



Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Plan Takes Shape

We are now working on writing the Plan. Our consultant Hannah is helping us by drafting the all-important Plan Policies which will guide decisions on planning applications and the development of our Neighbourhood Area.

The Overarching Aim

The overarching aim for the Neighbourhood Plan is to protect the rural character of our Neighbourhood Area while allowing for appropriate development.

The Plan Policies will guide the parish councils and the planners in evaluating planning applications and making decisions on them. They will help to ensure the right kind of development which is appropriate for our rural area and beneficial to the community. They will help to ensure that all development is accompanied by the necessary infrastructure, and they will help to protect important habitats and other features of our Neighbourhood Area that contribute to its rural character.

Village Design Statements

Under the terms of the grant that we receive from the government we are now receiving technical assistance to create Village Design Statements for the Neighbourhood Area. These will review the character of our settlements within their landscape setting and set out principles to guide new development. With the Plan Policies, they will contribute to the overall aim of protecting rural character while allowing for appropriate development.

Local Green Space Audit

We have been carrying out a Local Green Space Audit. Although we are fortunate to be surrounded by green space, it is almost all privately owned and is either intensively farmed or managed woodland. There is very little green space that we can call our own.

The Local Green Space Audit records green spaces that “belong” to the community, such as the Whitmore playing field and Chapel Chorlton village green, as well as many small green areas here and there, such as grass triangles and verges, that contribute to the overall character of our Neighbourhood or that provide safe places for us to walk.

In due course the Local Green Space Audit will be presented for consultation by the community. This will be your opportunity to comment on it.

Local Consultation on the Plan

The next big milestone for the Neighbourhood Plan will be the Local Consultation, which we hope will take place in the autumn. At this stage the Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan and Policies will be presented to the community for comment.

We hope that as many people as possible will take part in the Local Consultation and provide feedback on the Plan.

The Local Consultation is also important for another reason, because at that stage the Plan and its Policies will start to have influence on decisions on planning applications.

After the Local Consultation all comments received from the community will be reviewed and decisions will be made about whether any parts of the Plan need to be changed. The Plan will then be ready for submission to Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council. We will then be one stage closer to the all-important Referendum.

It's your neighbourhood – please support the Neighbourhood Plan!

Please participate in the Local Consultation

Visit the website: www.cmaw-neighbourhoodplan.org.uk

Email us: cmaw-neighbourhoodplan@hotmail.com