



Consultation Report

for the delivery of

Newborough Neighbourhood Plan

on behalf of:

Newborough Parish Council

March 2016





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1. Introduction

- 1.1. The East Staffordshire parish of Newborough is currently in the process of writing a Neighbourhood Plan in response to Central Government's focus on localism and empowerment of communities to have more influence in planning decisions in their local area.
- 1.2. The project began in December 2013 and since then a team of consultants have been working closely with local residents, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and the Parish Council to formulate the Neighbourhood Plan in order for it to be 'made' as an additional tier to local planning policy in the determination of planning applications. The first stage of the consultation strategy has been to engage local residents and groups in the process by collecting their thoughts, feelings, ideas and suggestions on what is good about the Parish and elements that could be improved. Consultation of local residents and businesses has taken a number of forms to engage as representative a sample as possible. A series of targeted meetings, surveys and community events have been held. Each of these events has been carefully designed for a different purpose with certain deliverables to contribute to different stages of the plan.
- 1.3. The following document details the sessions held and how they have fed into the first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan.

2. Timetable of Sessions

- 2.1. In order to engage local stakeholders in the process and to inform them about the project and the importance of Neighbourhood Planning as an opportunity to shape their area. A range of methods were used to encourage residents of all ages to get involved in the process.
- 2.2. The table below provides the schedule of these meetings and sessions.

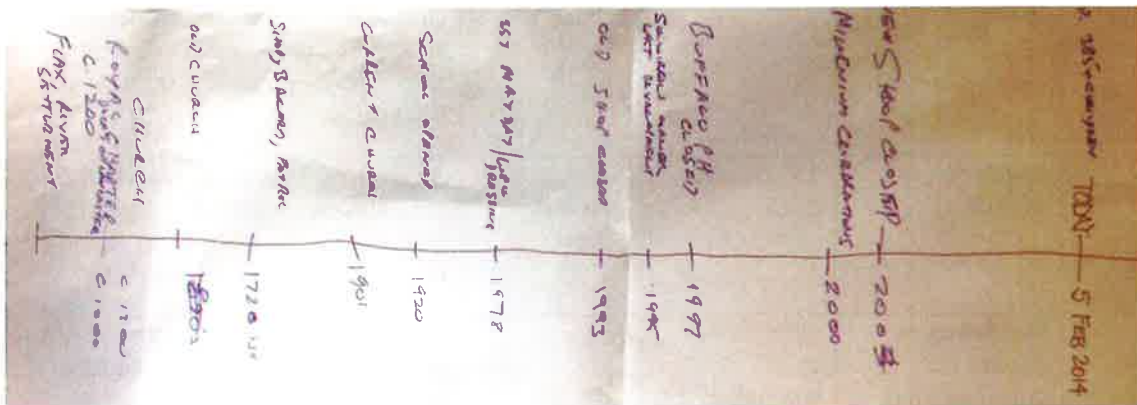
Event	Date/Time	Location	Purpose	Attendees
Project Launch	7-9.30pm, 5 th February 2014	Needwood Primary School	To devise Vision and Objectives	60
Needwood School Primary Session	26 th February 2014	Needwood Primary School	To introduce students to town planning as a profession and to Neighbourhood Planning. To then seek their views on key issues within the area.	Various year groups – overall 37 pupils
Workshop 1 - Visioning	7-9pm, 13 th March 2014	Needwood Primary School	To seek comment and analysis of the vision and objectives and start to think about emerging policies (presented primary and youth work)	18
Workshop 2 - Capacity Building	7-9pm, 27 th March 2014	Needwood Primary School	Offering training on how the Neighbourhood Plan will fit into the wider policy context and how it is able to influence planning decisions.	20
Workshop 3 - Policy	7-9pm, 10 th April 2014	Needwood Primary School	Developing the broad policy ideas	21
Youth Workshop	16 th March 2014	St George's Park, National Football Centre	To introduce Neighbourhood Planning to young people in the parish and to seek their views on key issues to be addressed through policies.	7
Stand at Newborough well dressing	5 th May 2014	Newborough village centre	Updating the community on the progress of the project	-
Developing a draft plan	23 rd July 2014	Needwood Primary School	Building on the emerging policy outlines	24

Regulation 14 Consultation Launch (Round 1)	21 st January 2015	Needwood Primary School	To launch the Regulation 14 consultation period and the draft Neighbourhood Plan to the community for feedback.	55
Regulation 14 (Round One) Consultation Period (8 Weeks)	21 st January to 18 th March 2015	N/A	To meet the statutory requirements for consultation. Two weeks added to allow sufficient time for members of the community to comment	N/A
FAQ and Concerns Feedback Session	14 th & 16 th May 2015	Needwood Primary School	To provide the community with feedback from the recent consultation and to set out a course of action based on the reg. 14 consultation	30 and c.25 respectively
Housing Strategy Presentation	25 th June and 4 th July 2015	Needwood Primary School	A focused session examining housing strategies for the plan and allowing the community to understand the choices and options available	28 and 13 respectively
Housing Strategy Consultation (3 Weeks)	6 th July to 24 th July 2015	Needwood Primary School	A three week period within which the community were asked to choose preferred housing strategies, preferences regarding sites and possible settlement boundaries	N/A
Regulation 14 Launch	15 th October 2015	Needwood Primary School	An evening session to launch the consultation period offering guidance on the plans content and how they could make comments	24
Regulation 14 (Round 2) Consultation (6 weeks)	15 th October to 26 th November 2015	N/A	Re-run 6 week statutory consultation period as required based on a revised plan	N/A

3. Project Launch

Brief overview of session structure

3.1. As the community came into the hall and began to circulate, we asked them to complete a simple timeline exercise plotting important events/changes that they remembered and thought were of specific historical importance within the history of the Newborough Parish. This exercise enabled us to highlight the key facts about the Parish that the community were most aware of and equally the historical events they knew little about. It also enabled the community to begin to think about their Parish and what makes it important to them. The community were also asked to think about the future development of the Parish and what they might like to see appearing on the timeline in the future. The aim of the timeline exercise was to devise an overall Vision for the Neighbourhood Development Plan and help towards developing objectives based on what the community feels is most important to them.



Group 2's Timeline

3.2. Once this first exercise was complete the main session began with an introduction presentation explaining the process of Neighbourhood Planning and explain what the NDP document would be and how it would be developed.

