

Dear Resident

As you may be aware Thirston Parish Council are supporting the production of a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish of Thirston. There has been considerable debate in recent months about the extent and range of housing development across the whole of Northumberland. Every parish has been invited to submit its own Neighbourhood Plan which gives you the power to influence the development and growth of your local area; to choose where you want new homes, shops and offices to be built, have your say on what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided. A Neighbourhood Plan does not allow you to identify where you do not want development.

Several Thirston parishioners have formed as the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and have drafted the Vision & Objectives of the Plan. They would like to invite you to a drop-in public consultation session on the Neighbourhood Plan to give you, as residents, the opportunity to feedback on the draft Vision and Objectives and also to highlight issues you feel need addressing within the parish which may be possible to include in the Plan.

The public consultation sessions are to be held at:

Burgham Park Golf Club on Tuesday 3 July from 3.15pm until 7pm
Felton Village Hall, Coquet Room on Wednesday 4 July from 3.15pm until 7pm

If you are unable to make these sessions a display board with feedback forms will be available at The Gallery from Thursday 5 July until Thursday 12 July.

Alternatively fill in the form below and return to the Clerk at The Arches, Bockenfield, Nr Felton, Northumberland, NE65 9QJ

Name:

Email:

Home Address:

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Do you agree with:

Objective 1 YES/NO

Objective 2 YES/NO

Objective 3 YES/NO

Objective 4 YES/NO

Objective 5 YES/NO

If answered no to any of the above please give a reason for this:

What issues would you like to see addressed in the Neighbourhood Plan?

Vision and Objectives

THE VISION

Vision Statement:

It is important that Thirston Parish remains as a group of sustainable, vibrant, linked but distinct rural communities, protecting the rural environment of the Parish. However, the creation of a Strategic Road Network interchange, brought about by the anticipated dualling of the A1 Trunk Road, will create positive and negative opportunities for new residential and commercial development within the Parish. Our Vision, therefore, recognises and integrates that potential whilst conserving and enhancing the rich agricultural, architectural and environmental heritage that the Parish has for the benefit of its current and future residents.

Our vision for Thirston Parish is that we maintain the rural nature of our diverse small rural communities, recognising the architectural and environmental heritage that we enjoy, whilst embracing change that will enhance the lives of all parishioners.

THE OBJECTIVES

To deliver the Vision, five objectives have been developed.

The planning policies included within the Plan have been identified to deliver the Objectives.

Objective 1 – The Natural Environment

To conserve and enhance the peaceful, beautiful nature of the rural setting of the parish and to enable wildlife to continue to thrive in the open countryside.

Objective 2 - The Built Environment

To maintain and enhance the many heritage assets of the Parish whilst simultaneously ensuring that any new development conserves and respects the feel of buildings and places across the Parish.

Objective 3 – Vibrant and Thriving Communities

To build on the strong sense of community across the Parish by retaining and enhancing important community facilities and services;

Objective 4 – The Economy

To support the existing business developments and welcome new business ventures, recognising the importance of agricultural and tourist/leisure sectors as well as working from home enterprises.

Objective 5 – Movement and Connectivity

To support improvements to access within and from outside the parish by supporting safe road infrastructure and enhanced digital connectivity.