



## LESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 60

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### Residents Neighbourhood Development Plan report 8

It is some time since our last public consultation meeting, but we have been very busy working on the plan. Much of the writing of the first draft of the plan has been completed and quite a bit of the technical research work we need to do is finished.

In view of the announcement made by Northumberland Estates about the wish to support Lesbury, we are looking forward to meeting with their representatives to look at the proposals we have put together using your views, ideas and aspirations. Our consultation shows that as a Parish we are not against development but we are not in favour of current proposals.

After that discussion, the planning department at Northumberland County Council will help us to create landscape plans of the Parish based on your vision for the future.

Once this work is complete, we will hold a consultation event so that you can see the final draft of the Neighbourhood Development Plan and related drawings. It will be your opportunity to make any final adjustments to the plan before it is sent off for outside scrutiny.

The process it goes through is very rigorous because we have to be certain that we are producing a plan that reflects your views of the Parish and its future before it becomes a legal document. We have summarised the outcomes of consultation at each stage, but thought it would be helpful to set out briefly the main ideas you have brought forward.

You are proud of the fact that **Alnmouth for Alnwick Station** is the 'Gateway to North Northumberland' and want to see improvements made at the station that reflect the importance of this resource which is central to the success of Tourism in the area. The idea



of a business hub and visitors centre to welcome people and introduce them to the many attractions we have to offer is very appealing.

You would like to see **small-scale housing development** in the Parish to preserve the beauty of this rural community and to provide enough houses of the right sort for the community as it grows. A community led housing scheme to achieve this is popular.

You enjoy having the Church, pub, Post Office and the Village Hall we are refurbishing and see them as continuing to make a strong contribution to the Parish as it grows. Adding a café in the centre of the village and a leisure centre near school are high on the 'wish-list'.

You greatly value the **school** and see it as essential to sustaining a vibrant community. There are many talented people in the community who could support the school and help to provide a wide range of leisure activities for people within the Parish.

You would like to see the **Parish landscaped, historical sites and walk ways** sensitively sign posted to blend in with the beauty of the countryside and you would like to have well-maintained and accessible green-spaces, possibly an orchard and play areas for the young.

Replacing the current **footbridge across the Aln** to make it accessible to all is a high priority.

You want **green spaces with trees, seats, cycle trails and walkways** so that you can enjoy the spectacular scenery of the Parish at your own pace and in your own way. You want to enhance what we have by reintroducing the red squirrel, protecting the Barn Owls and Bats and introducing a bird hide to observe the many species of birds that cross our shores.

**Overall, you want to see Lesbury Parish grow and improve at a slow and steady pace that maintains its current strengths, makes improvements that meet your needs for housing, transport and leisure and is sustainable for future generations.**

## Other Parish matters

### New benches



We are very grateful to Billy McNight, Mick McMahon and Paul Taylor who have cleared land and fitted two new benches that were donated to the Parish. The new benches are on the footpath by the Aln, they are between the Steppey Lane Bridge and the drainage pipe.

And finally..... If you happen to be near the old Lesbury Bridge on the 5<sup>th</sup> September between 10 and 11am you might like to join Councillor Kym Bradshaw who is meeting with officials to discuss water pollution in the Aln.

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**Parish Council Chairperson:** Douglas Hunter - 07903243362

**Parish Councillors;** Kym Bradshaw – 833292, Peter Cossins – 830597, Sir John Hall – 830146, Jean Humphrys – 07906146163, Dave Knowles, Vice Chairperson – 830467, Jane Norris - 830244, Adrian Vass – 830134.

**Parish Council meetings** are usually held in Lesbury Village Hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. All residents are welcome to attend.