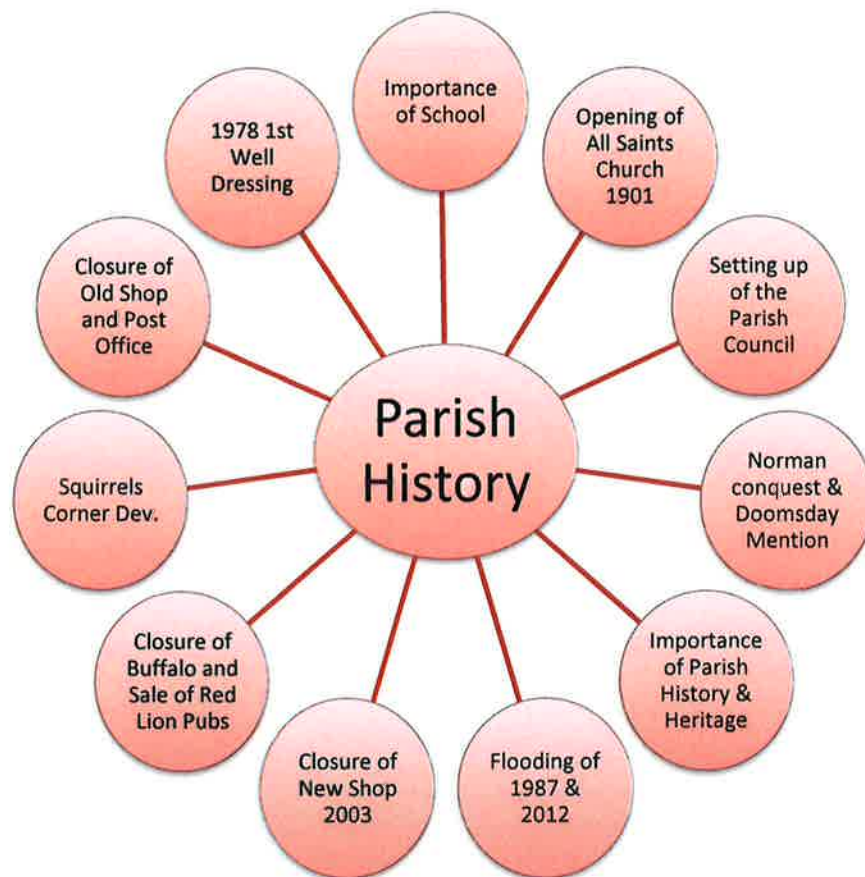
3.3. We then moved on to Edward De Bonos' Six Thinking Hats exercise. The activity is designed to help groups plan their thinking process to work together more effectively. By making the whole group focus on one set approach at a time, cohesion between individuals and progress towards a solution is greatly aided.

Blue Hat	Discuss Process	Technique, Process, Timing	"Stick to the Hat!"
White Hat	Information	Facts & Figures	"What do we know about the Parish?"
Red Hat	Emotions	Emotional Gut Reaction	"What should the NP do?"
Black Hat	Discernment	Risks, Drawbacks and Constraints	"Barriers to achieving the vision."
Yellow Hat	Optimism	Opportunities, Benefits, Rewards	"What assets can help achieve the Vision?"
Blue Hat	Involvement	Key Stakeholders	"Who should we involve to help deliver the plan?"
Green Hat	Creativity	Ideas, Solutions, Policies	"What policies and strategies can we put in place?"

Findings and results

Timeline Exercise and Devising a Vision

3.4. The first half of the Timeline exercise asked the community to identify key aspects of the Parish's history which have helped shape it. The key influencing events can be split into two groups; the historical development of the Parish and its villages in terms of their origin and heritage and secondly, more recent events such as the development of new housing and the sale or closure of local businesses, shops and services.



3.5. Using the ideas arising from the timeline each group was then asked to think about the future of the Newborough Parish. The group were asked to complete the sentence 'In 2034 Newborough Parish will be...' Key words and themes recurrent within the responses regarding the future of the parish are shown below.



3.6. Using the above feedback, the following Vision has been devised.

“Newborough Parish should aim to be a strong and celebrated accessible community which supports and encourages the creation of new and existing businesses and services. It should utilise its rich history and attractive landscape to create tourist revenue whilst maintaining its traditional village character. New development should be sympathetic to the traditional feel of the parish and encourage a more sustainable rural lifestyle.”

3.7. This Vision will form the overarching focus of the Neighbourhood Plan and provide an overall aim and focus for the document. All policies must be in line with the overarching Vision which will be subject to both community consultation (to ensure that we have interpreted views correctly) and a sustainability assessment by a member of the consultant team.



Six Thinking Hats

- 3.8. The second exercise focused on key issues and options for the Parish following the Six Thinking Hats method. The participants were split into six groups of around 8-10 people.

Findings are summarised in the table below:

Blue Hat	"Stick to the Hat!"	Explanation of the exercise and its aim.
White Hat	"What do we know about the Parish?"	Groups listed key facts about the Parish such as number of properties, key services, facilities and characteristics. Key facts pointed out included the older age structure within the area and the lack of certain services due to closure. It was clear that a lot of local knowledge was present within the group, which in turn can be used to shape the issues and options process.
Red Hat	"What should the NP do?"	There was a clear desire within the groups to maintain the village character and to retain existing services. Traffic calming and flood management were also mentioned as well as communication improvements and the need for new development to be sustainable. Furthermore the NP was seen as a way to help growth within the area but in a way that maintained the sense of community.
Black Hat	"Barriers to achieving the vision"	The lack of interest from the local community and a sense of apathy was cited as a major problem within the groups as well as the threat of NIMBYism. Conflicts of interest with landowners and conflicts with existing local and national government policy were also listed as a threat. In terms of infrastructure and service provision, the lack of broadband and mobile connectivity was seen as a major problem by most groups and also the risks that having too high expectations of the neighbourhood plan may bring.
Yellow Hat	"What assets can help achieve the Vision?"	Heritage and conservation within the area was something mentioned by all groups along with the opportunity that a rich history within a traditionally set village can bring. The opportunity to improve and create new facilities such as a local shop was also mentioned whilst the point of the attractive commuter distance location of the parish was furthermore listed. The opportunity to create a feature out of the river and create tourism was also brought up.
Blue Hat	"Who should we involve to help deliver the plan?"	The community identified local services and businesses as being key stakeholders within the development of the NP as well as key government bodies such as the Environment Agency, English Heritage and Highways Agency. Local community groups and the residents of the parish themselves were also identified. The Duchy of Lancaster, being the landowner within the parish was also mentioned as a key figure for involvement in the plan.
Green Hat	"What policies and strategies can we put in place?"	Ideas and solutions included: traffic management and the reduction of HGV traffic within the area, providing drainage and decreasing the flood risk, heritage conservation, improved public transport and footpaths, protection of existing services, improving communications and promoting sustainability. The need for community involvement and managing growth effectively was also recognised.



3.9. These findings were then translated into eight key objectives designed to support and help implement the overarching Vision. As with the Vision these objectives will be subject to a sustainability assessment and community consultation.

1. Traffic / Road Network

The new plan should introduce traffic calming measures within the parish which improve the current infrastructure and also provide improved parking. Reducing HGV traffic within the area is of importance whilst also creating an attractive public realm for pedestrians and cyclists by providing improved footpaths. Improvements in the public transport network and bus timetable can also be made. Street lighting within the parish is also a sensitive subject, with keeping light pollution to a minimum important for the local community.

2. Flood Risk Measures

Reducing the risk of flooding, particularly in the homes which are situated in the bottom of the valley is something picked up on by the majority of the community. The creation of defences and drainage systems to manage the risk should be included within the plan.

