



WHITTINGHAM, CALLALY & ALNHAM PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Dear Steering Group member,

Please find below the Minutes of the Meeting of the NP Steering Group on **Thursday 19th February 2026 at 7:00pm at Whittingham Memorial Hall.**

Present: Paul Bradley (PB), Neil Blackshaw (NB), Jacqui Pringle (JP), Charles Ashby (CA), Chris Breeze (CB), Sandra McCormack (SM), Stuart Knox (SK), Anton Hoogendoorn (AH), Damien Cruden (DC)

Apologies: David Bateson (DB)

1. Members of the Steering Group introduced themselves to the rest of the group
2. It was agreed by the group to use email communication of documents and for a WhatsApp group to be additionally set up to communicate that email communications had been sent. WhatsApp group to be set up **(PB)**
3. It was agreed that names of the Steering Group would be noted on the minutes for purposes of transparency.
4. It was agreed that minutes would be sent out after the meeting with action and action holders. A copy of the minutes and agenda would be sent to the WCA Parish Clerk for information and discussion at the scheduled Parish Council meetings.
5. It was agreed to ask Whittingham Memorial Hall committee if the 2nd and 4th Tuesday's were available for regular meetings. The preferred time being 7:30 to 9pm. **(PB)**
6. Neil Blackshaw provided an overview of what a Neighbourhood Plan is and how the Neighbourhood Plan would fit into the Northumberland Local Plan.
7. A brief discussion and overview of the SG meeting with David Biesterfield from Eglington was held. David was Chair of their local PC and involved in the development of their Neighbourhood Plan. It was generally agreed that the



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meeting had been worthwhile with some good advice and pointers.

8. A discussion was held on the first stages of Neighbourhood Plan process by all. The following actions were agreed:
 - a. To prioritise over the next meetings a Consultation with Parish residents.
 - b. A copy of the questionnaire used by Eglingham to be sent to all SG members. **(PB)**
 - c. A copy of the past WCA Consultation (March 2023) and results derived from it to be sent out to SG members for review. **(NB)**
 - d. There are 50 published Neighbourhood Plans on the NCC website. A number of these are to be reviewed to see how each initial Consultation was performed including questions, extent of initial consultation, method of communication etc. Each SG member to be allocated 2-3 existing NP's to review the initial Consultation and report back to the SG. **(PB)**
 - e. DC raised the possibility of including younger members of our community in the Consultation process. This was agreed to be worth investigating.
9. AH volunteered to develop an action plan for the NP process. This was gratefully accepted. **(AH)**
10. Date of next meeting Tuesday 10th March 2026 7:30pm, Memorial Hall