

# Village view



## GREATHAM – SUMMER 2015 – No.92

### GREATHAM IN BLOOM

Spring planting saw hundreds of primulas and pansies planted in the 'Bloom' beds. 500 Snowdrops were added to the display on the mounds on the village green. More daffodils have been planted on the approach to the village and the 30 hedging plants supplied by the Woodland Trust were added to so that 50 plants have been put in to fill holes in the hedgerow as you enter the village from Claxton. The Woodland Trust has invited us to apply again for another 30 which we have done. If successful these will arrive in November.

Greatham like too many places in Britain is blighted by persistent litterers. Working on the principal that most people want a pleasant environment to live in a lot is done by volunteers and residents to create just such a place but some folk, whether they are residents or passing through, seem to persist in the desire to live in a tip! Feeling sorry for these unfortunate souls can only go so far and eventually making them responsible for the blight and expense must come into play. For example we have some very regular drinkers who discard their empty cans where they stand. Two black spots are the top of Mellanby Lane near the cut into Queensway and the approach into the village toward the Claxton crossroads. The hedgerows at several spots on the approach to the village have regularly been strewn with beer cans – sometimes joined by fast food wrappings. Not only an unsightly welcome to the village but a danger to wildlife. This suggests a party in a car, presumably the driver is either very generous to mates or is also drink driving. If you have any information as to who these offenders are please let us know – if you see a car pulled up with people drinking in please take note of the number plate.

The above problem aside, and it is a small minority who spoil things for themselves as well as others, Greatham remains a very pleasant village in which to live with a very strong sense of community. We are grateful to the many wonderful generous spirited people living in Greatham who make donations great and small and also give of their time and energy to keep Greatham in Bloom and the other marvellous array of organisation alive and working for the benefit of all.

The annual village gardens competition is almost upon us. An entry form is included with this newsletter which outlines the various trophies available. Details have to be finalised but we will give all entrants good warning as to the judging day. We look forward to your entry.

The Northumbria in Bloom judges will return on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July at 1.30pm for their second and most important visit. Once again we cannot make this village a more beautiful place for all who live and visit (not just the judges) without your help. Please do all you can to ensure your village, and especially the area around your homes, looks as good as it can be this summer.

There is always room for more volunteers. If you would like to become more involved please contact any member of the committee or ring Dorothy on 870292 for more information.

Planning permission has been gained for the replacement of the Centre windows. The new windows will look very much the same as the old. They will however be double glazed and all that are meant to open will – after years of most being painted shut. How they open will be slightly different in that they will open outwards rather than inwards as they are meant to do now.

We are now awaiting the results of applications to Veolia and Biffa, both organisations involved with landfill tax. It is intended to start some work this summer – the extent of this work will be dependent on the result of the grant applications and thus the amount of money we have available to spend. For some of the work the Centre will need to close. Groups will be informed of exact timings as soon as we are able to determine how much work can be undertaken and when. We will obviously endeavour to keep disruption to a minimum.

Another very generous donation of £500 towards the restoration costs of the Centre has been made by an individual who wishes to remain anonymous. We cannot say how much of a boost this is, not only to ensuring the Community Centre gets the work it so desperately needs but to the spirits of those who are trying to sort the problems out. We are, from the bottom of our hearts, so very grateful.

The defibrillator is now in the box on the front of the Community Centre. Access to the container is by a code number. This will be provided by the emergency operator when an ambulance is called to a suspected heart attack. It only works for certain heart conditions but the machine makes the diagnosis. The defibrillator is very easy to operate and talks those using it through what they need to do. We are now waiting for the introductory classes that will explain the machine further for any who are interested.

**GREATHAM COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**WEEKLY ACTIVITIES 2015**

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>MORNING</b>	LOUNGE			BABY CLINIC 9.15-10.30				
	MAIN HALL		MATURE MOVERS 10.30-11.30	MOTHER & TODDLER GROUP 9.00-11.00	CARPET BOWLS 10.00-12.00	DANCE EXERCISE 11.00-1.00		
<b>AFTERNOON</b>	LOUNGE							
	MAIN HALL				FLOWER ARRANGING 1.30-3.30 (Seasonal)			
<b>EVENING</b>	LOUNGE			YOUTH CLUB 7.00-9.00	YOUTH CLUB 7.00-9.00			
	MAIN HALL	FLOWER ARRANGING 6.30-8.30 (Seasonal)	LINE DANCING 8.00-10.00	YOUTH CLUB 7.00-9.00	YOUTH CLUB 7.00-9.00	SEQUENCE DANCING 7.30-9.30		

The Centre is available to hire for your own celebration of for groups and events. Charges are: - for regular hire by sections and affiliated groups £5 per hour for the main hall and £3.50 for the lounge. We would expect a minimum hire to be two hours. For occasional/fund raising events by sections, affiliated groups and members the charge is £10 per hour for the main hall or lounge and for non-members and unaffiliated groups £15 per hour. All charges are per room.