3. Strengthening Community Assets

The plan should preserve existing services (including schools and churches) whilst equally supporting the creation of new accessible local services such as a post office and local shop, which will meet the needs of the whole community. Existing services such as the pub should be retained and improved whilst the church and school should aim to increase attendee numbers.

4. Housing

The community felt strongly that the age demographic within the area is uneven and that more young people need to be attracted into the village through the provision of affordable housing. In combination with this, the high percentage of elderly people within the parish should be provided for through the creation of specialist housing. Housing should be of a high quality design and in keeping with general area characteristics.

5. Employment

Conversion of some buildings into office use is supported by the community and would aid in the creation of new jobs and attract new businesses into the parish. The plan should promote opportunities for increased economic activity within the area such as attracting tourism into the parish.

6. Communication Infrastructure

The poor broadband and mobile phone signal within the area is something that the community lists as being vital to improve. This can also link in with the provision of employment, poor quality communication infrastructure is currently a limitation to this.

7. Celebrating Heritage

The community has a great sense of pride in their local history and parish heritage, something that should be enhanced and preserved within the plan.

8. Retaining the Countryside

The traditional picturesque character of the village should be retained within the plan. Development is favoured but only so long as it is sensitive to the surrounding landscape and character of the area.

- 3.10. The vision and the objectives will be the subject of future consultation with the community before they are finalised as part of the draft plan at the end of the session. They will also be the subject of a Sustainability Assessment.



4. Needwood Primary School Session

- 4.1. As the students came into the school hall we asked them to sit themselves around the arranged tables according to their age and year group. We then conducted a short presentation to explain what a town planner is and to help the children have an understanding of what the day was going to consist of. This included a short quiz asking the children to identify where cityscape pictures had been taken and asking them why they recognised the photos. This engaged the children to think about what aspects of a place define it and make it identifiable.



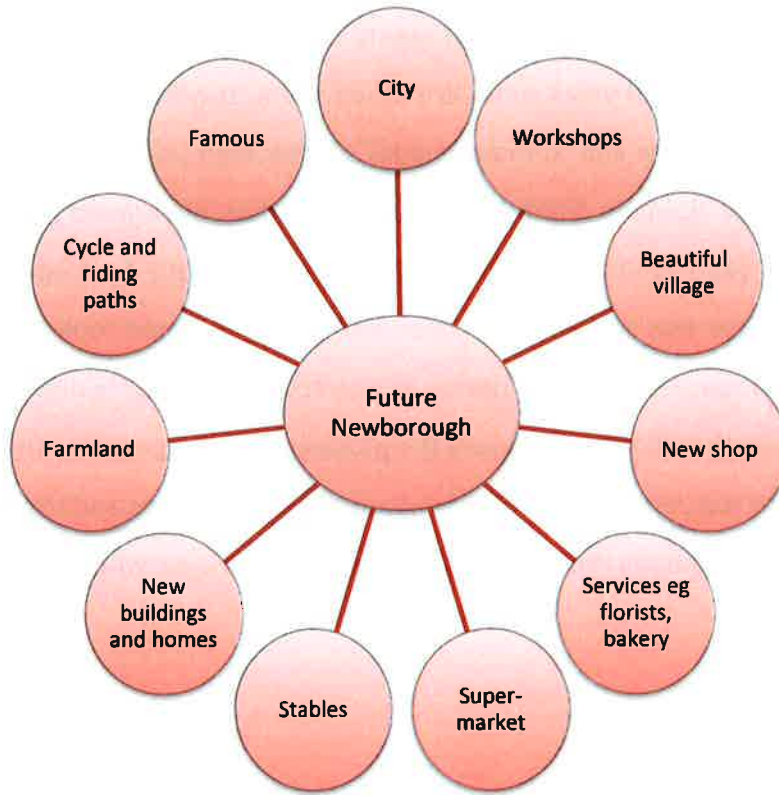
- 4.2. Once this presentation was complete the main session began with the students splitting into three groups, again based on their age and year group. This would form the structure for the afternoon and the three activities that were planned for the children.
- 4.3. On each table around the room we had set up the three activities that the children would be taking part in, each group rotating round to the next activity once finished. The first activity involved engaging the students to think about what they liked and disliked about Newborough and the area that surrounded the school and subsequently mind-mapping the ideas down on paper. This enabled the children to really think about where they lived and also enabled us to identify what the children saw as areas for action within Newborough.

- 4.4. The second activity required the students to think about how they imagined Newborough to be in 20 years time. We asked them to write themselves a postcard from their future selves and to draw images of how they hoped Newborough would be. This required them to think hard about how they envisioned they themselves would be in 20 years time and also how the village would have developed in that time.
- 4.5. The third exercise was a 'hands on' cool wall which involved looking at images of buildings, open spaces, colours, patterns and streets which the children would discuss and explain why they liked and disliked the pictures. The images were then rated from un-cool, cool to sub zero by the children based on their opinions and the children were also encouraged to justify their reasons for placing the images where they were on the wall.

Findings and results

Postcard from the future

- 4.6. The postcard exercise was really successful with the children with them first enjoying the maths of how old they would be in 20 years time! The opportunity to visually draw and sketch what the future Newborough would be like was enjoyed and allowed the children creativity to flow. They talked, wrote and drew about all the things they wanted to see and how much the village had developed. From hover crafts to a shopping centre, the exercise really highlighted not only the children's imagination but also their aspirations and hopes for the future of Newborough. Other key visions for future Newborough included the creation of a new shop and other key services such as a bakery, butchers, florists, post office and workshops for residents. Below you can see some of the recurring themes among the postcards and examples of the excellent work that was created.



Likes & Dislikes

4.7. Sitting round in a group the children each in turn shouted out one thing that they liked and disliked about the village of Newborough, some children who were not from the Parish still tried very hard to think of ideas! The children found it an easy and simple exercise to complete whilst really challenging them and making them think about the village around their school. Some of the recurring likes and dislikes about Newborough can be seen below.

Likes	Dislikes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Church• Coffee Shop• Rural village feeling• Old buildings and houses• Pub• Park• The river• Views• Peace & quiet• School• Big gardens• Woodland and trees• Animals and nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unmanaged hedgerows• Not enough fields• Can't walk along river• Not enough activities• Playground too small/lack of goals• Horses• Invasive species• Flooding• School play equipment• Noise from shooting• Fast traffic• Cutting down of trees• Lack of shop



Cool Wall

- 4.8. This exercise was a definite favourite for the children and involved some excellent responses and involvement from the students. The results of this exercise showed us that the children liked the traditional architecture that is currently in Newborough and disliked modern architecture and tower blocks. They also reacted well to artwork and sculptures which they thought would add a lot of character to the area.
- 4.9. The cool wall was helpful in identifying some of the opportunities for Newborough's growth and development. It was very clear from the exercise that keeping to the traditional vernacular was important to the children. What we can draw from the cool wall exercise is that green open spaces as well as planting and colourful artwork are seen as good ideas for Newborough from the children's point of view.



Below you can see a few of the images that the children rated on the cool wall in a bit more detail...

Un-Cool



Cool



Sub-Zero!



