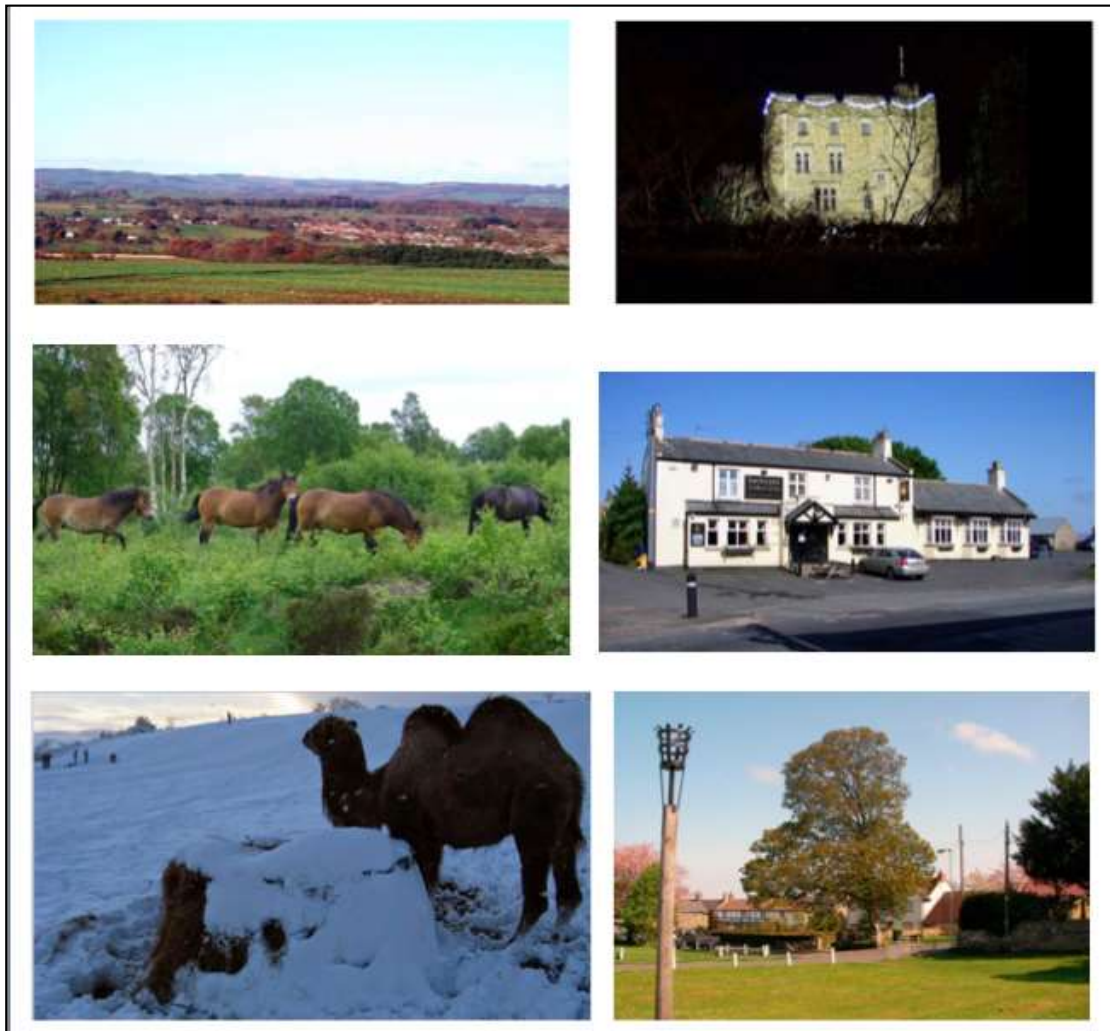


LONGHORSLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2017 – 2031

Referendum Plan ~~xxxxxx~~ 2018



The Shape of Things to Come

Foreword

This Neighbourhood Plan provides an opportunity for us all to put localism into action, bringing forward a positive vision for our Parish which can be realised through our direct involvement in the decision-making process. Over the last few years the village of Longhorsley has seen a number of significant changes and more are planned in the near future. It is vital that we are able to influence outcomes at a local level, where their impacts are felt.

Our gratitude must go to parish councillors, our independent consultant and the team within Northumberland County Council planning department for their tireless work in bringing this plan forward. The Parish Council has led the way throughout the process but it is people from the local area who have determined what has gone into making this Neighbourhood Plan, through a number of consultations and local events.

The Neighbourhood Plan aims to make sure that developments already planned for and those yet to come are truly sustainable and that the unique characteristics of the village and the countryside are protected from any unwarranted harm.

The original impetus for the plan came as a result of concern expressed by the people of the Parish over some specific proposed developments. The Parish Council took on the task of producing the plan and formed a Steering Group to lead all of the activities. However, we have been diligent in ensuring that we have remained true to the wishes of our parishioners, consulting them at every stage of the project.

We now have a set of policies which should allow homes and businesses to be built and expand in accordance with local needs and aspirations but respecting everything that is special about our environment.

Iain Elliott
(Chairman of Longhorsley Parish Council)

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SECTION 1 – Setting the scene

1.1. The Neighbourhood Plan

1.1.1. Neighbourhood planning is a right for communities introduced through the Localism Act of 2011. Communities can shape development in their areas through the production of neighbourhood development plans.

1.1.2. A neighbourhood development plan sets out a vision for an area and planning policies for the use and development of land. It will form part of the statutory planning framework for the area, and the policies and proposals contained within it will be used in the determination of planning applications.

1.1.3. A neighbourhood development plan has to support the strategic development needs of the wider area outlined in the local development plan, in this case, for Northumberland. However it can shape and influence where that development will go and what it will look like.

1.1.4. A town or parish council can prepare a neighbourhood development plan in their area. The Longhorsley Parish Council (LPC) formally submitted a neighbourhood area designation application to the local planning authority, including the proposed boundary of the neighbourhood area. Northumberland County Council publicised the application for six weeks and invited comments. The Longhorsley Neighbourhood Area was designated on the 30th September 2014, at which point LPC were able to start preparing this Plan. The map in Figure 1 below shows the boundary of the Neighbourhood Area for the Longhorsley Neighbourhood Plan (LNP), which reflects the administrative boundary of Longhorsley Parish (the “Parish”). A larger map is provided at Annex A.2, click [here](#) to view that map.



Figure 1 – Longhorsley Neighbourhood Area

1.1.5. As part of the planning process LPC must engage the community, notify statutory consultees and build an evidence base to justify the eventual policies and proposals. The preparation stage must include a six week consultation period to publicise the proposals and consider responses.

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1.1.6. Following the six weeks consultation by the Parish Council, modifications were made to the Draft Plan taking account of responses made on the original Draft Plan. The modified Plan was subsequently submitted to the County Council. A further six week period of publicity was undertaken by the County Council prior to an independent examination of the Draft Plan being completed.

1.1.7. The Plan has now passed independent examination. The Examiner recommended that a number of changes were made to policies in the Plan. These modifications have been accepted by the Parish Council and the County Council. This version of the Plan incorporates the modifications recommended following independent examination.

1.1.8 The County Council will now organise a referendum. A majority of those people who vote must support the Plan if it is to be 'made' (brought into legal force) by the local planning authority. If the Plan is supported at referendum it will then become part of the statutory development plan for the area.

1.2. Longhorsley Neighbourhood Plan

1.2.1. Concerns about the impact of potential housing developments in the village were raised by parishioners at the Annual Parish Meeting in May 2013. Further concerns about the interpretation and implementation of planning policies governing development in the area were also identified through the consultation process for the Northumberland Local Plan and in the feedback to some planning applications.

1.2.2. The Parish Council agreed that these and other matters could benefit from locally defined policies and began to consider the options for developing a neighbourhood plan for Longhorsley. The plan-making process was formally launched with the setting up of the steering group in June 2014, and issues for action were identified by the local community during engagement and consultation events. These, in turn were developed into a vision and objectives which were verified with the community.

1.2.3. The overall objective of the Longhorsley Neighbourhood Plan is to establish a sustainable plan for the future of Longhorsley, including policies and proposals to manage land use and development in the period from 2017 to 2031 and to deliver the community vision for the Parish.

1.2.4. Since April 2011 106 dwellings have been completed or approved in Longhorsley Parish representing a 27.8% increase in the number of dwellings in Longhorsley Parish. If small, windfall developments continue at their historic rate we can expect an additional 18 dwellings in the planning period making a total of 124 new dwellings which equates to a 32.5% increase. The LNP will seek to ensure that further development is at a more sustainable level.

1.2.5. Whilst sustainable housing development, within the Settlement Boundary, is at the heart of the Plan it also provides policies which address other locally specific issues and opportunities, including conservation of the environment and our heritage and the continued support for diversification and growth of local businesses.

1.2.6. Neighbourhood plans are not able to address all of the issues raised by the local community during the consultation process. The Community Action Proposals (CAP) is the vehicle through which the Parish Council is able to address these other issues. Many of the issues and the activities to be put into place to address them are closely aligned and supportive of the LNP itself and, therefore, the CAP for Longhorsley is included at Annex B and cross-referenced in the main body of the Plan.

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1.3. Context

1.3.1. Currently, the statutory development plan for the Longhorsley Neighbourhood Area, comprises the saved policies from the Castle Morpeth District Local Plan (CMDLP) adopted in 2003; and saved Policy S5 of the Northumberland County and National Park Joint Structure Plan (2005) (the Joint Structure Plan) which creates an extension of the Tyne & Wear Strategic Green Belt around Morpeth which affects the majority of the Parish. The CMDLP is considered to be out of date in some respects and does not provide a wholly appropriate strategic context for an up-to-date neighbourhood plan. The Neighbourhood Plan has now been examined against the strategic policies in the CMDLP and the Joint Structure Plan and, subject to the modifications made to the Plan following the examination, the Plan has been found to be in generally conformity.

1.3.2. Northumberland County Council is currently preparing a new Northumberland Local Plan, which will establish the strategic planning policies covering the county until 2036. This new Local Plan is expected to be adopted during 2020.

1.3.3. The LNP has been prepared in parallel with the preparation process for the Northumberland Local Plan. It is being submitted ahead of adoption of the emerging Local Plan in order to facilitate plan-led development within the Longhorsley Neighbourhood Area, but with the intent that, as far as possible, it will align with the emerging Local Plan in due course.

1.3.4. The Green Belt for Northumberland is described in saved Policy S5 of the Joint Structure Plan which states that an extension to the Green Belt will lie “*North of Longhorsley*” and that “*Precise boundaries, including those around settlements, should be defined in Local Plans*”. The emerging Northumberland Local Plan will define the boundary of the extended Green Belt and any inset boundaries for settlements within the Green Belt.