Enquiries about hiring the Community Centre or setting up a new group should initially be directed to the Booking Secretary, Dorothy, on 870292.

**GREATHAM VILLAGE PLAYERS**

The Players held their A.G.M. in the Community Centre on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. The chairman, Keith Watson, announced he was standing down as Chairman and retiring from the Players. Keith was a founding and very active member and, as chair, has guided the Players through a year of upheaval. A vote of thanks was made in recognition of his commitment and dedication to the group over the years. He will be sadly missed at both meetings and rehearsals.

The replacement of Keith as chair was left vacant for the committee to consider potential candidates. The posts of treasurer and secretary were returned to June Harmison and Hugh Stitt respectively. Sonya Hepple was elected as membership secretary and the remainder of the committee, Claire Alderson, Jean Proctor, Trish Watkins and Gerald Watson re-elected.

### **GREATHAM FLOWER CLASS**

A further £145 has been added to the £555 raised for the Community Centre at the pie and pea quiz evening held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February making a very grand £700 total. Many thanks go to all involved.

The Flower Class are now organising a Beetle Drive to be held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 1.00pm to 4.30pm. All are welcome, tickets are £5 and can be booked by ringing Judith on 870713.

### **RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION**

The Residents Association have put Greatham on the world wide web with an impressive website [www.greathamvillage.co.uk](http://www.greathamvillage.co.uk) It is full of information and news. Please make use of the website both to find out what is happening in your community and also to post information on activities.

The Residents Association will be holding its AGM on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 6.30pm in the Community Centre. All are welcome so please come along.

### **CHURCH NEWS**

The coffee morning for Christian Aid raised £260. Thanks go to all that helped and supported the event. Added to the envelope collection which raised £356 a grand total of £ 616 was raised for Christian Aid.

### **LENT LUNCHESES**

A total of £600 was raised by this year's 3 Lent Lunches. Many thanks goes out to all those who helped raise this splendid sum. The money was divided equally and sent on behalf of the School, Community Centre and Church to Zoe's Place, Practical Action and The Women's Refuge.

### **STAR RATED**

Congratulations go to Blackford's Nursery, Lamb's Post Office and the Hope and Anchor on being awarded four stars in the Local Authority official food and hygiene ratings. Three stars might be considered satisfactory so to get above that is good. Five stars is the top rating and the Bull & Dog, Greatham School, McKies, Stichell House and the Brother House Café all achieve this accolade – so special applause goes to them.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE**

In an emergency always ring 999. To contact your local police when it is not an emergency ring 101. An alternative is to ring the headquarters on 01642 326326. Our neighbourhood officer is P.C. Keith Robinson supported by P.C.S.O. Catherine Jones. Non urgent messages for your local officer can also be left via the Cleveland Police Force web site [www.cleveland.police.uk](http://www.cleveland.police.uk) using the 'my neighbourhood' tab and local concern form.

## SPORTS FIELD ASSOCIATION

The Sports Field e-mail address [gsfa1997@gmail.com](mailto:gsfa1997@gmail.com) can be used for anyone who, for example, wishes to book the field.

There are so many people to thank for the progress being made with the field and the cabins. We think the field is looking really good, getting a really good cut, the trees continue to grow and the changing rooms will be ready for their opening day (T.B.C. but likely to be July 5). Thanks to Mark, Stephen, DC Decor, Derek Harmison, Ronnie Westmoreland and so many more people for all their help and/or time. Thanks go to the golfers of Seaton Golf Club who donated £400 via their charity day. Thanks also to Greatham Feast for generous donations of raffle prizes

Those who have seen the rural plan will note the designation of the sports field which is important in securing the future, the plan aims to improve the sports field; we have a vision of repainting the tennis court, securing a water supply, play equipment including that for adults, hopefully one day we will get there.

Kevin Cosgrave  
Chair G.S.F.A.

## GREATHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to Greatham Parish Council is Mr John Cunliffe of 15 Blackton Road, Elwick Rise, Hartlepool TS26 0QG, tel: (01429) 213022, e-mail: [johncunliffe@hotmail.com](mailto:johncunliffe@hotmail.com). Correspondence for the Parish Council should be directed to the above address.

Elections were due for the Parish Council on the 7<sup>th</sup> May. For the first time the parish was split into two wards, South Fens and Greatham Village. Four candidates put their names forward for the four seats available for South Fens which has a slightly larger number of electors. Five candidates put their names forward for the three seats for the Village therefore the electors in the Village Ward were able to vote for their preferred candidates. The voting was Martin Lamb 245 votes, Allan O'Brien 131 votes, Margo Simmonds 194 votes, Brian Walker 305 votes and Sue Watson 171 votes. Martin Lamb, Margo Simmonds and Brian Walker were duly elected.

It is worth noting that the elections in the village were not brought about by anyone standing against anyone else but simply a case of five people being willing to put their names forward to serve the Parish. This should be seen as something positive and thanks go to all candidates.

Greatham Parish Councillors are:-

Greatham Village Ward	Martin Lamb, 4A Woodbine Terrace, Greatham Margo Simmonds, 3A West Row, Greatham Brian Walker, 29 The Grove, Greatham (Chairman)
Greatham South Fens Ward	Christopher Dixon, 28 Wisbech Close, South Fens Irene Fraser, 29 Wisbech Close, South Fens Colin Richardson, 63 Mildenhall Close, South Fens Michael Ward, 30 Wisbech Close, South Fens

At the Parish Council's A.G.M. on the 18<sup>th</sup> May Brian Walker was re-elected as Chair and Colin Richardson was elected as Vice Chair.

The following maintenance list for Hartlepool Borough Council remains on the Parish Council minutes:-

- Ponding on corner at Egerton Terrace/Vicarage Row
- Potholes top of the bank opposite Hope & Anchor
- Pavement surface in The Drive between Front Street and The Grove
- Pavement on road bridge over beck

## SOUTH WEST EXTENSION

The following application is now current and with the planning department in Hartlepool:- Full planning application for demolition of buildings, construction of 144 dwellings, construction of accesses to Stockton Road and Brierton Lane, roads, bridge with associated structures and associated earthworks, drainage features, public open space, landscaping, ecological works, electrical sub stations, vehicular circulation, pumping stations and infrastructure. Outline planning application for construction of up to 1,116 dwellings, public house/restaurant 500sqm, retail units 1,999 sqm, primary school, medical centre, public open space, playing fields, play spaces, drainage features, landscaping and ecological works, earthworks, electrical sub stations, pumping stations, car parking and vehicle and pedestrian circulation (Amended plans & information).

Closing dates for comments is the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015.

## HARTLEPOOL RURAL PLAN



Those living in the village and surrounding countryside should have received a Housing Needs Survey. This is being sent out to provide the evidence to try and secure housing in the rural area which truly meets the needs of those who live in the rural area. Completed forms are already coming in – thank you – please only return this form if you are going to need to change your housing in the near future.

Along with the Housing Needs Survey was a letter explaining the current consultation on the policies developed from what people have been telling us during the previous consultations. Very importantly we need you to tell us if we have got it right! If you don't speak we cannot hear.

The full policy document can be viewed at the village Post Office and the Community Centre. For those up with the technology all documents can be viewed and downloaded on the rural plan website [www.hartlepoolruralplan.co.uk](http://www.hartlepoolruralplan.co.uk) A resume of the policies with questionnaire is also attached to this newsletter.

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY ON THE POLICIES – you can be sure developers and other external bodies who we are required to consult will. Help us make sure the voice of Greatham residents is to the fore.

If you would like another form please ring Brian Walker on 01429 870281 or e-mail the parish clerk at [johncunliffe@hotmail.com](mailto:johncunliffe@hotmail.com)

## HARTLEPOOL BOROUGH COUNCIL

Your Rural West ward councillors are: - Brenda Loynes, Local Conservative  
George Morris, Local Conservative  
Ray Martin-Wells, Local Conservative

Congratulations to George Morris who was re-elected as ward councillor at the elections in May.

## WW1 NAMES

We are still gathering information on those from the village who served in the First World War. If you can help us record their stories please contact Dorothy Clark tel.870292 or Brian Walker tel.870281.

