



Neighbourhood Development Plan The Independent Examination

We are happy to report that the Independent Examination of the Neighbourhood Plan is now under way, having commenced on Monday 15th July. We are pleased to have Christopher Collison BA(Hons) MBA MRTPI MIED MCMI IHBC as the Examiner. Mr Collison is a very experienced examiner of neighbourhood plans and previously examined the Loggerheads Neighbourhood Plan. He will assess whether the Plan meets the "Basic Conditions", and he may recommend making some modifications to the Plan, if he deems these to be appropriate.

All documents relating to the examination can be accessed and viewed on the Neighbourhood Planning pages of the Borough Council's website (<https://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/all-services/planning/planning-policy/neighbourhood-planning>).

During the course of the examination Mr Collison will make an unaccompanied visit to our three parishes.

The Examiner expects to issue a draft report to the Borough Council and Whitmore Parish Council (the "lead" parish council) some time in August, for the purpose of fact checking.

After the Examiner's final report has been issued, the Borough Council and the parish councils will review his comments and come to a joint decision about accepting and implementing any modifications that he has recommended.

After four years of working and waiting, we can at last look forward to having the local referendum in the near future. Once our Neighbourhood Plan has passed referendum, a set of policies tailored to our own local area and its needs will guide the parish councils and local residents in responding to planning applications. The Borough Council will also refer to those policies when it makes planning decisions. Our communities will be able to have greater certainty about planning applications in the Neighbourhood Area, relying on the policies of the Plan to protect the natural environment and the character of our settlements, and to guide the size, location and design of any new development.

**It's your neighbourhood – please support the Neighbourhood Plan!
Please turn out to vote in the Local Referendum – apply for a postal vote
if you will be away on holiday or business!!!**

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

Email us: cmaw-neighbourhoodplan@hotmail.com