1.3.5. A full analysis of the alignment of the Neighbourhood Plan with the saved policies from the Castle Morpeth District Local Plan (2003) is provided in the Basic Conditions Report accompanying this Plan. The Basic Conditions Report also describes in detail the compliance of the Plan with national policy and guidance which provides the national strategic context for the Plan.

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1.4. Consultation Process

1.4.1. There have been several stages of consultation leading to the production of the Plan. The headline summary and timeline of the consultations is as follows;

- Consultation 1 – 18th October 2014 – drop in sessions to capture parish views on the key planning issues. Feedback was issued back out to the parish in November 2014.
- Consultation 2 – March 2015 – A questionnaire was issued to youth groups to involve them more in the process. At the same time an application (Commonplace) was used to capture some specific feedback on particular places in the Parish.
- Consultation 3 – June 2016 – A flyer was distributed around the parish which summarised the issues identified to that point and proposed the vision and objectives for the plan which had been derived from the previous consultations. The flyer also sought verification of the findings and provided an opportunity to enhance them.
- Consultation 4 – February 2017 – A briefing note was distributed throughout the Parish which set out the proposed scope of the plan, the options the steering group proposed to put forward and the key points which could go into the draft Neighbourhood Plan. Feedback was gathered via on line and paper forms as well as via two drop in sessions on the 22nd of February. The feedback was analysed, actioned and communicated back to the Parish via paper and on line formats.
- Consultation 5 – June and July 2017 – Formal consultation on the pre-submission draft Longhorsley Neighbourhood Plan took place for a period of six weeks. The major face to face opportunity to review and feedback on the pre-submission draft Plan was at the Longhorsley Village Day on the 15th July 2017.

1.4.2. These opportunities demonstrate that the Plan has been prepared giving the local community, as well as the statutory and other bodies involved at consultation 5, a real opportunity to participate and that contributions received have been used to form and shape the Plan. A detailed description of each of the above consultations, feedback received and how this was actioned is presented in the Consultation Statement which accompanies the Plan.

1.5. Overview of Longhorsley

1.5.1. Longhorsley is a rural Northumberland parish comprising the village settlement itself, with a number of outlying dwellings and farmsteads. The Stone Age, Iron Age and Roman artefacts found within the Parish are an indication of its ancient past. The Parish itself was little changed from early 19th century maps until the 1950s. In 1950 a new water and sewage system was completed. From the 1950s onwards the Parish has seen several periods of rapid growth which have caused the people of the Parish to question the sustainability of growth at the same or a similar pace.

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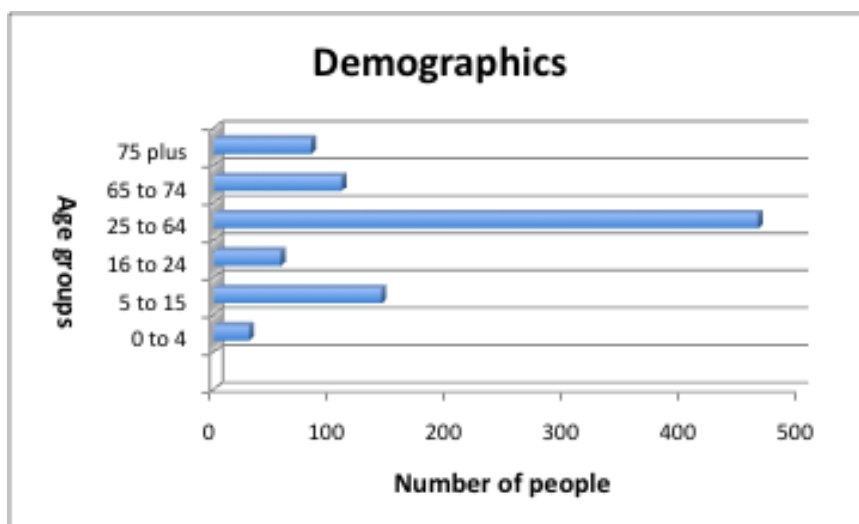
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1.5.2. The Parish is rural with a typical Northumberland village at its heart. The core of the village is a conservation area designated in 1987 (see the map at figure 2 below).



Figure 2 – Longhorsley Conservation Area
(The area delimited by, and cross hatched with, blue lines)

1.5.3. The Neighbourhood Area is 243 sq. km and, as at the 2011 Census, had a population of 887 living in 381 households. The age distribution in Longhorsley is shown below:



Graph 1 – Longhorsley demographics

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1.5.4. Although the Parish is rural in nature, only 5% of the population works in the agriculture and fisheries sector. Over half of the population works in the Professional or Technical and Professional sectors. Most, therefore, work outside of the immediate community and 80% of them rely on their own automotive forms of transportation, with only just over 4% able to use public transportation to get them to work and back. There were 10% who worked from home at the time of the 2011 census. This figure is expected to rise as the networking capability within the village has improved in recent years and it is an aim of the Parish Council to continue to promote and support this trend.

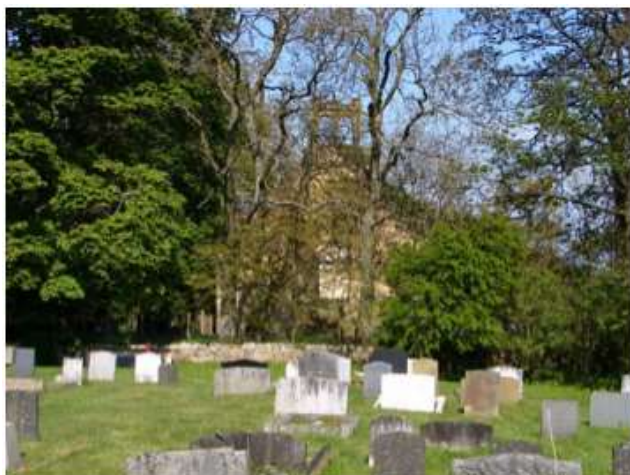
1.5.5. It can be seen from the age demographics that there is a significant migration from the village at two points in the age scale. Many of those between the ages of 16 and 24 move on to study elsewhere. Longhorsley has a higher than the national average median age and more people over the age of 65 but, in this age group, there is also a “defensive” migration from the village to service towns such as Morpeth where services are more easily accessed, in line with national trends.

1.5.6. As one drives North and West through the Parish the skyline is dominated by the Cheviots and their rolling foothills. To the East are wild moorlands and views over the North East coast, and to the South more rolling hills and the Longhorsley Moor, which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The built landscape of the village itself is broken everywhere by trees, shrubs and green spaces, a number of which have been developed and nurtured by the community to create special places for walking and other recreation, such as:

Archie's Pond



Old Church Wood



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1.5.7. The Parish contains a number of commercial outlets providing local jobs and investment to the local economy. The largest and most diverse of these is the hotel, spa and golf centre at Linden Hall (see image below). The Hall provides recreation and employment for local people as well as attracting a number of tourists to the area. There are a number of tourist-based small and medium sized businesses in the Parish, mostly situated on farmsteads. In addition there are services provided by the village pub (The Shoulder of Mutton), a grocery shop, a garage, a landscape gardener, a garden nursery and a hairdresser.



1.5.8. There is a strong sense of community in the Parish, with around 23 active groups, 12 of which use the Village Hall, and three churches in the centre of the village. The annual village day event typically has over 450 people attending, most of whom are local.

1.6. Issues to be addressed

1.6.1. The consultation events have identified a number of issues for the Parish Council to follow up. Those which have been carried forward into the LNP and, where appropriate the CAP, have been summarized and agreed with the community as:

- How can we ensure future development takes place in a sustainable way in the Parish?
- How can we conserve the heritage of the Parish whilst looking to the future?
- What does our community and local business need to be healthy and vibrant?
- Can we improve IT communications for our village?
- In what ways should we respond to the needs of all ages of our community?
- How can we work towards safer roads and better transport for our Parish?

1.6.2. These issues have in turn driven the vision and objectives articulated in this Plan and these have also been played back to and agreed with the population of the Parish.

SECTION 2 – A Vision for Longhorsley

2.1. Vision Statement

2.1.1. The vision statement and the core objectives in this section were developed with input from the community through a series of community engagements. They respond to the issues identified by the community as matters of concern for the Plan to deal with. They form the foundation of the Plan.

The vision for Longhorsley Parish is to sustain our thriving and active community, whilst protecting the beauty and heritage of our built and natural landscape.

2.2. Objectives

Objective 1 - To outline levels of housing development across the Parish to contribute to local housing needs, whilst protecting the Green Belt and environmental beauty of our area

Objective 2 - To conserve or enhance the landscape setting, biodiversity and heritage of the Parish and village

Objective 3 - To support and encourage local business to thrive

Objective 4 - To support and protect our key community facilities

Objective 5 - To work with Northumberland County Council to provide safer roads and footpaths for better transport for the Parish

3. Definition of Our Development Strategy

3.1. Definition of Strategy

3.1.1. This section defines the strategy for the LNP which, in turn, provides a positive framework to achieve sustainable development sought in national planning policy.

3.1.2. The LNP and the policies it contains are both a response to development pressures of the past and a way forward which provides for sustainable growth, supports business development and conserves and protects the Parish and the wishes and safety of its people.

3.1.3. Following the significant expansion of Longhorsley village the planning strategy for Longhorsley as set out in the CMDLP at saved policies C1 and LHC1 was to limit new residential development to those sites already identified for development so as to obtain a period of less rapid growth. The CMDLP also supported small scale local employment development. To that end the CMDLP defined a settlement boundary for the village within which development would be permitted but adopted a strategy of restricted development outside the settlement boundary.

3.1.4. Policy S5 of the Joint Structure Plan extends the Green Belt around Morpeth to extend north of Longhorsley. Precise boundaries, including those around settlements such as Longhorsley, were left to be defined in Local Plans having particular regard to the role of the Green Belt around Morpeth. This work was not completed for Longhorsley, by the former Castle Morpeth Borough Council, before local government reorganisation. The work to precisely define the outer Green Belt boundary in the Parish and the boundary to inset Longhorsley from the Green Belt is now being progressed through the emerging Northumberland Local Plan.

3.1.5 The Green Belt is a strategic policy matter and the Neighbourhood Plan cannot itself define Green Belt boundaries. However in preparing the Plan the Parish Council and its plan steering group have worked with the County Council and participated in discussions regarding the definition of Green Belt boundaries through the new Northumberland Local Plan. Definition of these boundaries will have a significant bearing on the development strategy for the village and Parish in the future.

