

NEWTON ON THE MOOR AND SWARLAND PARISH STEERING GROUP NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE

What is this Questionnaire For?

The Questionnaire will be used by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to help it prepare a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) for our Parish.

What is the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group?

We are a group of local people who have come together to create a NP for our Parish. We are your neighbours and fellow residents of the Parish. We have developed this questionnaire to provide you with an opportunity to influence the development of the Parish.

Is the Parish Council Involved?

The Parish Council made residents aware of the Neighbourhood Plan process and in consequence a few residents came forward to volunteer to assist. The Parish Council agreed and arranged that the Parish was designated a Neighbourhood Plan Area. A Steering Group was then set up. The process is now led by the Steering Group which includes 4 parish councillors plus 8 residents who are not on the Parish Council, and acts independently with the Parish Council.

What is a Neighbourhood Development Plan?

Neighbourhood Development Plans were introduced by the 2010 Coalition Government to give local people a greater say in planning the future of the places where they live. It is important that the beautiful rural and architectural environment, rich history and vibrant communities of Newton on the Moor and Swarland Parish are protected and enhanced. Whilst the Northumberland County Council do not envisage any new development in the Parish until 2036, save for sites where permission has already been granted, it is possible that there will be applications from time to time eg infill sites within the Settlement Boundary or a new application on a site that already has an outline consent, the decision in respect of which could be determined by the County Council on the basis of a Neighbourhood Plan that will sit as a statutory document alongside the Northumberland Local Plan and national planning policies

Why should I get involved?

Some of the questions will assist us in formulating NP policies and some will result in a list of Parish actions that will appear in the NP. You have this opportunity to help shape the future of our Parish, and it will only take 15-20 minutes. **SO PLEASE HAVE YOUR SAY!**

What should I do with the completed Questionnaire?

You can drop off the completed document in the secure Collection Boxes in Nelsons, The Cook and Barker, Swarland Village Hall & Newton Village Hall, (Hazon/Hartlaw can also drop off at East Cottage, Hazon, NE65 9AT c/o Liz Clarke) no later than **January 30th 2024**. If you have any problems with the drop off, please contact Liz Kitson on mobile 07817135932, email lizkitson@hotmail.com

Is there an electronic version available?

Yes, copy this link <https://newtonswarlandpc.org.uk/neighbourhoodplan/> which will take you to the Parish Council website, where you can download a printable PDF version

PLEASE NOTE Your answers to the questionnaire, as an individual, will be treated as confidential and not published to any third party. Some comments may be selected for anonymous inclusion in the Neighbourhood Development Plan documentation.

1.0 PROTECTING AND PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT

1a. To what extent are the following important to you? (Please mark with X)

	Very Important	Important	Not that important	Not at all important	Don't know
That we should promote and enhance biodiversity(wildlife, flora and fauna) in the Parish					
That we should protect existing trees and hedgerows					
That we should plant more trees and hedgerows					
That we should create more wildlife corridors					
That we should protect our natural landscape, open views and environment					
That we should identify further local areas where biodiversity could be improved					

1b Please tell us if there are particular areas in the Parish that could be improved for biodiversity.

1c. Mitigating Climate Change- Which of these would you support? (Please mark with an "X")

	Very Important	Important	Not that important	Not at all important	Don't know
All new building developments to fully comply with current legislation on Fuel and Power Conservation					
The development of a community energy scheme, eg solar panel array, in the Parish					
The provision of public EV charging points within the Parish					
The installation of ground mounted solar panels, heat pumps, wind turbines etc on existing buildings					

1d Please tell us if there are other measures you would support to help mitigate Climate Change

2.0 THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

2a. To what extent do you agree with the following? (Please mark with X)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
That Heritage assets in the Parish need to be maintained and enhanced					
That there is a need for new homes in the Parish					
That there is a need for new affordable houses, especially for those with a local connection					
That there is a need for new Retirement or Sheltered Housing					
That there is a need for Bungalows					
That there is a need for new small houses (1or2 bedrooms)					
That there is a need for new large houses (3+ bedrooms)					
That there is a need for new buildings that are for rent					

2b. Which of these features do you consider are crucial for new development design(Please mark with X)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
The architectural style and character					
The use of local, natural materials (e.g. stone, wood, slate not brick)					
That the height and scale is in proportion to existing buildings					
The preservation of historic landmarks					
The integration of green spacing and landscaping					
That they are of a sustainable and energy efficient design					
That natural hedgerow/hedging is used					
That they are sympathetic to surrounding countryside and buildings					

2c. How concerned are you about the consequences of new housing developments?(Please mark with X)

	Very Concerned	Quite Concerned	Not very Concerned	Not at all Concerned	Don't know
Environment aspects e.g. Flooding, Drainage					
Access and safety problems associated with additional traffic on the existing local and trunk roads					
Adequacy of existing facilities and services					
Construction Traffic					
Pressure on school places					
Loss of rural identity					

2d. How and Where should new building developments be located? (Please mark with X)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
On Sites within the existing Settlement Boundary					
On sites noted by Northumberland County Council Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment					
On "Greenfield" sites					
On "Brownfield" sites					
On any "infill" site available between existing built up areas					
By conversion of existing agricultural buildings					
By conversion of existing properties					
On land of existing properties					

2e. Please tell us if you have other comments/concerns on "The Built Environment"

