

Haswell Neighbourhood Plan

The parish council has started work on a neighbourhood plan. Neighbourhood plans enable people living and working in an area to guide where and how future development happens.

Plans are prepared by the local community through their parish council, rather than by Durham County Council.

They must be supported by the local community through a referendum and once adopted, will be used by Durham County Council to make decisions on planning applications in the parish.

What can a neighbourhood plan include?

The main purpose of a neighbourhood plan is to include planning policies for the use and development of land. This could include:

- Employment, such as allocating sites for business development.
- Housing, the plan could allocate sites for housing development and include policies which identify the types of homes that are needed.
- Transport, this could include extensions to cycle routes or footpaths.
- Natural environment, such as designating important open spaces to be protected from new development.
- Historic environment, such as identifying important local heritage assets.
- Design, the plan could include a design code to shape development.

In addition to planning policies, many neighbourhood plans include community actions which relate to activities that do not require planning permission, such as environmental enhancement projects.

What can't a neighbourhood plan include?

Neighbourhood plans cannot prevent development already agreed in the County Durham Plan and cannot cover strategic planning matters such as major infrastructure or minerals and waste development.

We need your help to plan the future of our parish!

We are seeking your views on what issues should be covered in the plan. The parish council will manage the job of writing the plan, but everything that is included will be based on what you tell us is important to you.

We want to know:

- What do you think is good about living or working in Haswell Parish?
- What do you think is bad about living or working in Haswell Parish?
- What kind of development do you think is needed in Haswell Parish?
- What do you think needs to be protected / enhanced in Haswell Parish?
- Any other comments you would like to make about important issues and opportunities in the parish.

Come along to our drop in event on Monday the 6th of March 2023 between 5pm and 8pm at St Paul's Church, Church Street, Haswell, HD6 2DT to find out more about the neighbourhood plan and how to get involved.

If you are unable to come along to our drop in event, you can give us your comments in the following ways:

- Complete the short online survey available <https://forms.gle/xsynZD7qerBXsdCJ7>

- Send an email to haswellparishcouncil@gmail.com.
- Write a letter and post it to us at Haswell Parish Council, Giant Steps Nursery, Church Street, Haswell, DH6 2DZ.

We need your comments by 15 March 2023

There will be further opportunities to input to the preparation of our neighbourhood plan over the coming months.