3.1.6. Until the emerging Northumberland Local Plan is adopted precise Green Belt boundaries will not be defined. However, it is expected that Green Belt policy created through policy S5 of the Joint Structure Plan will apply in areas of open countryside south of Longhorsley village. In the meantime and based on the community's wishes, following a period of rapid growth, the development strategy proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan is, broadly, to return to that established in the CMDLP of managing development and seeking a smaller and more incremental scale of growth, with development largely contained within a settlement boundary and closely controlled in the wider countryside.

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3.1.7 The strategy for the Longhorsley Neighbourhood Plan is therefore;

- Plan for the quality implementation of the existing permitted sites and delivery of the windfall developments
- Define the Settlement Boundary, distinguishing Longhorsley from open countryside and the Green Belt, which should be protected for their intrinsic character and beauty
- Plan for the sustainable growth of the Parish beyond existing permitted developments focussing the majority of development within the settlement boundary
- Define policies to manage and guide development whether it be within the Settlement Boundary, the open countryside or the Green Belt

SECTION 4 – Introduction to Planning Policies

4.1. Introduction

4.1.1. To provide a clear basis for decisions on land use planning applications in Longhorsley Parish, the policies in this Plan set out the types of development that will and will not be supported. As required by paragraph 154 of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the policies are aspirational but realistic and reflect the unique characteristics and context of the Neighbourhood Area.

4.1.2. The adopted Local Plan that covers the Neighbourhood Area is the Castle Morpeth District Local Plan. During the period of developing the plan the County Council was in the process of preparing of a new Local Plan. Given uncertainty over the final policies this would adopt, the Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to be in general conformity with the saved strategic policies of the CMDLP.

4.1.3. Individually and taken as a whole, the policies of the Plan are in conformity with national and local policy by promoting sustainable development. They have a clear and strong focus on preserving and enhancing the nature and character of the Neighbourhood Area and promoting appropriate and sensitive growth which respects and takes account of the Parish's distinctive and special character. Applicants and decision-makers must take all relevant policies into account.

4.2. List of policies.

4.2.1. The policies are set out in seven “topic areas” and are listed below

- Development Policies LNP1, LNP2 and LNP3 which set out the fundamental approach to development within the Parish
- Design Policy LNP4, which lays out the features of good design most relevant to the Parish
- Sustainable Housing Policies LNP5, LNP6 and LNP7 ~~and~~ which cover the amount, location and type of sustainable housing development.
- Supporting Business Policies LNP8
- Supporting Community Facilities Policies LNP9, LNP10 and LNP11
- Conservation Policies LNP12, LNP13, LNP14, LNP15, LNP16, LNP17 and LNP18
- Safer Movement Policies LNP19 and LNP20

4.2.2. The policies, the reason they have been prepared, the intention behind them and the evidence and references to support them are set out below.

SECTION 5. Development Policies

5.1. Development Policies Context

5.1.1. The core planning principles as set out in the NPPF include allocating sufficient land suitable for development and recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it. Consistent with this and the associated need to support sustainable development, including support for sustainable growth and expansion of business and enterprise in the Parish, the intention of policies LNP1, LNP2 and LNP3 is to enable new development in the Parish, while avoiding adverse impact on valued characteristics of the Neighbourhood Area in particular the need to conserve and enhance the countryside.

5.2 Development Policies Evidence and References

5.2.1. Supporting evidence and references for these policies can be found in:

- The Northumberland County and National Park Joint Structure Plan, policy S5
- CMDLP, particularly policies C1, C16, C17, C26, LHC1, LHC2 and LHC4
- Northumberland Public Access (August 2017)
- Northumberland Knowledge 2011 Census Ward Fact Sheet
- Longhorsley Housing Technical Report (August 2017)

5.3. Development Policies Objectives

5.3.1. Policies LNP1, LNP2 and LNP3 support the following key objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan:

- **Objective 1** - To outline levels of housing development across the Parish to contribute to local housing needs, whilst protecting the green belt and environmental beauty of our area
- **Objective 2** - To conserve or enhance the landscape setting, biodiversity and heritage of the Parish and village
- **Objective 3** - To support and encourage local business to thrive

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5.4. Policy LNP1 – Development within the Settlement Boundary

5.4.1. It is open to the LNP to define a Settlement Boundary. Since the Settlement Boundary was first defined in the CMDLP further development proposals on both the Shoulder of Mutton site and the Wilding Place site have been approved and the LNP, in proposing the new Settlement Boundary, has included the planning permissions for development on these sites.

5.4.2. The proposed Settlement Boundary for Longhorsley is defined on the Policies Map. This has been widely consulted upon and has received strong support. The Settlement Boundary has been prepared on the basis of discussions between the LPC and NCC. The Settlement Boundary is aligned with the evidence in the “Housing Technical Report” of August 2017. Feedback received throughout all of the consultation stages has supported sustainable growth, with the proviso that the natural and built environments are conserved, existing inhabitants are not unduly impacted and that the new buildings are consistent with the quality, look and feel of the existing landscape. Accordingly, Policy LNP1 seeks to focus future development on the village of Longhorsley and Policy LNP2 allows sustainable development outside the Settlement Boundary by exception.

5.4.3. The Plan proposes that developments allowed within the Settlement Boundary, after the current large sites are built, will be small-scale. Policy LNP1 requires development to be in keeping with the character of the local area.

5.4.4. The Plan also proposes that developments to be permitted within Longhorsley Parish will typically be for: housing, including affordable housing; local business development (including tourism); infrastructure associated with leisure and recreational pursuits; and social, community and educational facilities. Policies LNP1 and LNP2 specify the criteria under which such development will be permitted.

LNP1 – Development within the Settlement Boundary

New development will be concentrated within the Longhorsley village Settlement Boundary defined on the Policies Map.

New development within the Settlement Boundary, including the redevelopment of previously developed land, will be supported where it is for:

- a) new dwellings, either on allocated sites or which comprise generally development of no more than 5 dwellings or a site not exceeding 0.2 hectares, unless evidence can be provided to support a larger scheme; or
- b) the sustainable growth and expansion of local business and enterprises; or
- c) the maintenance or development of community facilities.

5.5. Policy LNP2 – Development in open countryside

5.5.1. Outside of the Settlement Boundary, the Plan proposes that new developments will be by exception and will need to meet the NPPF conditions for developments in the countryside, “*recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and supporting thriving rural communities within it*”. Policy LNP2 provides support for those exceptional cases which would promote our thriving rural community.

LNP2 – Development in the open countryside

In the open countryside outside the Settlement Boundary, and outside the general extent of the Green Belt extension as defined by Joint Structure Plan Policy S5, development will only be supported where it:

- a) promotes sustainable business, including the development and diversification of agricultural and other land based rural businesses in the Parish; or
- b) supports sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments in the Parish; or
- c) is for the conversion of existing buildings, or re-use or development of previously developed land, or is for well designed new buildings; or
- d) is for new infrastructure associated with leisure, recreational pursuits, and social, community and educational activities throughout the Parish; or
- e) it is residential development specifically provided for by Policy LNP6 in this Plan.

5.6. Policy LNP3 – Development in Green Belt extension

5.6.1. Until the emerging Northumberland Local Plan is adopted, the Green Belt boundary will not be confirmed. Prior to that confirmation in a new Local Plan, open countryside to the south of Longhorsley village will be considered to be in the proposed general extent of the Green Belt extension described in Policy S5 of the Joint Structure Plan. For those areas of countryside which fall within the general extent of that Green Belt extension, the conditions for what is inappropriate development, laid out in paragraphs 89 and 90 of the NPPF, apply. The Green Belt countryside in the Parish will be further protected by the Policy LNP3 below.

LNP3 – Development in the Green Belt extension

Inappropriate development will not be supported within the general extent of the Green Belt extension unless very special circumstances can be demonstrated.

Applications for planning permission for development in the Green Belt that is not inappropriate, as defined in the NPPF, shall be determined in accordance with relevant planning policies in the development plan, including those in the Longhorsley Neighbourhood Plan.

SECTION 6. Design Policy

6.1. Design Policy Context

6.1.1. Paragraph 17 of NPPF requires that planning should always seek to secure high quality design and a good standard of amenity for all existing and future occupants of land and buildings. This has not always been achieved in the past and it is an aspiration which is important to the people of the Parish.

6.1.2. Longhorsley is a typical Northumberland village. It has developed in a linear fashion along the main arteries of the A697 and the roads which cross this at the centre of the village (East and West road). Not all of this development has been sympathetic to the original character of the village or to the countryside in the wider Parish. Although this situation has improved in recent years, policy LNP4 requires that the design of the built environment will meet the aspirations of the local community having regard to national policy and guidance.

6.2 Design Evidence and References

Supporting evidence and references for these policies can be found in:

- The Northumberland Landscape Character Assessment (Part A, Annex A)
- Longhorsley Conservation Area boundary.

6.3. Design Objectives

6.3.1. Policy LNP4 supports the following key objective of the Neighbourhood Plan:

Objective 2 - To conserve or enhance the landscape setting, biodiversity and heritage of the Parish and village

6.4. Policy LNP4 – Design

6.4.1. The sympathetic design of new developments has been a concern raised at every consultation stage. The use of windfall and in-fill housing as part of the sustained growth of the village carries with it a risk that the character of the village may be lost due to variations in scale, materials used etc. The LPC have worked closely with developers to ensure that sites, such as that recently completed at Wilding Place, meet the needs of the local community and the design standards set by the NPPF and the current Local Plan (particularly those design criteria of policies C29, C30, H14, H15, H16, H19, H20, H21, H22 and H24 of the CMDLP). Policy LNP4 provides further support in achieving these goals, is in line with the CMDLP policies and provides clarity to future planning applicants.

6.4.2. In preparing this Neighbourhood Plan the LPC noted that there is not an adopted appraisal document for the defined conservation area. This would be beneficial to all those wishing to understand the “starting point” for any developments in or near the conservation area. In addition to Policy LNP4, therefore, the LPC have added activity ENV-CAP1 to the CAP (see Annex B) to establish a Conservation Area Appraisal for the village.

