



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 **Tuesday 25th 2026 at 7:30pm** at **Whittingham Memorial Hall**.

Present: Paul Bradley (PB), Neil Blackshaw (NB), Jacqui Pringle (JP), Chris Breeze (CB), Karen Weech (KW), Stuart Knox (SK)

Apologies: Sandra McCormack (SMc), Charles Ashby (CA),

1. Apologies for absence received.
2. Minutes from previous meeting reviewed, updates:
 - **PB** has contacted Northumbrian Water to discuss capacity and recent works performed on Whittingham Treatment Works. Their website states it has been sized with population forecasts considered.
 - **KW** to contact Rural Housing Facilitator (CAN) to arrange meeting to discuss what assistance and guidance they could offer to the Steering Group. It was noted that CAN had been used to assist other Neighbourhood Plans in Northumberland.
3. **PB** provided an update on the draft survey. 35 surveys have been returned to date, proportionally the number broadly represent the populations of the three parishes. A broad range of views expressed. Steering Group members to remind people to respond. **All**
4. Discussion on arrangements for Survey Q&A sessions.
 - PB attended the Village Show – some discussions but light footfall
 - PB and KW attended Alnham on 22nd Aug 10-1pm. 2 people attended.
 - PB will attend the Whittingham session on 29th Aug 10-1pm. Assistance from other Steering Group members requested through the session. Facebook and meeting posters to be posted on Wednesday 26th. **PB**
5. A preliminary discussion was held as to the approaches held by Neighbourhood Plans and evidence and sources used. Discussion on data and survey results would drive any policy and settlement boundary options. A broad range of evidence had been used by a number of Neighbourhood Plans but fairly



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consistent in the types of evidence used. Some plans had performed a Housing Needs Assessment which was seen as a positive by Inspectors vs those who hadn't.

Research on Settlement Boundary approaches to be circulated to the group. **All**

A list of suggested evidence sources to be investigated in terms of Whittingham (classed as a Small Village) would be prepared based upon today's SG meeting feedback. **PB**

6. **NB** provided an appraisal on updates to the Local Plan (LP) and recently released National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Until now Whittingham has not had a required house building requirement but looking increasingly that all settlements may be allocated a number. The LP and NPPF to be reviewed routinely for updates. **NB**

7. Date of next meeting 8th September 2026, Whittingham Memorial Hall, 7.30pm.