



# Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan

## What is a Neighbourhood Plan?

A Neighbourhood Plan is a document which will guide development, regeneration and conservation within our Parish over future years. The Neighbourhood Plan will set out the views of our local community in terms of **planning issues** and will contain a number of **planning policies** for the Parish. Once adopted Durham County Council will have to consult the Neighbourhood Plan when making planning decisions in our Parish. It will have a legal force and will be very influential in shaping the way Lanchester and the Parish might look and develop in the future.

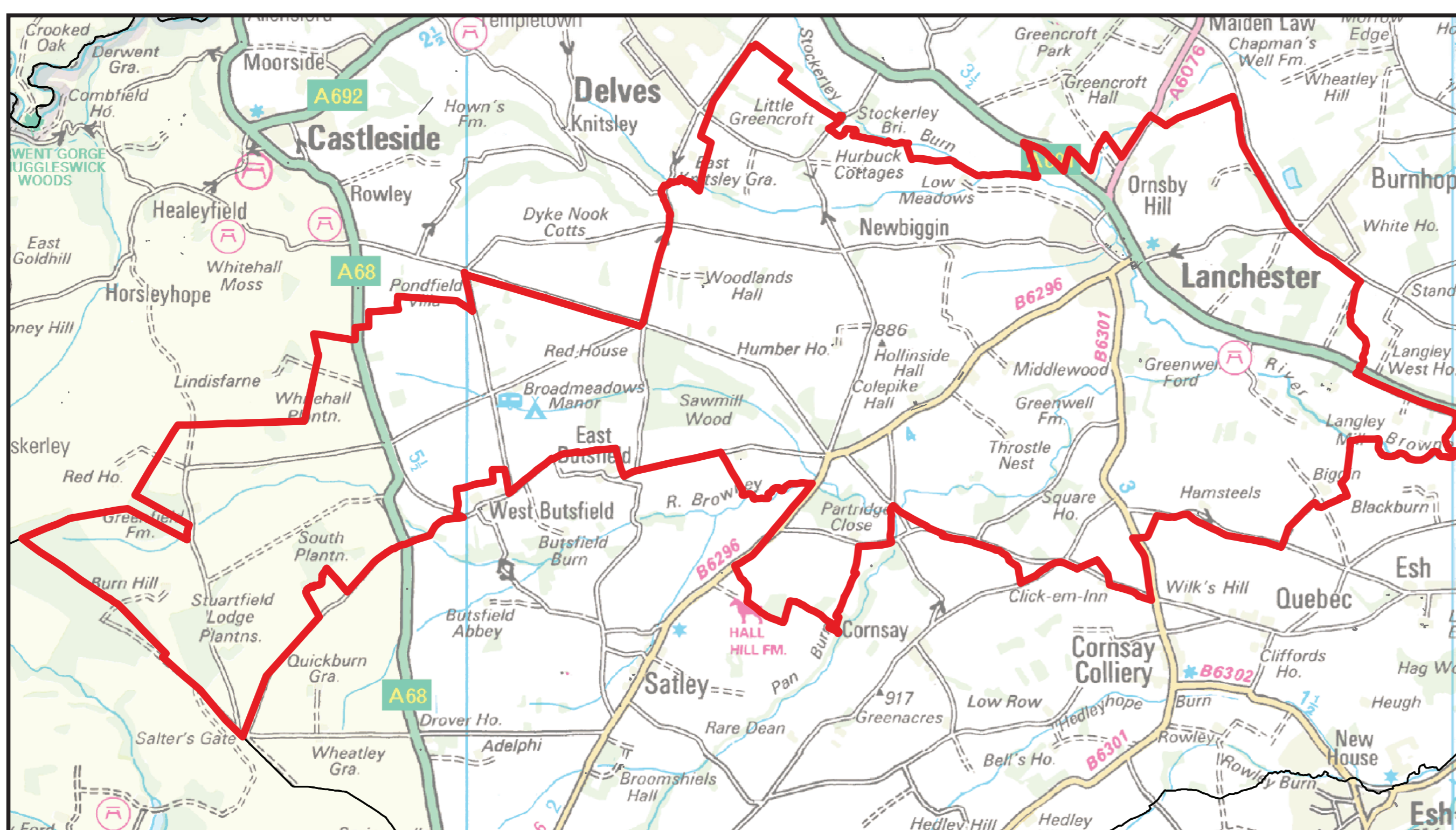
## Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan Working Group

Lanchester Parish Council took the decision to produce a Neighbourhood Plan in March 2014. A working group of the Parish Council (established May 2014) meets regularly to progress the plan. The group includes representatives from:

- Lanchester Parish Council
- Lanchester Partnership
- Campaign to Protect Rural Lanchester
- Representatives from the business and rural community
- Local residents.

## What area will the Neighbourhood Plan cover?

The Neighbourhood Plan will cover the whole of the Parish.





# Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan

## Community Consultation

The Neighbourhood Plan will be developed through substantial community consultation. The Neighbourhood Plan must represent the views of our community. It is therefore important that community consultation takes place at all stages of the plan to ensure that it and the planning policies it contains do this. At the end of the process the community will be asked to vote to support the Neighbourhood Plan in a referendum. Only if the community votes in favour will it be adopted by the County Council.