LNP4 - Design requirements for residential development

For proposals to be supported, the design of developments, including conversions, alterations and additions, should:

- a) protect the residential amenity of neighbouring properties; and
- b) respect and enhance its immediate setting and the local character; and
- c) maintain a consistent street scene in relation to neighbouring buildings and the Neighbourhood Area, having regard to scale, density, mass, height, landscape, layout, materials, off-road parking and access to the development

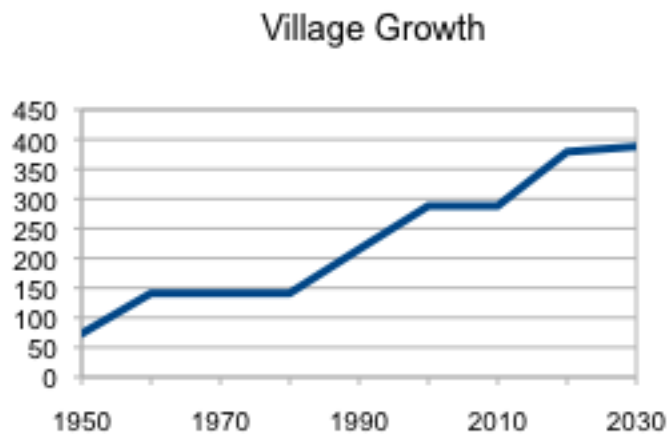
In all cases the development should not have a significant adverse impact on highway safety, the character and appearance of the surrounding area or the living conditions of nearby residents as a result of siting, design, massing, or through noise and disturbance.

Windfall housing development within the Settlement Boundary should be of a footprint that maintains appropriate spacing between buildings having regard to the immediate layout, character and setting of the application site

SECTION 7. Sustainable Housing Policies

7.1. Sustainable Housing Policies Context.

7.1.1. In the time up until the 1950s Longhorsley village was little changed in size and character. During the 1950s Drummonds Close was built, offering a mix of affordable and other homes with 68 dwellings being provided overall. In the early 1980s the Whitegates estate was built, providing a further 56 mixed dwellings made up of bungalows and two storey houses. The Reivers Gate estate was also built in the 1980s, adding 18 more houses, once again, including a significant proportion of bungalows. The Church View estate added another 73 houses in the late 1990's. A further 25 houses have recently been completed on the Wilding Place site. There are permitted developments which will deliver 67 more dwellings and windfall projections for the village over the life of the Plan anticipated to add a further 9 dwellings.



Graph 2 - Growth of housing (significant developments only) since 1950.

7.2. Sustainable Housing Evidence and References

7.2.1. Supporting evidence and references for these policies can be found in:

- Northumberland Public Access (August 2017)
- Northumberland Knowledge 2011 Census Ward Fact Sheet
- Longhorsley Housing Technical Report (August 2017)
- Analysis of February feedback and Affordable Housing in Longhorsley papers.

7.3. Sustainable Housing Objectives

7.3.1. Policies LNP5, LNP6, LNP7 and LNP8 support the following key objectives of the Neighbourhood Plan:

Objective 1 - To outline levels of housing development across the Parish to contribute to local housing needs, whilst protecting the Green Belt and environmental beauty of our area

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Objective 2 - To conserve or enhance the landscape setting, biodiversity and heritage of the Parish and village

7.4. Policy LNP5 – Housing within the Settlement Boundary

7.4.1. There are two sites in the Parish with development permission: the Shoulder of Mutton site (approx. 55 houses); and the Normandy Terrace site (approx. 12 houses). Policy LNP5 allocates both sites for housing development and these are defined on the Policies Map. There are no other sites in the Parish highlighted as suitable for housing development in the County Council's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA).

7.4.2. The intention of the Neighbourhood Plan is that, in the plan period, in addition to the completion of the allocated housing sites, any further housing development will be limited to windfall sites. Experience within the Parish, in the last 6 years has been that windfall sites have delivered between 1 and 3 dwellings. It was calculated that allocated sites, together with future small-scale windfall developments will contribute to the delivery of around 76 new dwellings between April 2017 and April 2031. It is not possible to be precise about the windfall dwellings and, therefore, this number has been rounded to 80 in policy LNP5. Housing development outside of the Settlement Boundary will be managed through policy LNP6.

LNP5: Housing within the settlement boundary

Land is allocated for new homes within the Settlement Boundary, as shown on the Policies Map, at the Shoulder of Mutton site (LNP5(1)), c55 units; and the Normandy Terrace site (LNP5(2)), c12 units.

Planning proposals will be supported for individual dwellings and windfall housing development schemes, including affordable housing, within the Longhorsley Settlement Boundary that contribute to meeting local housing needs and in accordance with Policy LNP1 of this Plan.

Allocated sites, together with future small-scale windfall developments and infilling will contribute to the delivery of around 80 dwellings between April 2017 and April 2031

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7.5. Policy LNP6 - Sustainable dwellings in the countryside, outside the Green Belt

7.5.1. Policy LNP6 ensures that isolated houses continue to only be permitted where the special circumstances defined in NPPF paragraphs 54 and 55 apply. In addition it supports CMDLP policies H16, H19, H20, H21 and H24. Policy LNP6 will ensure that any further development permitted in the open countryside reflects national and local planning policy and meets the needs of the local community, as expressed in the objectives of this Plan.

7.5.2. Two other sites had been proposed on the West side of the village and these have previously been rejected at both planning application and appeal stages. They have been reassessed during the production of the Neighbourhood Plan and were found to be unsuitable. The site assessment documentation is available on the Parish council website along with all other neighbourhood planning documents.

LNP6 – Sustainable dwellings in the countryside, outside the Green Belt extension

- A. The replacement of an existing dwelling in the countryside will be supported providing that it:
- i) has lawful residential use rights; and
 - ii) is not the result of a temporary or series of temporary permissions; and
 - iii) the replacement does not significantly increase the visual impact of the dwelling on the countryside; and
 - iv) the proposal meets the requirements of the other policies in this Plan and relevant Local Plan policies.
- B. The conversion of an existing building in the countryside will only be supported if:
- i) it would re-use a redundant or disused building;
 - ii) the conversion will lead to enhancement to the immediate setting; and
 - iii) the building is of permanent and substantial construction; and
 - iv) the proposal meets the requirements of other policies in this Plan and relevant Local Plan policies.
- C. Other new, isolated homes in the countryside will only be supported where there are special circumstances in accordance with relevant Local Plan policies and the NPPF, paragraph 55.

7.6. Policy LNP7 - Extensions

7.6.1. In those areas of the Parish where dwellings have been in place for a number of years, additional accommodation for family, commercial or other reasons is often achieved through extensions. Policy LNP7 is in line with CMDLP policy H22 and responds to the increasing volume of such planning applications within the Parish and clarifies what will be supported.

LNP7 – Extensions

The extension of a dwelling will be supported, providing that:

- a) the extension does not have a significant adverse effect on the character, appearance, or setting of the building or adjoining buildings; and
- b) the extension is not prejudicial to living conditions for occupants of neighbouring properties in respect of light, privacy and outlook; and
- c) for extensions to properties outside the Settlement Boundary, the extension does not materially change the impact of the dwelling on the countryside; and
- d) the proposal meets the requirements of the other policies in this Plan and relevant Local Plan policies.

SECTION 8. Supporting Business Policies

8.1. Supporting Business Policies Context

8.1.1. The LNP closely follows the instructions of Para 28 of the NPPF, that *Planning policies should support economic growth in rural areas in order to create jobs and prosperity by taking a positive approach to sustainable new development.*"

8.1.2. Longhorsley Parish has a mainly rural economy, based upon farming and related activities. However, the population largely comprises professional people who work outside of the Parish or in small businesses providing support services to the community. The following statistics (taken from Northumberland Knowledge 2011 Census Fact Sheet) illustrate this clearly.

- Those who are “economically active” in the Parish represents 69% of the population and 79% of these use their own automotive transport to travel to work. 10% work at home, which is slightly lower than the national average.
- The workforce largely comprises Management, Professional and highly skilled workers, representing 57% of those who work.

8.1.3. The policies in this section cover business development within the Settlement Boundary and in the open countryside. Paragraph 28 of the NPPF promotes growth in rural areas and paragraphs 89 and 90 indicate what will and will not be permitted in Green Belt. These policies are adequately supported by CMDLP policies C17 and C25 and the LNP does not propose any additional policies for business development within the Green Belt.

8.2. Supporting Business Policies Evidence and References

8.2.1. Supporting evidence and references for these policies can be found in;

- Northumberland Knowledge 2011 Census Fact Sheet (Longhorsley Parish)

8.3. Supporting Business Policies Objectives

8.3.1. Policy LNP8 provides support for the following strategic objectives;

Objective 3 - To support and encourage local business to thrive

Objective 4 - To support and protect our key community facilities

8.4. Support for business within the settlement boundary

8.4.1. Longhorsley had more local businesses in the 1950s than it does today. The LPC aims to promote businesses which will bring prosperity and jobs back to the village. Policy LNP1 provides support for the development of new businesses whilst protecting the quality of life for those people already resident within the settlement boundary.

8.5 Policy LNP8 – Retaining local business services and community facilities

8.5.1. The Parish Council recognises the importance of existing services and facilities to the community. The NPPF allows for policies to protect against the unnecessary loss of such essential services and Policy LNP8 is designed to ensure facilities such as the local shops, pub and village hall are retained and only developed where there is no longer a need for them that is economically viable and where this is demonstrated through marketing. Previous experience of having a temporary loss of some of these services means that the Parish Council also plan to apply to the County Council to register the local pub and the village hall as Assets of Community Value which will afford those services some protection if they become available for sale (see CAP Ref CF CAP 1)

LNP8 - Retaining Local business services and community facilities

There will be a presumption against the loss of local services or community facilities which help to support a sustainable local community in Longhorsley.

Development proposals for the use of local services or community facilities for other purposes will only be supported if it can be demonstrated that the existing use is no longer economically viable and the site has been marketed for freehold or leasehold purposes for the current use at a reasonable commercial price for at least six months without an appropriate offer being received.

SECTION 9. Supporting Community Facilities Policies

9.1. Supporting Community Facilities Policies Context

9.1.1. Open green and wooded spaces are essential to the rural character and attractiveness of the Plan Area and may form part of Wildlife or Landscape Corridors or links to footpaths and cycle routes. They may be landscaped areas, small patches of woodland, formal sports pitches, informal playing fields, play areas, allotments, common land, and other open grassed areas. They provide important opportunities for people of all ages to get out in the open air for casual recreation purposes that are essential to a healthy lifestyle.

9.1.2. All contribute to the green infrastructure of the area and, where these areas are cherished by the local community, they are appropriate for designation as Local Green Space in accordance with criteria for designation defined at paragraph 77 of the National Planning Policy Framework.

9.1.3. Longhorsley Moor does not qualify as a Local Green Space as it is considered to be both an extensive tract of land and too far distant from the main centre of habitation. However, most of it is categorised as a designated Site of Special Scientific Interest and as such is managed and nurtured by the Parish Council under the guidance and support of Natural England. This is further supported by CAP activities ENV CAP 3.