Policies

4.10. As a final additional exercise we asked the children what policies they would like to see within the Newborough Neighbourhood Plan. This collated some of the information that they had been given over the duration of the workshop and helped them to focus down some of the idea's they had come up with that afternoon into physical policies. They were very keen to contribute in whatever way they could and even put their signatures down on paper to record that these were the policies that they wanted to see in the plan!

4.11. Policies included:

- Natural Habitats
- Shops & Services
- Environmental Friendly
- Improved Football Facilities
- A Policy on Rugby & Playing Pitches
- Better Fences
- Policy on Lights & Lighting
- Art Policy



Summary of findings

- 4.12. The schools workshop proved to be very helpful in gaining an understanding of how the children of Newborough and the surrounding area saw the village and the opportunities that were available for the future. It was clear that the session was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children and it was brilliant to see such enthusiasm and interest in the activities that had been planned and about the Neighbourhood Plan in general. One thing that was clear throughout the workshop was that the children really loved where they lived and wanted to protect it whilst also improving small parts at the same time. Nowhere was it suggested that major development or rebuilding take place, it was evident that the children knew what was needed, and specifically what was needed to make the village a better place for them to live and play in.
- 4.13. All three of the workshop exercises brought forward the continuous theme of protecting the traditional vernacular and feel to the Newborough Parish. This is something that the vision and objectives for the Neighbourhood Plan has already touched on, but something that should be reinforced in future documents.
- 4.14. A lot of the ideas that the children came up with included improving play facilities and making the village a safer place to play in. The children recognised a lot of the issues that had already been brought up at consultation such as the need for traffic management and the need to prevent flooding where possible. These recurrent themes will be put into the plan under high importance. Making Newborough a safe place is one of the key objectives to come out of the schools workshop, be it through slowing of the traffic, or improving of the play facilities. Effort should also be made to create opportunities and provide activities for the children within the village as it was felt that at present there is a lack of things to do, development which the Neighbourhood Plan can hopefully help to encourage.

5. Workshop 1 – Visioning

Summary of the Workshop

- 5.1. The launch event, held on 5th February 2014, proved very successful in the gathering together of information and feedback from the community regarding facts about the parish and things they would like to see in the neighbourhood development plan. Information from this event was then collated and used to create an overall vision for the neighbourhood plan as well as the creation of 8 objectives (shown below) which would go on to form the structure of the plan.
- 5.2. The purpose of the workshop held on the 13th of March was to give the community of Newborough and the plan steering group the chance to provide comment and analysis of the vision and objectives. The community were split into groups during the workshop and given the opportunity to provide feedback on each of the 8 objectives as well as the overall vision. This information can then be used to revise the vision and objectives to further demonstrate and reflect the views of the community. During the workshop there was also the chance to provide the community with feedback and information from the launch event and primary school workshop (27th February).
- 5.3. The community were also given the chance to provide additional information on what they thought the main issues and opportunities were within the Parish, this would help to further inform the policy making process.

Issues & Opportunities

- 5.4. To begin the workshop session on 13th March, and to gain a further understanding of what the community felt some of the key issues and opportunities facing the parish were that the neighbourhood plan needed to address, the community were asked in groups to develop some diagrams as to what they felt these issues and opportunities were. The findings of this exercise can be seen below.
- 5.5. Some of the key issues and opportunities facing Newborough parish that the community discussed are summarised in the tables below.

ISSUES			
Fear of Over Development	Work Opportunities	Swings & Roundabouts	Coffee Shop Opening Hours
Street Lighting	New Residents Taking Over	General Environment	Conservation Area
Poor Sporting Facilities	Public Transport	Growth of Village – Need to Limit	Broadband & Telephone Signal
Youth Entertainment	Feeling of Isolation	Speed of Traffic	Vernacular of New Development

OPPORTUNITIES			
Vending Machines	Bus Information	Mobile Phone Signal	High Speed Broadband
Home Business	Public Transport	Good Schools	Opening of New Shops
	Sympathetic Design	Alternative Energy eg Wind	

5.6. The information in the tables above reiterates some of the key themes and ideas that the community feel are important to address within the plan, most of which had already come up at the launch event. It is important to try and get as comprehensive a view of the community’s feelings and aspirations towards the plan as possible, and at every stage of the consultation process. The information given in the tables above will then be further used to inform the plan making and revision process.

Feedback on Objectives

5.7. The community were split into 5 groups and each group received a copy of the vision and objectives (see section 2.0) that were devised after the launch event on the 27th February. The groups were then asked to provide what feedback they could on the vision and objectives, which would then be used to revise and rewrite the vision and objectives if necessary. The feedback is also useful in identifying anything that the objectives may have missed that people feel should be included within the plans overarching objectives. The key issues and remarks made by the Newborough community regarding each of the 8 objectives can be seen below.

Objective 1 – Traffic / Road Network

- Objective needs to be developed further to have the targeted effect on the reduction of vehicle speed throughout the village.
- The edges of the road must be adequately maintained in order to provide a clearly defined track for cyclists.
- The lack of parking and the loss of the pub car park for public use must be addressed.
- Appropriate road signage is necessary throughout the village and it must be clear to both vehicles and pedestrians that they are entering a village. A gateway into the village will also aid this concern.
- If public transport is to be provided then it must be affordable and provide adequate access to the surrounding area.
- The introduction of speed cameras in order to combat the issue of vehicle speed.
- Use of shrouded lights and the careful location of street lighting in order to help develop a dark skies policy.

Objective 2 – Flood Risk Measures

- Drainage systems within the village should be surveyed in order to determine their fitness and purpose. If improvements are needed then these should be supported.
- Residents should be made aware of their own personal responsibility to maintain drainage ditches located on their own land and should act accordingly.
- A flood prevention and river maintenance plan would help in enabling local residents to look after their own plot. Water quality should also be monitored to maintain conditions.
- New housing development should include conditions to improve the flooding issue and reduce the risk of further/increased flooding.
- A Policy which utilises the river and makes better use of it as an appealing attraction should be introduced.

Objective 3 – Strengthening Community Assets

- Adequate promotion of the church, pub and school should be made and consideration given to the expansion of the pub into integrating a local shop or coffee shop.
- A better relationship should be gained with the wider stakeholders within the Parish such as St Georges and Tatenhill Aerodrome.
- The creation of new community assets is supported including the creation of a farm shop, new car parking, a village hall and a youth centre being mentioned as ideas.
- The NDP should respond to the wants of the children of Newborough and improve the conditions of the play park.
- Existing services should be preserved as much as possible through support and promotion.

Objective 4 – Housing

- Need to consider the likelihood of affordable housing within the village, yes there is a need for smaller less expensive housing but how affordable this housing is needs to be considered.
- There is a clear desire within the community to control the growth of the village. New development should be built in small numbers and split between retirement and homes for younger people already living within the village.
- The term affordable housing needs to be better defined within policy and if it is in fact achievable and whether it will have any effect on overall house values.
- Development should be limited to infill sites within the village and not extend the village boundaries. New development should also be in keeping with local vernacular and housing styles.