Meaningful consultation will be achieved in a variety of ways including:

- Questionnaires and surveys
- Meetings
- Workshops
- Websites (and social media)
- Press Articles
- Notice Boards

Community engagement falls into three broad sections:

- Early Engagement
- On-going Engagement
- Consultation on the Draft Completed Plan





# Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan

## Early Engagement Consultation

This is an important stage of community engagement.

We issued an Early Engagement Questionnaire in January 2015 to allow the community to identify key themes to inform the visions and aims of the plan.

The questionnaire consisted of 4 broad questions:

- What do you like about Lanchester Parish?
- What do you dislike about Lanchester Parish?
- What pressures do you think will affect Lanchester Parish now and in the future?
- What changes or improvements would you like to see in Lanchester Parish?

The questionnaire was distributed widely throughout the Parish at the beginning of January as follows:

- Pick up from the Library
- Pick up from the Community Centre
- Pick up from the Post Office
- Pick up from the Parish Council office
- Print a copy from the Parish Council / County Council website
- Questionnaires were hand delivered to Hollinside, Hurbuck, Malton and Ornsby Hill
- Questionnaires were posted to rural dwellings
- Questionnaires were delivered directly to
  - 3 x Churches
  - 4 x Schools
  - 20 x businesses
  - Over 50 community groups

Questionnaires could be returned to:

- Library
- Community Centre
- Post Office
- Parish Council Office – post or drop off

205 questionnaires were returned representing the views of 448 individuals. There was a fairly even split between male and female and a good distribution from around the parish and village. Although there was an under representation of the age groups under 50 years of age we aim to more fully engage with these groups in future work.



# Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan

## Early Engagement Consultation

### What did you say?

Questions asked

#### What do you like about Lanchester Parish? (Top 5 answers)

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Community facilities and activities            | 337 |
| 2. Strong / good / friendly community             | 278 |
| 3. Lovely village / parish / conservation area    | 106 |
| 4. Rural attractive setting                       | 104 |
| 5. Rural leisure (walks, cycling, bridleways etc) | 73  |

#### What do you dislike about Lanchester Parish? (Top 5 answers)

- |                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| 1. Parking                     | 269 |
| 2. Traffic (speed, congestion) | 163 |
| 3. Proposed development        | 89  |
| 4. Litter / fly tipping        | 68  |
| 5. Too many eating places      | 52  |

#### What pressures do you think will affect Lanchester Parish now and in the future? (Top 5 answers)

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Housing / development                                      | 350 |
| 2. Impact on community facilities / infrastructure            | 282 |
| 3. Parking / increased car ownership / too much traffic       | 108 |
| 4. Protect heritage / loss of historical knowledge & memories | 46  |
| 5. Flooding   | 39  |

#### What changes or improvements would you like to see in Lanchester Parish? (Top 5 answers)

- |   |     |
|---|-----|
| 1. Parking scheme / more parking                | 170 |
| 2. Traffic management                           | 118 |
| 3. No more housing / development projects       | 54  |
| 4. Better public transport                      | 52  |
| 5. Protect character of historic village centre | 47  |



# Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan

## Identified Issues

The results of the questionnaires have been analysed. Current community documents (Parish Appraisal, Parish Plan, Village Design Statement and Locality Map) have also been reviewed. A list of key topics have been compiled from all of this information.

The following list of topics have been identified from this information:

1. Longovicium
2. Tourism
3. Development Limit
4. Important Open Spaces, Trees and Views
5. Important Buildings and Features
6. Wildlife Corridors
7. Quasi agricultural uses
8. Flooding
9. Wind Turbines
10. Development Guidelines
11. Traffic Management including Parking
12. Quiet lanes, footpaths and cycleways
13. Hamlets
14. Brownfield Sites
15. Farm Diversification
16. Business/commerce
17. Heritage & conservation area
18. Good community facilities and activities
19. Good, strong friendly community
20. Better maintenance of infrastructure (roads, footpaths, litter etc)
21. Further development of infrastructure
22. Public transport
23. New / improved leisure facilities
24. Social issues

The Neighbourhood Plan will include a number of planning policies. Other identified issues may be addressed through other community actions.

**If you feel that there are any other topics that need to be considered, please complete a feedback form.**



# Lanchester Neighbourhood Plan

## What Next?

A list of issues and topics have now been identified from the early engagement questionnaire and the current community documents.

A more detailed questionnaire will be developed and consulted upon within the community which will build on the information gathered from the early engagement questionnaire. This questionnaire will be more focused around planning topics that a Neighbourhood Plan can address and the results will help to develop the vision, aims and objectives for the plan which in turn will help to support the development of draft policies. Other identified issues may be addressed through other community actions.

Our next questionnaire will be compiled over the next few months which will be distributed widely in the community in September/October.

Please look out for more information on when and where the questionnaire will be available.

If you have any comments or suggestions to make on the information provided and how we can make our Neighbourhood Plan even better then please complete a feedback sheet and leave it in the collection point.

We look forward to receiving your comments.

In the meantime if you have any further questions about the Neighbourhood Plan, please do not hesitate to contact us.