9.1.4. Longhorsley has had experience of losing some of its local facilities in the past and, in light of this, and in response to the encouragement in the NPPF, the Plan provides policy support for development of existing and new community facilities.

9.2. Supporting Community Facilities Policies Evidence and References

9.2.1. Supporting evidence and references for these policies comes in two forms; external references and a local analysis.

9.2.2. References to external supporting evidence.

- Northumberland Landscape Character Assessment - Part A: Landscape Classification
- Northumberland Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Assessment (May 2011)
- Northumberland Playing Pitch Strategy (May 2011).
- Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt)

9.2.3. The local analysis results are summarised in the LGS Table at Annex C.

9.3. Supporting Community Facilities Policies Objectives

9.3.1. The policies in this topic area support the following objectives:

Objective 2 - To conserve or enhance the landscape setting, biodiversity and heritage of the Parish and village

Objective 3 - To support and encourage local business to thrive

Objective 4 - To support and protect our key community facilities

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9.4. Policy LNP9 – Local Green Spaces

9.4.1. Policy LNP12 designates 7 areas as Local Green Space and provides protection in accordance with national policy established in NPPF. These spaces have been identified as a result of community engagement, and they all meet the criteria for designation established through paragraph 77 of NPPF, that is, they are:

- in reasonably close proximity to the community they serve;
- demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particular local significance for example because of their beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity or richness of wildlife; and
- local in character and not an extensive tract of land.

9.4.2 The Local Green Spaces are defined on the Policies Map. A full description of the sites and their value is given in the table at Annex C. Policy LNP12 is supported by activities in the CAP, in particular ENV CAP 1, ENV CAP 2 and ENV CAP 3 which intend to facilitate access and enjoyment of open space areas.

9.4.3. In the case of other green spaces within the Settlement Boundary, they will be managed through the application of NPPF policies in paragraphs 73, 74 and 75 as well as other relevant policies in this Plan.

9.4.4. Development of these areas is inappropriate other than in very special circumstances which are described in paragraphs 78, 87 and 88 of NPPF.

LNP9 – Local Green Spaces

The sites shown on the Policies Map and listed below are designated as Local Green Spaces.

1. Archie's Pond
2. Playing field (West Road)
3. Adamson Park (play and picnic area)
4. The MUGA (sports facility)
5. Children's playground in Church View
6. Old Church Wood
7. St Helen's churchyard and cemetery

Development on designated Local Green Space will be inappropriate other than where it relates to the provision of facilities for outdoor sport or outdoor recreation; or where there are very special circumstances that would outweigh the harm from the loss of the Local Green Space

9.5. Policy LNP10 – Protection of Allotments

9.5.1. The allotments within Longhorsley are much sought after and well tended. They have been included, alongside the Local Green Space in consultations with the Parish residents and particularly in Consultation 4 (February 2017). Policy LNP10 provides for the protection of this important local asset.

LNP10 - Protection of Allotments

Development which would result in the loss of allotment land, as identified on the Policies Map, will not be permitted, unless suitable land, of at least equivalent quality and quantity, in a convenient location for the users, is provided fit for use, prior to the loss of the allotment land or any part of it.

9.6. Policy LNP11 – Support for community facilities

9.6.1. NPPF encourages councils to “*promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship*”. Policy LNP11 will specifically encourage and support the development of further community facilities in the Parish. In addition, Community Action Proposals will seek registration of some facilities through CF CAP 1 as Assets of Community Value; and the provision of additional play areas through implementation of CF CAP 2.

LNP11– Support for community facilities

Proposals for the creation, construction or extension of community facilities will be supported within the Settlement Boundary where the scale of the development does not have an adverse impact on highway safety or on the character of the settlement and the living conditions of its residents. Proposals must also meet the requirements of other policies in this Plan and relevant Local Plan policies.

SECTION 10. Conserving Landscape, Biodiversity and Heritage Policies

10.1. Conserving Landscape, Biodiversity and Heritage Policies Context

10.1.1. Longhorsley Parish is a rural community with most of the land given over to a mix of livestock and arable farming. The Parish has been assessed as having a land character type of “Lowland Rolling Farmland” in the Northumberland Landscape Character Assessment (2010). The Character Assessment proposal for this landscape is *“Where key qualities are intact, their long-term viability should be secured, and where these are damaged, the approach for this landscape is to manage their restoration and replacement”*. The Parish also contains areas of local importance which will be conserved and nurtured through the policies of the Plan and the activities in the Community Action Proposal, for example: the Longhorsley Conservation Area: Longhorsley Moor; and the Local Green Spaces created through this Plan such as Archie’s Pond. The local scenery is stunning, with views out to the North East Coast as well as to the Cheviots.

10.1.2. The Parish contains some beautiful landscapes, has a diversity of environments and a strong built and historic heritage (e.g. Horsley Tower). Little wonder then that this topic area has attracted much discussion and interest at every consultation stage. Although NPPF provides relevant national policy, it is not surprising that the very specific nature of the local landscape, heritage assets and the built environment gives rise to more policies than in any other topic area in the Plan.



Horsley Tower, which dates from the late 15th century

10.1.3. The Longhorsley Moor is a registered Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and the LPC conserve it, in cooperation with Natural England. As such it is managed outside of this Plan (see CAP Ref ENV CAP 3).

10.1.4. Green Infrastructure can perform a range of functions including improved flood risk management, provision of accessible green space, climate change adaptation and biodiversity enhancement. The LNP provides a number of policies which support and protect Green Infrastructure namely: LNP9-Local Green Spaces; LNP12 –biodiversity; LNP13- SuDS; and LNP17- landscaping.

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10.2. Conserving Landscape, Biodiversity and Heritage Policies Evidence and References

10.2.1. The following evidence and references are offered in support of these policies;

- Northumberland Landscape Character Assessment - Part A: Landscape Classification
- Longhorsley Conservation Area boundaries
- Parish contains various priority habitats which are defined on the “Magic” interactive maps at <http://natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk> . Habitats and species of principal importance in England are shown on the following website: <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5705>
- Northumberland County Council’s Green Infrastructure Strategy
- Response to Pre-Submission Draft LNP from Natural England
- Response to Pre-Submission Draft LNP from Northumbrian Water

10.3. Conserving Landscape, Biodiversity and Heritage Policies Objectives

10.3.1. The policies in this topic area support the following objectives

Objective 2 - To conserve or enhance the landscape setting, biodiversity and heritage of the Parish and village

10.4. Policy LNP12 – Biodiversity and nature conservation

10.4.1. Policy LNP12 builds upon national policy set out at part 11 of the NPPF and seeks to ensure that the biodiversity of the Parish is protected and enhanced.

10.4.2 The Parish contains various priority habitats. These are shown on the interactive online resources provided by Natural England and Defra at: <http://natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk> which shows the location of habitats; and <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5705> which provides more information about habitats and species of principal importance.

10.4.3. The Plan aims to minimise impacts of development on those priority habitats and species which exist within the Parish, as well all other natural habitats and species, in line with paragraph 117 of NPPF.

LNP12 - Biodiversity and nature conservation

Development proposals will be required to minimise impact on, conserve and, where possible enhance biodiversity of the development site by:

- a) incorporating measures to sustain and improve biodiversity; and
- b) protecting species and habitats, including Priority species and habitats from adverse impact including the effects of increased water consumption, foul water discharge, waste water treatment, agricultural pollution and recreational pressure.

10.5. Policy LNP13 – Water Management

10.5.1. In consultation exercises and at planning appeals, during 2016, residents have constantly expressed concerns about the risk of flooding that new developments may bring to the settlement area. It has become a focus for planning applications processed within the Parish. Policy LNP13 follows national policy set out at paragraphs 94 and 99 through to 103 in NPPF and is in line with Policy RE5 of the CMDLP.

LNP13 – Water management

All development proposals should :

- a) incorporate robust and effective alleviation and mitigation measures for management of rain water run-off and flooding risks from all sources; and
- b) be sited away from areas at flood risk; and
- c) ensure surface water discharge rates leaving the development are restricted to the existing greenfield levels.

Where appropriate, developments should employ Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for water quality and quantity management purposes.

10.6. Policy LNP14 – Rural Features

10.6.1. Policy LNP14 provides the local balance between the expectations of national policy set out at Part 3 of the NPPF (supporting economic growth in rural areas) and that of Part 11 of NPPF (conserving and enhancing the natural environment). It supports sustainable development in the rural setting stipulating the circumstances where this can be supported without impact on landscape character.

LNP14 - Rural features

Development proposals shall protect and, where appropriate, enhance the characteristic rural features of the Parish landscape, namely the farmlands, woodlands, mature trees, hedgerows and ponds.

Development proposals in the Parish will be expected to be designed to avoid:

- i) The loss of landscape features that contribute to local distinctiveness or historic elements that contribute to landscape character and quality and to the health and well-being of residents and visitors
- ii) The loss or deterioration of the best and most versatile agricultural land; unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss.

Proposals involving the loss of hedgerows will only be allowed exceptionally and there is a presumption that hedgerows should not be lost.

10.7. Policy LNP15 – Protecting Trees

10.7.1. Trees in Longhorsley Parish are a key contributor to the landscape quality and highly valued by the local community. The effect of development on these trees needs to be carefully considered, in line with CMDLP Policy C15. In particular, aged or veteran trees are irreplaceable and their need for protection is recognised at paragraph 118 of NPPF. These deserve special protection as do those which are fine, healthy specimens of arboricultural quality and amenity value. Policy LNP15 seeks to protect these when at risk from development.

LNP15 – Protecting Trees

Development that damages or results in the loss of aged or veteran trees will not be permitted. Development that damages or results in the loss of trees of good arboricultural quality and amenity value and which does not replace them with equivalent trees will not be permitted.

Proposals affecting aged or veteran trees or trees of good arboricultural quality and amenity value should be accompanied by a tree survey that establishes the health and longevity of any affected trees and proposals should be designed to retain aged or veteran trees or retain or replace trees of good arboricultural and amenity value with equivalent trees.

10.8. Policy LNP16 - Landscaping

10.8.1. The design issues raised through consultation on the draft Plan have included the need for landscaping of the surrounding environment when development takes place. This has included negative feedback on the most recent development within the village (Wilding Place), where an opportunity to screen the development from the northern approach was missed, resulting in an uncharacteristically hard edge on this north-eastern boundary. Policy LNP16 encourages a more sensitive approach to the environment in the future through effective landscaping of development.