Objective 5 – Employment

- The community agreed that offices would be a benefit to employment but as a village they would discourage any development that brought in any extra traffic.
- It is also acknowledged that the creation of small retail opportunities and businesses will encourage tourism within the area.
- There should be encouragement of self-employment and the setting up of home businesses in order to reduce the need for office space within the village.

- The conversion of buildings or dwellings should provide small scale office space rather than industrial space as there are already industrial spaces available in nearby locations.

Objective 6 – Communication Infrastructure

- Agreed by all groups that this objectives is key and vital to be included within the NDP. There is a definite need for phone and broadband signal and this is currently affecting local businesses as well as putting off potential new businesses.

Objective 7 – Celebrating Heritage

- The use of the church and other heritage facilities within the village should be preserved as well as getting the wider community engaged in events such as carol singing, the well dressing, village events and village fetes.
- There should be a collection of local and social history available for the community.

Objective 8 – Retaining the Countryside

- The landscape assets that the village already has should be maintained and preserved eg the river, grass verges, surrounding fields, pathways, buildings and roads.
- Hedgerows should also be maintained as well as the need to preserve biodiversity. The introduction of set walks and new footpaths was also mentioned.
- The fact that the village is within the National Forest is important to remember and should be advertised throughout the village.

5.8. These issues and feedback comments are seen by the community as important to address in the NDP. They will be used, along with all other information gained through the consultation workshops, to further inform the policy writing process and will help in the creation of the Newborough NDP Family Tree (policy framework) that will structure the overall policies the NDP will adopt.

Revised Vision & Objectives

5.9. Below you can see the revised vision and objectives following the feedback that was received during this workshop on the 13th March. These revisions will undergo further consultation during workshops and will have to be approved by the community before the next stage of the policy development process. The changes that have been made have been highlighted in red.

Revised Vision

“Newborough Parish should aim to be a **vibrant and inclusive** community which supports and encourages the creation of new and existing facilities and services where appropriate. It should **preserve and enhance** its rich history and attractive landscape to **welcome visitors** whilst maintaining its traditional village character. New development should be sympathetic to the traditional feel of the parish and encourage a more sustainable rural lifestyle.”

Revised Objectives

Objective 1 - Traffic / Road Network

The new plan should introduce traffic calming measures within the parish **and** provide improved parking. Reducing HGV traffic within the area is of importance whilst also creating an attractive public realm for pedestrians and cyclists by providing improved footpaths. Improvements in the public transport network and bus timetable can also be made. Street lighting within the parish is also a sensitive subject, with keeping light pollution to a minimum important for the local community.

Objective 2 - Flood Risk Measures

Reducing the risk of flooding, particularly in the homes which are situated in the bottom of the valley is something picked up on by the majority of the community. The creation of defences and drainage systems to manage the risk should be included within the plan.

Objective 3 - Strengthening Community Assets

The plan should preserve existing services (including schools and churches) whilst equally supporting the creation of new **viable**, accessible, local services such as a post office and local shop, which will meet the needs of the whole community. Existing services such as the pub should be retained and improved whilst the church and school should aim to increase attendee numbers.

Objective 4 - Housing

The plan should aim to attract and retain young people within the parish through carefully delivering specific housing meeting the needs of young people and young families. In combination with this, the high percentage of elderly people within the parish should be provided for through the creation of housing to meet their needs. Housing should be of a high quality design and in keeping with general area characteristics.

Objective 5 - Employment

Conversion of **underused** buildings into **employment** use is supported by the community and would aid in the creation of new jobs and attract new businesses into the parish. The plan should promote opportunities for increased **small scale** economic activity within the area **including multi-functional spaces**.

Objective 6 - Communication Infrastructure

The poor broadband and mobile phone signal within the area is something that the community lists as being vital to improve. This can also link in with the provision of employment **opportunities and attracting new businesses** as poor quality communication infrastructure is currently a limitation to this.

Objective 7 - Celebrating Heritage

The community has a great sense of pride in their local history and parish heritage, something that should be enhanced and preserved within the plan.

Objective 8 - Countryside & Biodiversity

The traditional picturesque **setting** of **Newborough** village should be retained. Appropriate development is favoured but only so long as it is sensitive to the surrounding landscape and character of the area. **Protection and enhancement of hedgerows, trees, field pattern and watercourses is of prime importance**.

6. Workshop 2 – Capacity Building

6.1. The purpose of the second workshop was to improve understanding of the role that Neighbourhood Planning plays in the wider context of the planning system. This session involved explaining the opportunities that Neighbourhood Planning offers in conjunction with its limitations. This touched upon the role of planning policy and how Planning Officers at the Local Council use it when determining planning applications. As part of the Neighbourhood Planning project a core aim has been to enable the community to better interact and engage with the planning system in the future.

List of topics covered:

Session 1: Plans and Plan Making

- 1) The origins of planning
- 2) Current planning legislation
- 3) What is development plan?
- 4) National Planning Policy
- 5) Local Planning Policy
- 6) Community Involvement
- 7) Preparing a Plan
- 8) Material Considerations