3.0 DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING A VIBRANT AND THRIVING COMMUNITY

3a Do you feel that the following are a positive feature of our Community and should be supported/encouraged (Please mark with X)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
The rural character of the Parish					
Open and Green Spaces					
Sense of Community					
Friendly and safe environment					
Access to the countryside					
Schooling					
Social Facilities (Club, Hall, Playground, Tennis Courts etc)					
Location (access to major towns and road/rail work)					
Local wildlife and habitats					

3b Do you feel that the following are a negative feature of our Community and concern you (Please mark with X)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
Pedestrian Safety					
Feeling isolated					
Increase in volume of traffic					
Speed of traffic					
Litter/fly-tipping					
Dog fouling					
Crime and vandalism					
Lack of street lighting					
Increase in second homes/holiday caravans					
General tidiness (e.g. grass cutting, gutters, weeds etc)					
Lack of public transport					

3c Are there any other features that you wish to highlight – Please confirm if negative or positive

3d. Community Well-being – Please tell us if you agree /disagree with the following(Please mark with X)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
GP and Health care appointments are easy to access where necessary					
It is easy to access an NHS dentist					
There are plenty of easily accessible green spaces in which to walk					
There are adequate local childcare facilities					
There is adequate provision of clubs and entertainment for young people					
There are plenty of clubs and activities that allow me to socialise					
There is a need to improve disabled access with the Parish					
I regularly feel lonely and isolated					
I do voluntary work in the Parish Community					

3e Please tell us if there are other issues/concerns you wish to highlight on Community Well-being

4.0 MOVEMENT

4a. For new residential or commercial developments, some sites would mean additional traffic in the Parish and on the main village through-roads, whatever the vehicle’s destination or starting point. We would therefore appreciate your views on current transport issues. (Please mark with X)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
The current <u>local</u> roads are suitable for increased traffic flows due to new developments					
The current <u>main & trunk</u> roads are suitable for increased traffic flows due to new developments					
The need for <u>enforced</u> 20mph Speed Limit in selected locations					
There are regular, reliable public transport links to local villages and major towns in the Parish					
There are public bus links to railway stations					
There are sufficient local EV charging points					
That you prefer to use public transport but can only commute to your place of work by car					
There are sufficient safe cycle ways					

4b To what extent do you agree with the following (Please mark with an X)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
You would walk more locally if there were more footpaths/bridleways					
You would walk more locally if there were safer footpaths/bridleways					
You would walk more locally if there was better promotion of footpaths & Bridleways					
You would cycle more locally if there were cycleways segregated from the road					

4c. Please tell us if you have other comments/concerns on “Movement” in the Parish

5.0 THE ECONOMY

Developing our local economy could bring many economic and employment benefits to our parish. To enable this we need to think about what types of local employment we wish to encourage, and what needs to be done to support this.

5a We would like to know your views on the introduction of new businesses to the locality (Please mark with X)

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
Do you think that the introduction of new <u>additional</u> businesses would be beneficial to the Locality?					

5b If you are in agreement with introduction of additional businesses, which of the below would you support? (Please mark with X)

	YES	NO
Village Shop		
Arts, crafts and creative industries		
Restaurants and Cafes		
Artisan food and drink production		
Financial and Professional services		
Offices		
Hot food takeaways		
Care services for the elderly		
Domestic and garden services		
Pre/After School Club for schoolchildren		
Caravans/holiday pods		
Taxi service		
Small business/start-up units		
Small scale horticulture		

5c Please tell us your current employment status (Please mark with an X all that apply)

In Full time work	Seeking to set up a business	
In Part time work	At home, not seeking paid work	
Working from home regularly	In full time education	
Working from home sometimes	In need of care	
Voluntary Work	Carer	
Self- Employed	Retired	
Seeking Work	Not in education, employment or training	

5d1 If you are an **Employer** in the Parish can you please complete the following (Please mark with an X all that apply)

	1	2-5	6-10	11-25	26-50	N/A
How many employees do you have?						
How many of your employees work part time?						
In the next ten years how many employees do you expect your business to have?						

5d2 If you are an **Employer** but not operating in the Parish, what are the barriers to stop you doing so?

Lack of suitable premises		Lack of suitable skills/workforce in the area	
Lack of available premises		Need for employees to travel to workplace	
Poor, unreliable Internet		Transport Infrastructure	
Poor Mobile signal		No need to move	

5d3.Please tell us if have other comments/concerns on the local economy

6.0 PLEASE TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

Please complete the following demographic questions. This information will help us to demonstrate that we have collected and collated the views of a broad cross-section of people living in the parish.

The information will not be used to identify you.

6a. To which age group do you belong? Please mark with an X

18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+

6b What is your gender? Please mark with an X

Female	Male	Other	Prefer not to answer

6c. How many years have you lived in the Parish? Please mark with an X

Less that a year	1 to 5 years	6 to 10 years	Over ten years

6d. What is your postcode? Your postcode will be used to validate your Questionnaire. It will also enable us to identify any particular needs in your part of the Parish. Please mark with an X

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And finally !!

It is recognised that local open spaces and key views contribute to the character and well being of a community and should be recorded as such.

If there are areas of open spaces and/or key views that are of value to you then can you please use the map (Parish outlined in Red) on page 11 and description box to identify the open spaces and key views that you regard as important

Open Space Location and Description	Key View Description and direction

Thank you very much for taking the time to complete this Questionnaire!

If you need further copies for other members in your household (over 18years) please download a form that is available on the Parish Council website.

If you have anything you wish to add please use the space below