LNP16 - Landscaping

New development within the settlement boundary will be expected to take opportunities through landscaping and tree planting proposals to add to the distinctive character of the village particularly where the development is on the edge of the settlement.

For development elsewhere within the Parish landscaping schemes will be expected, as part of planning applications, to ensure development can be successfully integrated into the surrounding landscape character

10.9. Policy LNP17 – Conservation Area

10.9.1. The heart of Longhorsley village was designated as a Conservation Area in 1987. This is shown on the Policies Map. The Conservation Area takes in that part of the built environment which predates the growth spurt which began in 1950. It is cruciform in shape and has a village green at its centre. It contains a number of distinctive, traditional buildings, constructed from local stone and slate, as well as Horsley Tower, which dates from the late 15th century. The Conservation Area is supported through Policies C26, C28, C29, C30, C31, C32, C33 and C34 of the CMDLP. Policy LNP17 is directed at helping to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Conservation Area. In addition, activity ENV-CAP1 to the CAP seeks to improve understanding of the special character of the Conservation Area.

LNP17- Conservation Area

To be supported, development proposals within or within the setting of the Conservation Area should:

- a) respect the historic fabric of the area; and
- b) preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Conservation Area and the buildings within it or contribute positively to its setting; and
- c) ensure that the size and scale of new and extended buildings relate sympathetically to the surrounding area; and
- d) use traditional and vernacular building materials which respect the context of the development concerned.

Proposals that would have a detrimental impact on, or result in the loss of heritage assets, will not be supported, unless it can be demonstrated that the harm or loss is necessary to achieve public benefits that outweigh that harm or loss, as appropriate to the significance of the heritage asset.

10.10. Policy LNP18 – Small scale renewable energy

10.10.1. The final policy in this topic area, LNP18, is, in part, a response to the direction in NPPF paragraph 97 that the LNP “*should recognise the responsibility on all communities to contribute to energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources*”. The policy is also intended to support sustainable development and mitigate climate change, of particular importance in the Neighbourhood Area where a number of dwellings are off the gas national grid and reliant on oil for heating, leading to disproportionate carbon emissions. Policy LNP18 is also in line with Policy RE2 of the CMDLP. The use of “small-scale” in the policy is currently defined as up to 50kw for electricity and 300kw for heat, although this may change with the advancement of technology. This definition is derived from the Green Energy Act 2009.

LNP18 – Small-scale renewable energy

Small-scale renewables will be supported as long as the proposal’s economic, social and environmental benefits outweigh any material harm to landscape character and sensitivity, designated nature conservation sites, protected habitats and species, designated and non-designated heritage assets and their settings and living conditions for neighbouring occupants.

SECTION 11. Safer Movement Within the Parish Policies

11.1. Safer Movement Within the Parish Context

11.1.1. Travel within the village and externally to it has raised a number of issues and comments during each consultation stage. There are a number of concerns but the main themes are:

- Road safety – the A697 has a poor safety record and the planned further development of the village, as well as the expected additional traffic it will carry when the A1 dualling work occurs, is expected to exacerbate the situation.
- The lack of, or condition of, pathways in some areas of the village, to provide safe walking.
- The transportation arrangements for children travelling to and from school, many of whom are taken in and out of the village by coach, have given rise to concerns for their safety.
- Most essential services (hospitals, dentists, opticians etc.), as well as recreational facilities (scouts, leisure centres, cinemas etc.), are located in towns such as Morpeth, Newcastle and Alwick. Young people and older people do not all have access to a ready form of access and the bus service is seen as too limited to support their needs.

11.1.2. The Parish is a rural community and as such it is expected that many of its inhabitants will need to travel out of the Parish in order to go to school, work and access essential services. There is little that can be done within the remit of the Neighbourhood Plan to address the issues and concerns in respect of this longer distance travel pattern. The Parish Council has only limited authority where these transportation issues are involved. This is why Objective 5 for the Plan has targeted the continued close working relationship with the County Council to improve safety on the roads.

11.1.3. The Parish Council has long been aware of the safety issues in this area and constantly works with the County Council, developers and others to try to improve the safety of our roads and walking spaces. Policy LNP19 addresses part of the concerns about walking safely around the Parish. However, the volume and strength of feedback received in consultations has prompted the Parish Council into additional action. The CAP (T CAP 1) contains a project aimed at gaining a better understanding of some of these issues and producing a plan to tackle them more effectively. Similarly, CAP activities T CAP 2 (footpaths) and T CAP 3 (Public Rights of Way) have been planned to respond to other consultation feedback to improve the walking environment within the Parish.

11.2. Safer Movement Within the Parish Policies Evidence and References

11.2.1. The following evidence and references are offered in support of this policy:

- A697 Road Safety Review (2015)
- The Public Rights of Way map for the Parish, shown at Annex A.1. and on the County Council's website

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11.3. Safer Movement Within the Parish Objectives

11.3.1. Policy LNP20 supports the following Plan objective:

Objective 5 - To work with Northumberland County Council to provide safer roads and footpaths for better transport for the Parish

11.4. Policy LNP19 – Walking and cycling safely

11.4.1. Policy LNP19 ensures that new developments will provide adequate, safe footpaths and cycleways both within the development site and linking to it. An example of the latter is the outline plans for the Shoulder of Mutton site. The developer will be required to not only provide paths through the development and linking onwards but also to provide a new and safer footpath alongside the A697 leading to the entrance to the estate.

LNP19 – Walking and cycling safely

Proposals for development will be required to provide safe and convenient pedestrian and cycle access within the site and connection to the wider footpath and rights of way network.

11.5. Policy LNP20 – Rights of Way

11.5.1. The residents of the Parish include many who walk frequently, either for daily exercise or as part of social groups. The Parish Council was already aware of the need to improve rights of way and the consultations have underlined this. Plans have already been made (see CAP Ref T CAP 3) to develop the local walking routes by linking paths and ensuring, for example, that the new development at the Shoulder of Mutton site will provide a linking route between East Road and Old Church Wood and the old St Helen's Church. Policy LNP20 in line with paragraph 75 of the NPPF also supports this local requirement.

LNP20 – Rights of Way

Development proposals shall facilitate the maintenance or enhancement of any footpaths and rights of way within the site and those beyond affected by the development. Proposals which harm the character, appearance or the use of rights of way will not be supported.

SECTION 12 – Delivering the NDP

The Neighbourhood Plan covers the period 2017 to 2031. Once the Plan has been 'made', it becomes an adopted part of the development plan for Northumberland and will be binding on the County Council, as the Local Planning Authority in its planning decisions.

The Parish Council has been active over many years in promoting a sustainable approach to development in the Parish and in preserving the character features of Longhorsley. The implementation of the Plan will provide clear policies and design principles to shape sustainable development across the Neighbourhood Area in the period to 2031.

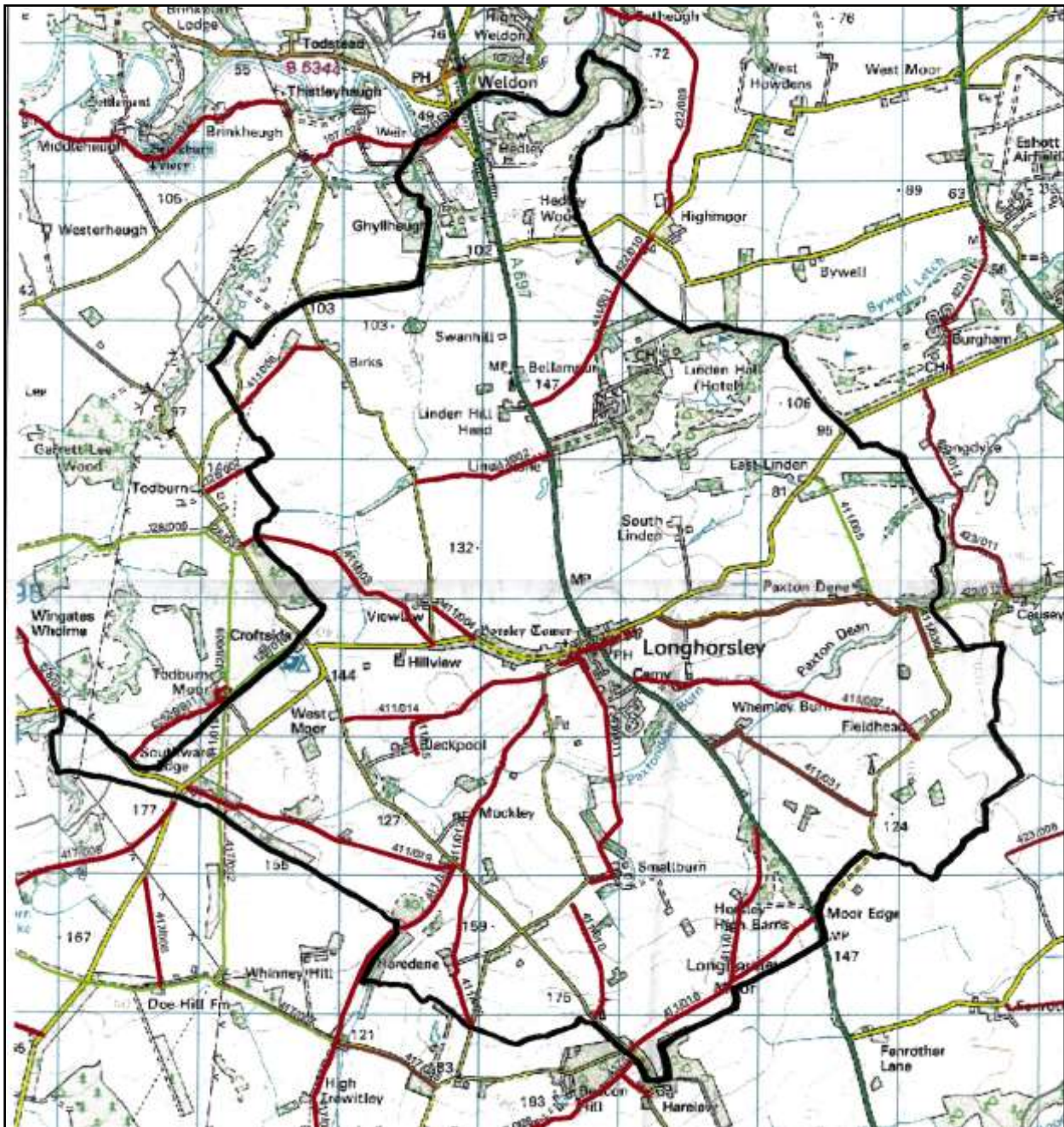
The Parish Council will consider the need for review of the Plan no less frequently than every five years in line with good practice. The need to review the Plan periodically, especially in association with the publication of future stages of the Northumberland Local Plan, to ensure the Neighbourhood Plan and the Local Plan continue to work effectively together will be kept under consideration by the County, and Parish Councils. The process of review will follow whatever process is set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations and the Planning Practice Guidance at that time.