Session 2: Decisions and Decision Makers

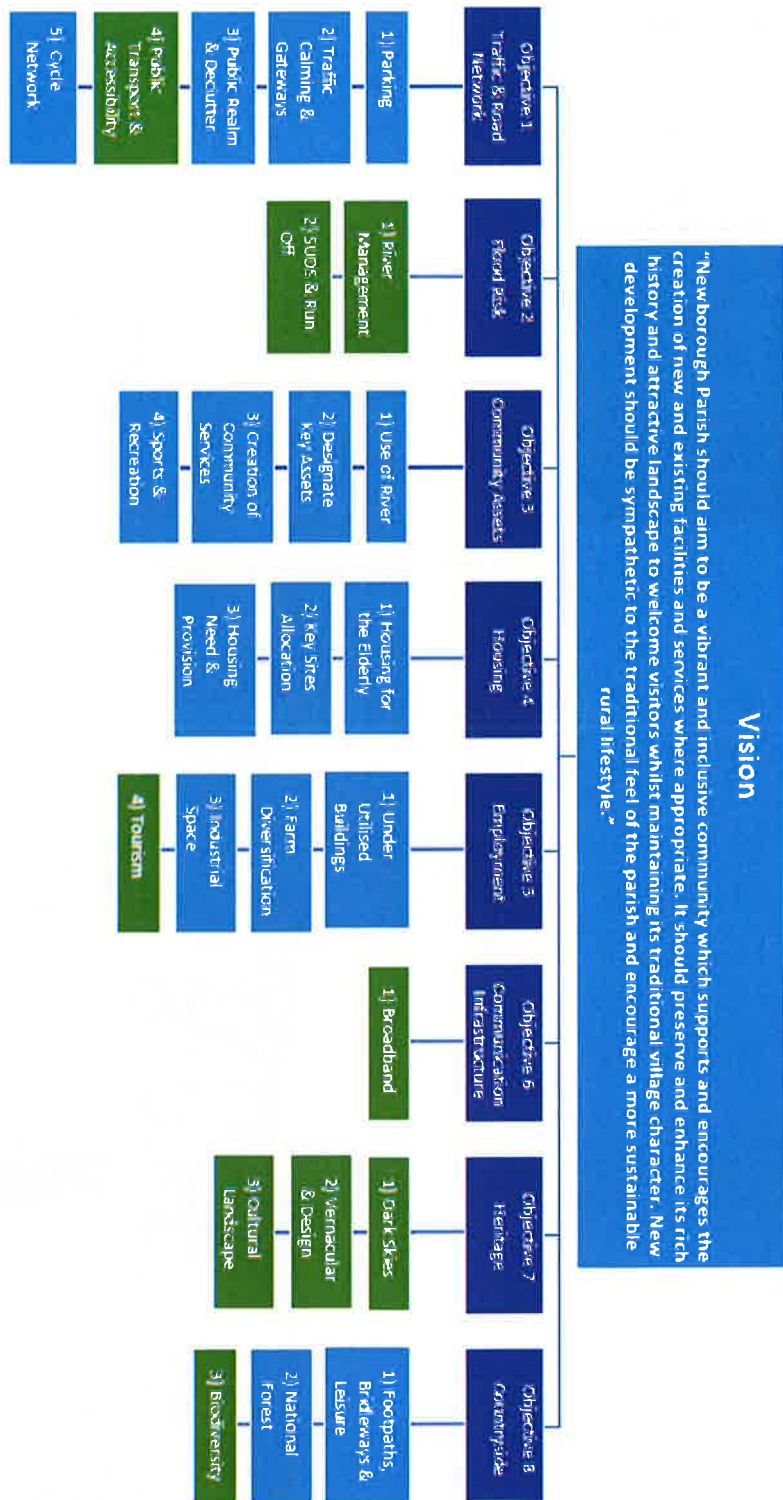
- 1) What is Development Management?
- 2) What is development?
- 3) The General Permitted Development Order
- 4) The Use Classes
- 5) What is a Planning Application?
- 6) Components of a Planning Application
- 7) Role of the Local Planning Authority
- 8) Councillors and Committees
- 9) Planning Conditions and Obligations
- 10) Planning Appeals
- 11) Tree Preservation Orders, Hedgerows, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings

7. Workshop 3 – Emerging Policies

- 7.1. This final of the three workshops sought to expand upon the key themes which had come forward within the previous sessions and develop them further in order to devise a list of emerging Neighbourhood Plan policies. The session also included activities to help pinpoint the community's views on issues such as design. The 'Cool Wall' used stock photos of different types of built structures and environments. The community was then asked to group these according within the categories 'Un-cool', Cool or Sub-zero'. The placement of a photo in one of these sections was to be justified using notes on post it notes. Results can be seen on the next page.



7.2. The result of this session was the Neighbourhood Plan Policy ‘Family Tree’ which was later used to set the structure of the first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan and its policies. See below:



8. Youth Workshop

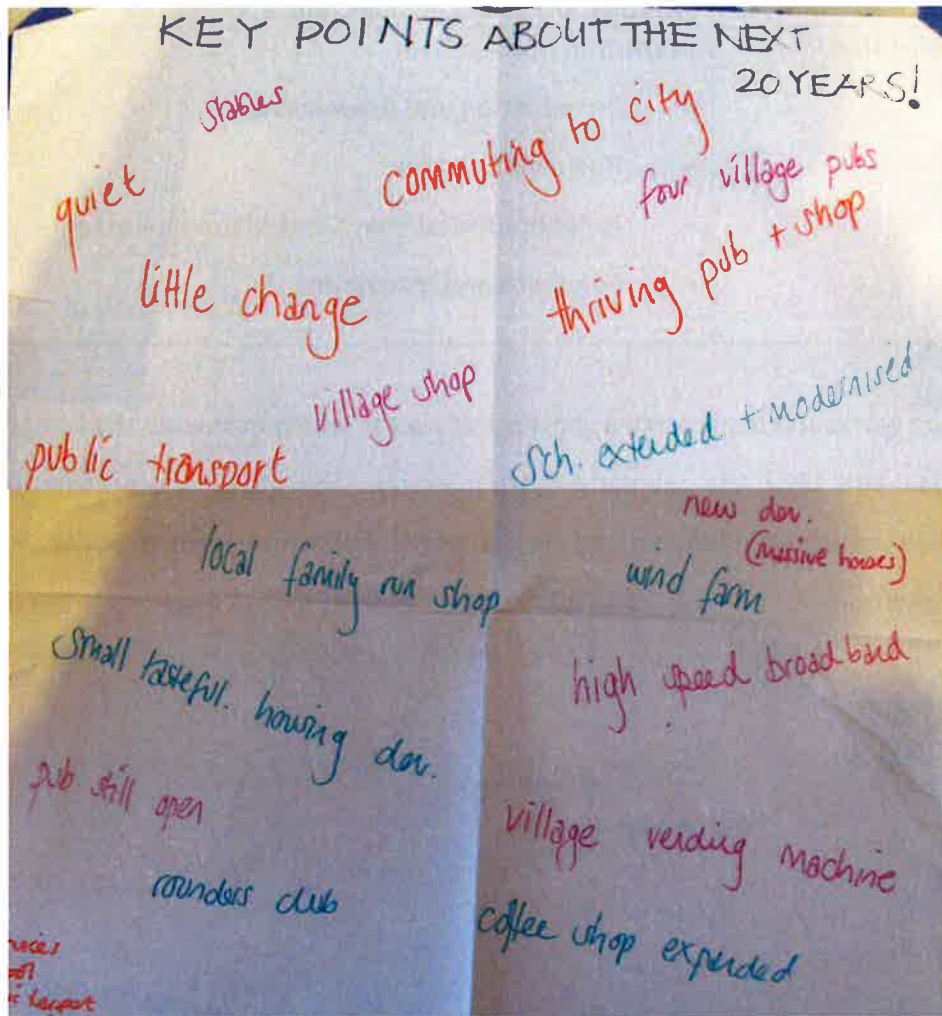
8.1. Teenagers and young adults are inherently difficult age group to reach when involving the community in the planning system. The project therefore targeted this age group with a special session held at the National Football Centre, St George's Park. The session included a tour of the grounds, which included the facilities and pitches used by the England team to train. We then ran a workshop which sought to find out the key issues the young people felt the Neighbourhood Plan should address and how they would like to see the parish shaped in the future.

Time	Activity
14.00	Meet in hotel
14.00 – 15.00	Welcome and tour of football centre
15.00 – 16.30	Workshop in classroom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction and Presentation • Postcard Exercise • Neighbourhood Plan Mind Mapping Posters • Feedback and Discussion

8.2. The workshop began with a short presentation which explained the role town planners play and how the planning system works. The group were then introduced to Neighbourhood Planning and how it works within the context of the wider planning system.



- 8.3. The first task for the group was to write postcards to their future selves describing what the village was like in 20 years. How it may have changed and what was still the same. There was a strong consensus that the rural character of the village was something they were keen to retain however, they would like the future Newborough to have some more shops and facilities and be better connected by public transport.
- 8.4. The second task involved discussing and prioritising key issues that the Neighbourhood Plan should address and how Newborough should be shaped over the next 20 years. Key words that arose included; larger coffee shop, small housing development, better broadband, public transport, more village pubs, thriving pub and shop and local farm shop.



