

# Lanchester Parish Council



Neighbourhood Plan Working Group  
Thursday 19 April 2018  
2.30pm  
Lynwood House

## AGENDA

1. **Welcome**
2. **Apologies for Absence**
3. **Declaration of Interests**
4. **Notes of the Last Meeting**
5. **Durham County Plan - update**
6. **Policy Development**  
To consider feedback received from Durham County Council, Shaun Hanson and the Parish council:
  - Edge of Settlement Housing Policy
  - Design of New Development
  - Historic Environment
  - Green Spaces and the Rural (Natural) environment
  - Transport & Travel
  - Business & Employment
7. **Neighbourhood Plan – Introduction and Contents**  
To review the document introduction and contents (previously circulated)
8. **Mapping**  
To consider proposed mapping requirements for the plan
9. **Designation of Local Green Spaces**  
To consider the need for designation of areas within the Parish in the context of recently received information (see attached information)
10. **Next Steps**  
To consider what further work is required
11. **Dates of future meetings**  
To set the date and time for the next meeting

## **Designation of Local Green Space**

### **Considering green spaces for designation**

Not all green spaces will be suitable for formal designation as Local Green Space. The criteria in Paragraph 77 of the NPPF must be applied.

This section of the document sets out how designation of Local Green Spaces should be considered.

### **Application of NPPF Criteria**

National Planning Practice Guidance states:

*“Local Green Space designation is a way to provide special protection against development for green areas of particular importance to local communities”.*

Paragraph 77 of the NPPF sets out the criteria that green space must meet in order to be designated as ‘Local Green Space’:

“The Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used:

- where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves
- where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife
- where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land”.

In addition to these criteria, National Planning Practice Guidance states:

*“Local Green Space designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the development would be compatible with the reasons for designation or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented”.*

Other designations of land, such as green belt or conservation area status, do not necessarily preclude or support designation as Local Green Space. But it is necessary to consider whether the additional designation is necessary and would serve a useful purpose. Existing designations are discussed in more detail later in this guide.

In applying the NPPF criteria, close proximity would normally mean in easy walking distance. Based on Natural England standards, that would mean 1.25 miles or less.

In considering whether a space is demonstrably special to a local community, it is clearly important to engage with the community and to assess how the community uses a space. It is also important to engage with any owners of the land in question.

Consideration of whether the green space is local in character and not an extensive tract of land suggests spaces within a locality, rather than, for example, extensive green areas in the countryside.