The County Council is continuing to investigate the opportunity of introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). If a CIL scheme and charging schedule is introduced the Parish Council would receive 25% of CIL receipts from qualifying developments in the Parish if the neighbourhood Plan is brought into force. This funding could then be used to support local infrastructure priorities in Longhorsley.

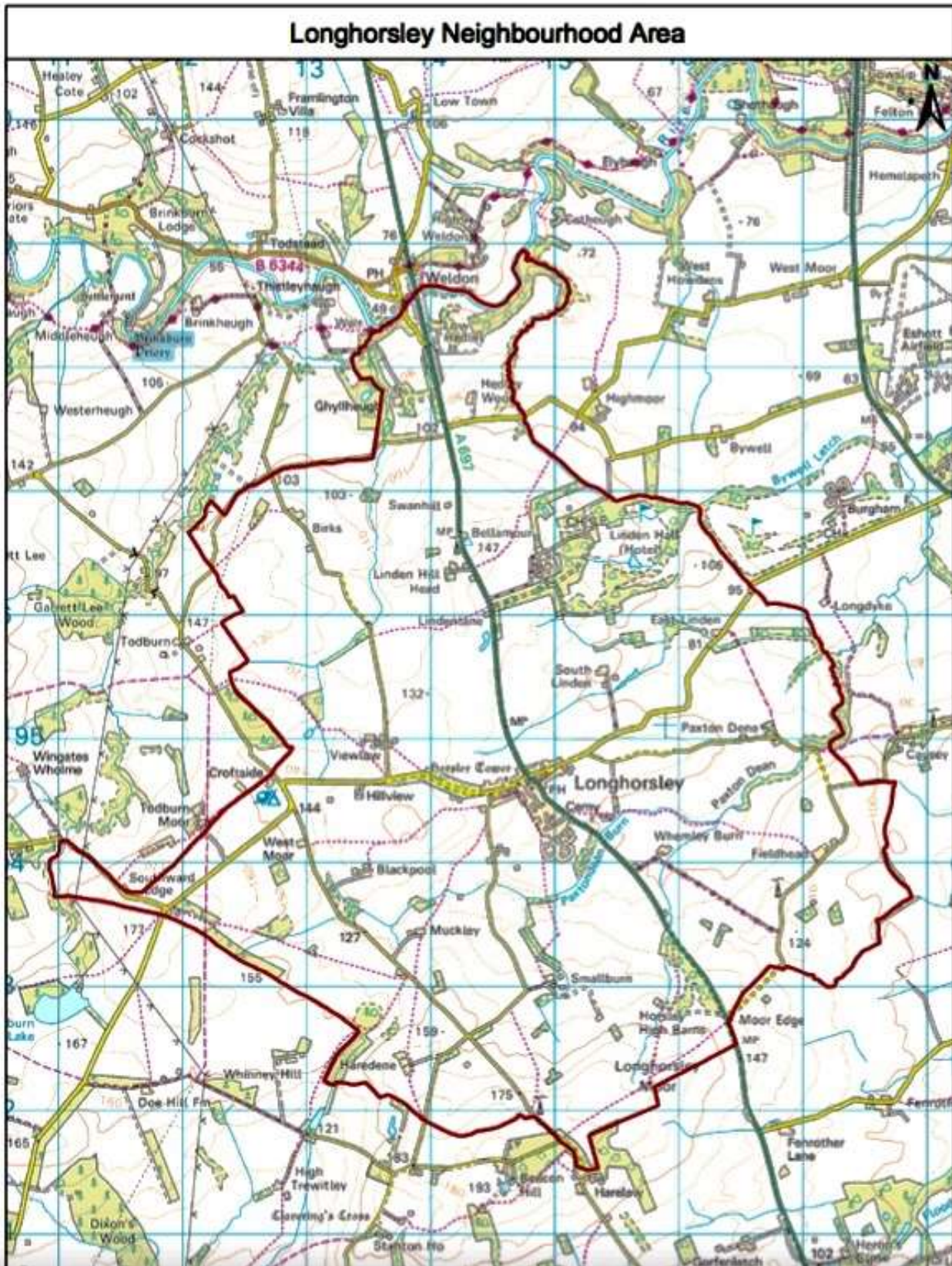
Through the process of developing this Plan the community demonstrated strong support for managing future development to conserve the rural character and identity of Longhorsley. The community has an important ongoing role in assuring the continued vitality of the neighbourhood, not least of respecting the village environment, including its heritage assets and biodiversity, and supporting local community amenities, facilities and activities.

Annex A.1. – Longhorsley Public Rights of Way

Footpaths are illustrated by the bold red lines.



Annex A.2. – Longhorsley Neighbourhood Area



Annex B – Community Action Proposals

<p>The Neighbourhood Plan process has raised a number of issues from the community consultations which, while not capable of being part of the statutory plan, the Parish Council want to try and address. As such, throughout the Plan, a number of Community Action Proposals have been identified. The purpose of this section is to put those proposals into a Community Action Plan which sets out how the proposals will be put in place, who will be responsible for delivery and an indication of the timescale within which projects might come forward. Within this action plan the following delivery timescale bands are used ;Year 1 (2017-2018), Years 2-5, and Years 6-10, it is accepted that some of these items will be reviewed over time and extend into Years 11 -13</p>					
Community Action Proposal	Detailed Project	Lead Body	Project Partners	Delivery Timescale	Sources of Funding
Housing					
H-CAP 1 - Monitor affordable housing demand and allocation to ensure there is not a gap in meeting Parish needs	Liaise with affordable housing suppliers, NCC planning team and future developer for Shoulder of Mutton site to ensure there is sufficient affordable housing and that it is allocated appropriately.	Longhorsley Parish Council	Future developers, County Council Karbon Homes, Johnnie Johnson and Two Castles	Year 1 or earlier	None required
H-CAP 2 - Actively market affordable housing capacity within the Parish to promote local take up	Liaise with affordable housing suppliers and advertise any current or projected future capacity within the Parish	Longhorsley Parish Council	County Council Karbon, Johnnie Johnson and Two Castles	Year 1 or earlier	None Required
Community Facilities					
CF-CAP 1 Register assets	Register the Shoulder of Mutton pub and the Village Hall to provide additional protection to these valued assets	Longhorsley Parish Council	NCC	Year 1 and ongoing through plan period	None Required
CF-CAP 2 Encourage improved facilities for young people	Ensure additional playground facilities provided as part of new developments in the village, namely at Wilding Place and Shoulder of Mutton sites	Longhorsley Parish Council	Cussins and the developer for the Shoulder of Mutton site	Year 1 and ongoing through plan period	Funded by developers

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Community Action Proposal	Detailed Project	Lead Body	Project Partners	Delivery Timescale	Sources of Funding
Environment					
ENV-CAP 1 Produce and have adopted appraisal for the conservation area	Liaise with NCC to have an appraisal produced and adopted for the conservation area	County Council	Parish Council	Year 1	TBC
ENV-CAP 2 Facilitate access and enjoyment of areas of natural and semi-natural green space identified in policy SCF01 – General	<p>Make improvements to the following designated areas of natural and semi-natural green space:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adamson’s Park – add swings (requested by community) • Archie’s Pond – improve wooden walkway from pond heading West • MUGA – Improve playing surface 	Longhorsley Parish Council	None	Years 2-5	LPC
ENV-CAP 3: Facilitate access and enjoyment of areas of natural and semi-natural green space identified in policy SCF01 – Old Church Wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual tasks include: Q1 - Buy and plant 200 trees with spiral guards and canes. Move and put on 200 deer shelters. Q2 – Inter Row Mow and spot weed 200 trees Q3 – Inter row mow 	Longhorsley Parish Council	Community volunteers	Years 2-5	Woodland Grant scheme
ENV-CAP 4: Facilitate access and enjoyment of areas of natural and semi-natural green space – Longhorsley Moor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual tasks include: Governance, including funding management Clearing vegetation and birch growth (Including spraying bracken and invasive weeds) Animal husbandry (horses, cattle and sheep) Forestry (planting and felling) Fencing and maintenance Promote walking (including leaflets, 	Longhorsley Parish Council	Natural England	Years 2-5	NE (DEFRA)

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	maintenance of paths, bridges, signage etc.) Heather burn off by fire brigade, under suitable conditions				
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Community Action Proposal	Detailed Project	Lead Body	Project Partners	Delivery Timescale	Sources of Funding
Transport					
T-CAP 1 Undertake a project to assess and improve access to transport for the younger, older or infirm members of the community	Form a task force to: Collect and analyse information about any gaps in transport needs for younger, older or infirm members of the community Assess how many gaps might be addressed Formulate a plan and agree it with LPC and others, as required Implement and monitor plan to close or reduce gaps	Longhorsley Parish Council and local residents	TBD depending upon gaps and likely remedies NCC Transport Planners	Years 1 to 3 And ongoing	TBD
T-CAP 2 Improve paths and non-adopted roads within the settlement boundary	Proactively identify those paths which require work now or in the next 2 years and create a prioritized plan of works. This may need to stretch over several years, depending upon budgets available	Longhorsley Parish Council	LPC , NCC and path maintenance organisations	Years 1 to 5	LPC Budget
T-CAP 3 Improve linkage and quality of PROW	Produce a map, based upon the existing PROW map at Annex A.1. to show planned linkages to create more joined up and off road walking to provide a safer and more pleasant experience for the community. Agree planned activities, stakeholders and budgets to make this happen	Longhorsley Parish Council	LPC, Ramblers Association, Longhorsley walking group, NCC and developers	Years 1 to 5 and ongoing	LPC budgets and developer costs

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Community Action Proposal	Detailed Project	Lead Body	Project Partners	Delivery Timescale	Sources of Funding
Education					
S-CAP 1 – Understand what school place provision there is in the Parish	Discuss school place provision with education group in NCC and provide information back to the parishioners	Longhorsley Parish Council	LPC and NCC Education team	Year 1	No funding required

Annex C – Local Green Space Assessment

Local Green Space Designation Criteria

Policy LNP9 designates seven areas of Local Green Space. These are described by reference to the number given to each area in Policy LNP9 in the tables below. The tables provide an assessment of the significance of each designated Local Green Space against criteria set out in paragraph 77 of NPPF. The location and extent of the numbered Local Green Spaces are shown on the Policies Map.