- 8.5. The group then discussed how the Neighbourhood Plan might address these issues and which policies should be of priority. The following list of policies was devised:



- 1 - High speed internet and phone signal**
- 2 -Shop vending machine**
- 3 - Recreation facilities**
- 4 - Public transport**
- 5 - Maintaining the village character**

9. Well dressing

- 9.1. The Neighbourhood Plan project had a stall at Newborough's annual Well Dressing. The intention of this was to raise awareness of the project within the community, to provide an update on the project's progress and to feedback the findings from community events held to date.



10. Developing a draft Plan - workshop

10.1. The last of the community workshops before the draft Plan was produced was an important check and balance in the process. Policies were forming around the key issues which the community had brought forward and it was important to check that the consultant team had interpreted the community's views and wishes correctly. The community was split into five groups and in turn each dealt with one of the policy areas, Housing and Employment were split up as they were felt to need a little longer for discussion;

- **Strategic Policies**

SP1 – Sustainable development

SP2 – Rivers and Drainage

SP3 – Communications

SP4 – Heritage and Design

- **Housing and Employment**

HE1 – Employment and Tourism

HE2 – Housing Need and Provision

HE3 – Housing Distribution

HE4 – Farm Diversification

- **Community Assets**

CA1 – Community Facilities and Services

CA2 – Sports & Recreation

CA3 – Landscape and National Forest

- **Transport and Access**

TA1 – Public Transport

TA2 – Public Realm & Traffic Management

TA3 – Footpaths & Leisure Routes

TA4 – Parking

11. 8 week consultation

11.1. The initial consultation on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan commenced on the 21st January 2015 until 18th March 2015. The 8 week consultation began with a launch event which was held in Needwood Primary School. The launch event was widely publicised on the Parish Council's website, newsletters and noticeboards within the Parish. The launch event comprised of a series of exhibition boards which summarised Newborough Neighbourhood Plans vision, objectives and policies. The boards provided the opportunity for the community to assess each objective, vision and policies individually using a traffic light system. A green sticker was used for points the community agreed with, an orange sticker for if they agreed but had something to add and finally a red sticker where they disagreed. The board also provided space for additional written comments. An example of a board is shown below, however the full exhibition boards can be found in the appendix.

DRAFT NEWBOROUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN
PUBLIC CONSULTATION

STRATEGIC POLICIES

POLICY SP1 – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
The policy seeks to ensure future development is sustainable by linking it with relevant communications infrastructure, providing space to accommodate means of transport and using appropriate design. Additionally, the local bus route network and local heritage character should be protected and enhanced. New developments should not increase the risk of flooding. Finally, if the development increases traffic congestion this should be minimised and mitigated.

POLICY SP2 – RIVERS AND DRAINAGE
All new development must consider its impact on flooding from both surface run-off and the parish's rivers and water bodies. They must also demonstrate how they can reduce surface water runoff through Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems. Finally, the community supports developments which enhance the public's access to the river, particularly supporting community-led projects.

POLICY SP3 – COMMUNICATIONS
The policy seeks to improve broadband and mobile signals and to ensure new development considered potential increases in their usage. New communications infrastructure should consider its impact on the landscape, particularly areas which are highly visible from the Conservation Area or key viewpoints.

POLICY SP4 – HERITAGE AND DESIGN
All new development must be designed to a high quality and make a positive contribution to the parish's built environment. The design of new developments should make a positive contribution to the street scene, avoid clutter and use contemporary design. Finally, the policy seeks to ensure that the Conservation Area is preserved and enhanced.

Do you believe that the policy addresses sustainability appropriately?
Do you support the need to improve broadband and mobile signals?
Do you agree with the Neighbourhood Plan's approach to heritage and design?

ANY MORE COMMENTS? PLEASE USE THE POST-IT NOTES:

bpuD

11.2. At the launch event there was a feedback box which provided the opportunity for members of the community to provide written feedback on any part of the plan. Following this further written comments were both posted and emailed to BPUD. To assist this the Neighbourhood Plan was made readily available on the Parish Councils website for the entire consultation period.



11.3. Additionally, BPUD produced an online survey which assessed each policy individually. This provided the option for the community to select if they agreed or disagreed with the vision, objectives and policies and the option provide further written feedback where they felt appropriate.

11.4. Following the 8 week consultation, BPUD summarised the responses and provided options for the Steering Group to change the Draft Neighbourhood Plan accordingly. The full note is contained within the appendicies. The key concerns which were raised during this consultation period were;

- The level of development being supported within the plan and the impacts it would have on local character, the openness of the village and the Conservation Area.
- That the sites chosen were not supported by the some members of the community and there was significant concern about building behinds resident's houses.

- The feedback highlighted the need for affordable housing to be emphasised further within the plan, however others believed affordable housing was not needed with the Parish.
- The community also expressed concern relating to the impact development would have on local roads and services.
- Local residents were also concerned about the impact development would have on flood risk.
- The feedback also highlighted confusion regarding the Neighbourhood Plan, for example not understanding terminology and that housing policies do not lead to automatic approval of planning applications.

12. FAQs and Concerns Consultation

12.1. As a result of the confusion highlighted in the initial 8 week consultation BPUD and the Steering group decided the best approach would be to undertake a Frequently Asked Questions sessions. These were undertaken on Thursday 14th May 2015 at 7.30pm and Saturday 16th May 2015 and 1.30pm.



Newborough Neighbourhood Plan

Session 1 -
Discussing the Feedback from the Draft Plan consultation

Thursday 14th May 7.30pm

and

Saturday 16th May 1.30pm

Needwood School, Yoxall Road, Newborough

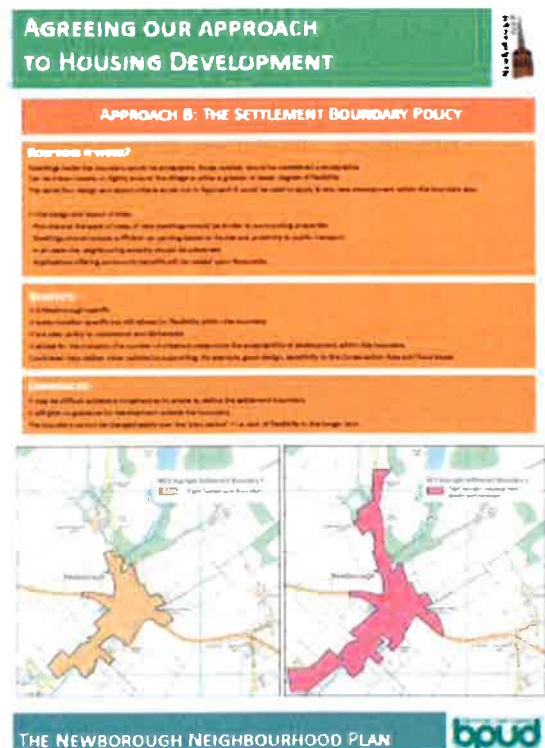
12.2. At these consultation events BPUD delivered a presentation which discussed all the frequently asked questions which arose from the 8 week consultation period and discussed any concerns which also arose. Furthermore, a summary sheet which summarised the FAQs and concerns was delivered to each property within the parish boundary. These are provided within the appendices.

