhance green areas.
89 Employment opportunities are a major issue in the Borderlands area. Our young needs jobs that will keep them the locality. We cannot allow North Northumberland to become one big retirement village.
90 Our parish lies partly within a designated AONB & Heritage Coast & there should be a presumption against future development in such designated areas where suitable alternative land is available.
91 On Housing, I support placing restrictions on any new development, particularly in Boulmer, to ensure that such dwellings cannot be used as holiday lets or second homes but similarly I think that there should be resistance to building any new development in Longhoughton on land within the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty where suitable alternative land is available.

Q5 Are there any other issues that you feel the Neighbourhood Plan should cover?

Comments

100 There are many families with children living in the area but I feel there are not many activities for them besides going to the park.

101 Transport – A coastal shuttle that goes up and down the coast from Amble to Bamburgh, hop on , hop off facility.

Going from car parks on the outskirts of all the villages to avoid the congestion as already exists at parks in Craster, Newton By the Sea, Bamburgh.

102 I would just like to see the word 'environment' mean more than grass cutting and dog poo bins and weed killing. Our biodiversity is rapidly decreasing and we should be improving it greatly and we do not even maintain it at its already very poor level.

103 Leisure is not directly referred to here, but should it be? Both residents and visitors look to this AONB for pleasure – walking – bird watching etc so is an important theme and is a land use issue.

Important aspect in need of development are;

Priority 1

- More regular bus services including a shuttle bus between Bamburgh and Amble and to the rail stations.
- Improved footpaths and signed heritage items and cycle tracks.
- Development of housing but with trees and green spaces (spread).
- Improved infrastructure – food/pub/post office/doctors surgery etc.

Priority 2

- Find ways to improve the appearance of RAF and other housing estates eg. paint in a range of colours.
- Tackle the problem of speeding through the villages.
- Publish the network of paths with heritage stories on maps distributed via retail outlets.

104 Some kind of regular transport to Alnmouth station... or online carpooling website (shared cost of website if other towns use this facility?) so that people can travel together if travelling on the same trains etc.

105 Could the site of the Spa shop be developed to provide a much needed doctors\' surgery, post office or

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public house?

Be aware there are natural water courses - one near the railway bridge and also the pond field. Drainage in the quarry in order to start quarrying again might influence this and cause flooding.

106 The issue of constantly speeding traffic through the village. We walk our dogs twice a day in and around the village and estimate that 85% of traffic that we see during these walks is speeding and many very excessively (45 mph+). The 20 mph signs have had no effect on the vast majority of drivers and something else should be considered to assure the safety of pedestrians, especially children going to/coming from school; as there is no longer a school crossing patrol officer.

107 Quite happy with the drafts that I have seen - thank you..

108 Car parking and speeding are 2 current issues in Boulmer. The future increase in traffic will only increase these issues so they need to be addressed sooner than later.

Protection of current green spaces also ensures any new housing does not eat up this valuable space.

109 Not really within NDP remit but ... a supportive, dedicated and positive community is essential if any of this is to happen. The positivity of the Team who put this together is to be applauded and hopefully will stimulate support from the community.

110 We feel the Neighbourhood plan should be in more of a blue print format to illustrate a truely community focussed ideal, a strategic plan that delivers a village that gets away from its linear format and encourages a more cohesive environment whereby village /community life can have purpose and centre itself around several key focal points in the village

111 Accessible footpaths, cycle ways, outdoor exercise equipment for adults, lots of planting and trees.

112 Employment

113 There will be a growing need for dwellings for the elderly and with the loss of Johnson House, this site and at least part of the old recreation field both being close to the village centre, should be retained for that purpose. Also, the land opposite the entrance to the Chancel Place should be the next to be developed if any further general housing is considered necessary.