1. Archie's Pond	
Ownership:	Longhorsley Parish Council
Community Value:	The pond area provides a place to visit and sit and enjoy the planting, water and wildlife. For those who wish to exercise there is a quiet secluded walk through the trees and shrubs and up the hill out of the village. This can be used to access other public rights of way for those wanting a longer walk.
Beauty:	The mixture of water and appropriate planting, pond and birdlife and tree-lined walk provides a frequently visited local beauty spot.
Historic Significance:	None.
Recreational Value:	A beauty spot for villagers to walk to and either sit and enjoy or extend their walking further.
Richness of Wildlife:	Many common and some more unusual birds have been observed here. There is a frequent column in the parish newsletter describing what can be found there at a particular time of year. A local ornithologist leads local birdsong walks here for villagers

2. Longhorsley Playing Field (West Road)	
Ownership:	Longhorsley Parish Council
Community Value:	Has football pitch with full-sized goals and is used by the Football Club who have several different aged teams. Frequently used by many villagers who want to walk their dogs, play with children etc.
Beauty:	Large open area with tree and flower planting round the edge.
Historic Significance:	None.
Recreational Value:	Football teams, jogging for adults and safe play space for children.
Richness of Wildlife:	Trees, shrubs, flowers and birds.

3. Adamson Park (play and picnic area)	
Ownership:	Longhorsley Parish Council
Community Value:	Equipped play area for children and quiet fenced in area with several picnic tables.
Beauty:	Although small this space is enclosed by several large trees and mostly laid to grass.
Historic Significance:	None.
Recreational Value:	A popular meeting place for parents and children who often have picnic teas on their way home from school and where children can play safely.
Richness of Wildlife:	Beautiful ancient oak tree.

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4. The MUGA (sports facility)	
Ownership:	Longhorsley Parish Council
Community Value:	This Multi Use Games Area has a specialist surface to make it suitable for a range of sports. It is used for 5-a-side football.
Beauty:	None.
Historic Significance:	None.
Recreational Value:	It is a heavily used facility.
Richness of Wildlife:	None.

5. Children's playground in Church View	
Ownership:	Longhorsley Parish Council
Community Value:	Frequently used play space for local children.
Beauty:	None.
Historic Significance:	None.
Recreational Value:	A safe area away from road traffic and easily accessible for most local children.
Richness of Wildlife:	None.

6. Old Church Wood	
Ownership:	Longhorsley Parish Council
Community Value:	The wood was bought by the Parish Council in December 2016. It has been partly planted by the previous owner and partly funded by Natural England grant aid. The wood is linked to the old parish church and has been renamed in consultation with parishioners from Barbaras Wood. The value is recognised in paragraph 92 of NPPF.
Beauty:	Most of the trees are only a few years old. More planting is being done by the local community, partly funded by Natural England. On advice from Natural England a range of broadleaved and other trees are being planted. This will become a valuable community asset and a local beauty spot in years to come.
Historic Significance:	There is a causeway across the fields to the church which dates back to the 11 th Century. Its close proximity to the old St Helen's Church and the cemetery there will increase the number of locals who visit.
Recreational Value:	In the main this is currently an area for walking. It will be linked by paths into and through the Shoulder of Mutton estate once that is built, providing more access from the pub and East Road. It will also be developed as an educational facility and literature will be produced to educate visitors about the trees and planting.
Richness of Wildlife:	A variety of young trees and grassland that will mature and be a home for many birds and woodland wildlife.

7. St Helen's churchyard and cemetery	
Ownership:	Longhorsley Parish Council
Community Value:	This is a former church which was deconsecrated in the 1970s when the new church opened on the West Road. It is a popular walking route and has strong historical and sentimental significance to many in the Parish.
Beauty:	The walls of the original church are intact and the gravestones still stand. It has become overgrown and is a very natural and peaceful place to visit.
Historic Significance:	As well as being an important part of the general history of the Parish, the history society has mapped and analysed the gravestones. They have discovered two deceased parishioners who have national historical significance.
Recreational Value:	A popular place for people to walk and visit.
Richness of Wildlife:	A very natural space, untended. Trees, shrubs, wild flowers and birdlife.

Annex D – Glossary

Affordable housing

Social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing, provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the housing market. Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices. Affordable housing should include provisions to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households or for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision.

Affordable rented housing

One aspect of affordable housing, this is housing let by local authorities or private registered providers of social housing to households who are eligible for social rented housing. Affordable Rent is subject to rent controls that require a rent of no more than 80 per cent of the local market rent (including service charges, where applicable).

Biodiversity

The whole variety of life encompassing all genetics, species and ecosystem variations, including plants and animals.

CMDLP – Castle Morpeth District Local Plan (2003)

Community Action Proposal (CAP)

Proposals to be carried out in tandem with the Neighbourhood Plan to resolve issues raised in community consultation but which relate to matters that cannot be part of the statutory Neighbourhood Plan.

Community Infrastructure Levy

A tariff charged on development to secure funding towards infrastructure that is essential to meet the needs of the development. The CIL will be set by the County Council once it has an Infrastructure Delivery Plan and Charging Schedule in place. Once the CIL is in place and the Neighbourhood Plan is made, 25% of CIL funds raised in the Neighbourhood Plan Area will be made available to be spent on infrastructure projects in the plan area.

Conservation Area

Areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character, appearance or setting of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

Core Strategy

A Development Plan Document setting out the spatial vision, objectives and key strategic policies for an area.

Countryside

For the purposes of the Neighbourhood Plan countryside is everything within the Plan Area beyond the limits of the Longhorsley Settlement Boundary.

Density (of development)

The amount of building within an area of land. For housing, it is normally expressed as the number of dwellings per hectare.

Development

Defined under the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act as “the carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operation in, on, over or under land, or the making of any material

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change in the use of any building or other land.” Most forms of development require planning permission (see also “permitted development”).

Development Management

The process through which a local planning authority considers a planning application and whether it should be given permission

Five Year Housing Land Supply

An identified supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to meet housing requirements over a specified five year period, collated annually.

Green Infrastructure

Green spaces in towns, villages or elsewhere, serving different purposes, which together form a network that can provide local communities with a better environment and quality of life and help wildlife.

Household

A person living alone or a group of people living together at the same address and with common housekeeping.

Housing requirement

The amount of housing that has to be built in a given period to meet needs and demands. This is now calculated separately for Northumberland, based on evidence, although the Council must cooperate with neighbouring authorities and other relevant bodies in arriving at the final requirement figure(s).

Independent Examination

The process by which an Independent Examiner examines a Neighbourhood Plan to ensure it meets the basic conditions.

Infill development

Building on a relatively small site between existing buildings.

Intermediate housing

One aspect of affordable housing, this comprises homes for sale and rent provided at a cost above social rent, but below market levels subject to certain criteria. These can include shared equity (shared ownership and equity loans), other low-cost homes for sale and intermediate rent, but not affordable rented housing. Homes that do not meet the above definition of affordable housing, such as ‘low cost market housing’, may not be considered as affordable housing for planning purposes.

Limited infilling

Infill development which is particularly small in scale, occupying a small gap between buildings –on the scale of one or two, (rather than several) dwellings.

LGS - Local Green Space

Areas of green space of particular importance to the community which are special and locally significant because of their beauty, historic significance, recreational value, tranquillity or richness of wildlife. The NPPF allows the LNP to rule out development of these areas other than in very special circumstances.

LNP – Longhorsley Neighbourhood Plan

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Local Plan

The documents and maps that make up the plan for the future development of a local area such as Northumberland. The term also describes older planning documents prepared by the former Northumberland authorities. Many policies in these plans continue to be 'saved' and form part of the Development Plan for decision-making purposes.

Local Planning Authority

The council which is charged with plan making and determining planning applications for an area. In the case of the Neighbourhood Plan it is Northumberland County Council.

Low Carbon Economy

The development within an area or local economy of processes and technologies, which can assist in reducing the release of carbon dioxide into the environment.

LPC – Longhorsley Parish Council

Major Development

Major residential development is defined as 10 or more dwellings and Major commercial development is defined as 1000m² or more of commercial floorspace.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

A Government document that sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.

NCC – Northumberland County Council

Neighbourhood Plan

A plan prepared for a defined area by a Parish or Town Council – the "qualifying body". Once it has been accepted by the local community through a Referendum, the neighbourhood plan will form part of the Development Plan.

NLPCS – Northumberland Local Plan Core Strategy

NPPF – National Planning Policy Framework

Open Space

Usually used in relation to built-up areas. Refers to all open areas of public value, which can offer opportunities for sport, and recreation, as well as a visual amenity and haven for wildlife. Public open space is where public access may or may not be formally established.

Permitted Development

Certain limited or minor forms of development that may proceed without the need to make an application for planning permission.

Planning Obligation

A planning obligation is a binding legal agreement under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. It binds one or more parties to an agreement to deliver either actions or financial contributions required in association with development.

Qualifying Body

The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 require a Qualifying Body to be appointed to be responsible for preparing the neighbourhood plan and taking decisions relating to it. Longhorsley Parish Council is the Qualifying Body for the LNP.

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Renewable energy

Energy produced using renewable sources such as wind, water or biomass.

Saved policies

Policies of a previous development plan can be 'saved' by the Local Planning Authority in order that they will continue to apply, usually for a short period of time pending the preparation of a replacement planning document.

Social rented housing

One aspect of affordable housing, this is housing owned by local authorities or other registered providers for which guideline target rents are determined nationally or locally.

Statement of Consultation

The Parish Council's approach to involving the community in the neighbourhood planning process.

Statutory Weight

Policies and plans prepared under the Town and Country Planning Acts once adopted have statutory weight under Section 38. Planning decisions must be made in accordance with these plans once they have been adopted unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)

Identifies sites with potential for housing, and assesses their housing potential and when they are likely to be developed, with a view to achieving a five year supply of deliverable housing land.

Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)

An assessment of the scale and mix of housing and the range of tenures that an area (in this case Northumberland) is likely to need over the plan period in order to meet household and population projections, taking account of migration and demographic change.

Sustainable development

Defined by the World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987 as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs". The Government makes clear that sustainable development has economic, social and environmental dimensions which are further explained in the NPPF.

Windfall Housing Sites

So called windfall sites are those housing sites that come forward during the life of the plan and have not been allocated through the plan process. Typically, these are very small sites such as a subdivision of a larger plot or on occasion a larger site arising from a change of use of a larger area of land which could not have been identified in advance. The NPPF allows an element of windfall to be factored into housing supply calculations where there is evidence that such sites have consistently become available in the local area and will continue to provide a reliable source of supply.