13. Housing Strategy Consultation

13.1. The feedback from the initial 8 week consultation highlighted the housing policies to be of key concern to the local community. As a result the Steering Group and BPUD decided it would be most appropriate to re-consult on these policies to choose the best option. BPUD delivered an appraisal of 11 housing options which could be used within Newborough Neighbourhood Plan to the Steering Group. Following this the Steering Groups reflected on all the options and selected 3 preferred options which should be consulted on in-depth by the wider community.

13.2. The first preferred housing strategy was a criteria based policy which priorities infill sites or sites which are an extension to the linear form of the village or finally conversions of existing buildings. The second preferred policy was to introduce a settlements boundary whereby development within the boundary would be deemed acceptable and development outside it would be deemed unacceptable. Finally, the third option was a small sites policy, where 2 to 4 sites would be allocated within the village to meet the housing need.

13.3. The further housing strategy consultation was undertaken at Needwood Primary School on Thursday 25th June at 7.30pm and Saturday 4th July at 1.30pm. The consultation event commenced with a presentation from BPUD which outlined the 3 preferred options which the community needed to consider. The consultation was also facilitated with 3 exhibition boards which summarised the 3 policy options and identified key benefits and drawbacks, with relevant maps where appropriated.



- 13.4. At the event questionnaires were distributed for the community to choose their preferred option and whether they'd prefer a tighter or looser settlement boundary and finally to choose a preferred site for residential development. Following the consultation event the exhibition boards and questionnaires remained accessible at the local coffee shop. Furthermore the questionnaire was also delivered to each property within the parish and the residents were given three weeks from Monday 6th July 2015 to Friday 24th July 2015 to complete it. To provide additional convenience for local residents the questionnaire was also published online.
- 13.5. Following the consultation the steering group collated the results from the questionnaire. 144 people responded, of which 40% preferred the criteria based policy, 25% preferred the settlement boundary and a further 35% preferred the small sites policy. As a result of the consultation findings the criteria based policy has been carried forward and will be used in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

14. Regulation 14 Consultation

The Consultation

- 14.1. Following amendments to the plan based on the feedback from consultation over the summer of 2015, the 2nd draft Newborough Neighbourhood Plan was subjected to the statutory 6 weeks consultation as required by Regulation 14 of the *Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2014*. This was the second opportunity for the community and statutory consultees to see the plan as a whole including the necessary appendices and the new housing policies that had formed the focus of consultation over the past 8 months.
- 14.2. Regulation 14 consultation ran between 15th October 2015 and 26 November 2015 – a period of 6 weeks. A public consultation event was held on the 15th October 2015 which discussed the content of the plan and the nature of the changes made since following the feedback received. Details of how to comments were also included at this event. A copy of this presentation is included in the appendices.
- 14.3. The plan was hosted on the parish council's website and additional information and links were provided from the Borough Council's Neighbourhood Planning web-pages. A hard copy of the Neighbourhood Plan was available from the coffee shop in the centre of Newborough as well as being available from the parish clerk and steering group members. Electronic copies of the Neighbourhood Plan were sent to the statutory consultees with an invitation to respond.
- 14.4. In order to ensure that the community had the opportunity to respond easily, the consultation period was published using the Parish Council email system, as well as a letter drop to all homes within the Parish. The letter drop included details of how to comment as well as a short questionnaire. A copy of this questionnaire is included in the appendices. The questionnaire was also hosted online to allow members of the community to respond online.

The Responses

- 14.5. Overall 33 responses were received, as a mixture of questionnaires accompanied by written comments and formal written comments. These are fully detailed as part of

the appendices on a policy by policy basis. A full list of respondents and how they responded is included as a separate document to allow the LPA to complete their regulation 16 publicity.

- 14.6. The questionnaire results demonstrated overwhelming support for the policies as they were presented in the plan. In all but one instance (Policy HE1 Employment) there was over 75% support for the policy and its content. Many of the comments were very minor, and reflected matters of spelling or were points of clarification. There was also the necessarily to bring the plan in line with the changing strategic planning context, namely that the ESBC Local Plan was adopted in October 2015 whilst consultation was ongoing.
- 14.7. However, overall there were a number of more substantial matters which were highlighted and led to further changes to the plan.
- **Heritage Assets** – There was some concern from both the County Council and Historic England that the plan would likely negatively impact on a series of heritage assets. In the first instance this related to the fact that the plan made little or no reference to matters of below ground archaeology, historical landscape features or the role of historical farmsteads.
 - **The Northern Extension** – There were a number of concerns over the potential to extend development to the north along Hollybush Road. Members of the community were concerned that the limit was set too far north that the areas it covered would be unable to be accessed safely and that development in a ribbon fashion along this road would be visually unattractive. More importantly the County Council and Historic England were concerned that the linear development this far north would undermine the setting of the heritage assets, including Newborough Hall Farm.
 - **Restriction on Development to the east** – The plan includes an area to the east of Hollybush Road which was deemed unable to accommodate further development and as such a ban on development in this area was proposed. Many respondents failed to consider this as being justified and other felt that this restriction was unfair or sterilised some of the better development sites in the Parish. Others felt that a blanket ban was

too restrictive and some limited development (conversions, replacement etcetera) would be acceptable.

- **Public Transport** - Both ESBC and the County Council were concerned that a policy seeking improvements to the provision of public transport through new development was highly unrealistic given the numbers of new dwellings proposed.

14.8. As a result a number key changes were proposed to policies SP4 (Heritage and Design), HE3 (Location of Housing) and TA1 (Public Transport) as drafted. The latter policy was agreed by the steering group and parish Council to be removed as it could not be justified.

14.9. Changes to SP4 included substantial additions to the policy to include greater reference to a wider range of heritage assets including historic farmsteads and below ground archaeology. Discussions with the Historic Environment Officer at the County Council helped to identify relevant policy documents produced by the Borough, County and English Heritage (Now Historic England) which would aid in supporting the policies direction.

14.10. Changes to HE3 were more focused but included the following key changes:

- Retraction of the northern limits to development along Hollybush Road to avoid long linear expansion and to maintain the setting of the heritage assets
- Relaxation of the restrictions on land to the east of Yoxall Road to allow for conversions and replacement dwellings - it was considered that the loose townscape here was important (see note of meeting with the HEO)
- Reworking of the policy to ensure that it was simple to read and explicit in its goals.

14.11. It was clear that since there was overwhelming support for the plan, the Parish Council and Steering Group felt that comments and suggestions which would strengthen the policies or allow them to be more robustly defended would be accommodated. A response to each point raised, including those that were not acted upon, is included as part of the appendices to this document alongside a brief rationale for the decision.

14.12. The Parish Council signed off the changes to the plan on 7th March 2016.