## ARCHIVE

The marshes around the mouth of the Tees have been the site of salt production for many centuries, lost in time. For most of this time the salt was gained by boiling the salt laden sea water enriched by adding some of the silt which held concentrations of salt. This was a long and dirty job requiring heating the mix several times to gain the precious salt. In warmer climates the sun simply did the job. A lot of waste was produced by the method used in this climate which was thrown aside raising the workings above the tide as they went along. Eventually the mounds that we now see alongside Greatham Creek and between the dunes and the Tees Road at Seaton Carew were created.

Often this work was done by tenant farmers and salt formed part of their rent. The Hospital of God would have benefitted from this industry at Greatham. Despite all this effort the quality of the salt was probably poor and not fit for the tables of lords and bishops but would have been adequate for food preservation. Eventually around the 15<sup>th</sup> Century salt production using this age old method faded out. Improved transport and trade brought better quality salt and this method of production simply became uneconomic and not worth the considerable effort.

## DIARY

Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 6.30pm	Greatham Residents Association A.G.M. in the Community Centre.
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 6.00pm	Stitchel House Charity Auction.
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2.00pm	Beetle Drive in aid of Centre Funds in the Community Centre. Tickets £5 from Judith on 870713.
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 10.30pm	Patronal Church Service in Church followed by Faith Lunch.
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> - Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	GREATHAM FEAST.
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> June 6.30pm	Greatham Parish Council Meeting in the Community Centre Public welcome to attend
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Closing date for comments on Rural Neighbourhood Plan Policies.
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 10.00am	Northumbria in Bloom Judges Summer Visit.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> August 6.30pm	Greatham Parish Council Meeting venue to be confirmed Public welcome to attend

## WISHING ALL READERS A WONDERFUL FEAST

### POSITIVE THOUGHT

We never know the value of water till the well runs dry

This newsletter is available FREE to the entire village for passing on news, results and events.

Closing date for items for inclusion in the next issue is Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2015

These should be sent to Brian Walker at 29 The Grove, Greatham

Produced for Greatham in Bloom with thanks to Huntsman, Greatham Works

**POLICY GEN1 - VILLAGE ENVELOPES**

Within the Village Envelopes as defined on the Proposals Map, development will be permitted where it accords with site allocations and designations.

Development within the Green Gaps shown on the Proposals Map will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances where it is connected with the essential functioning of agriculture or forestry and does not compromise the openness of the countryside between the villages, Hartlepool and Billingham.

In the countryside outside the Village Envelopes and Green Gaps, development will be permitted where it is essential for the purposes of agriculture, forestry, public infrastructure or to meet the social needs of the local rural community. Other development that is appropriate to a rural area and supports the rural economy, agricultural diversification, rural tourism and leisure developments will be permitted where it respects the character of the local countryside and does not have a significant impact on visual amenity and the local road network.

**STRONGLY AGREE**       **AGREE**       **DISAGREE**       **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY GEN 2 - DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

The design of new development should demonstrate how the following have been taken into account:

- relevant village design statements and conservation area appraisals;
- new housing should be well designed and score highly using the most recent Building For Life criteria;
- by helping to create a sense of place and reinforcing the character of the village or rural area by being individually designed, respecting the local vernacular building character, safeguarding and, where possible, enhancing the historic assets of the area, landscape and biodiversity features;
- by helping reinforce the existing streetscape or green public spaces by facing onto them where possible
- by preserving and, where possible, enhancing significant views and vistas;
- by incorporating the highest standards of energy efficiency;
- by demonstrating that it can be accessed safely from the highway and incorporates sufficient parking spaces;
- by designing development to be accessible by people with limited mobility; and
- by using sustainable surface water management solutions in new developments to reduce surface water disposal in public sewers and manage the release of surface water.

**STRONGLY AGREE**       **AGREE**       **DISAGREE**       **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY H1 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT**

At least 170 new dwellings will be developed in the plan area by 2029. Permission will be granted for new homes on the following sites (note:- apart from Station Road which already has outline planning permission these sites are only suggestions at the moment and no change of use is currently expected).

Village	Site Name/ windfall	No allocated	Type and tenure
Dalton Piercy	Site to be determined	XX	
Elwick	North of North Farm/ Potters Farm	25/30	
Greatham	Between Hill View and Saltaire Terrace	12	
Greatham	Mellanby Lane	5	
Greatham	Garden rear of 15 High Street	6	
Greatham	Grove House Nursery	6	
Hart	Eastern part of Nine Acres	15/ 17	
Hart	Glebe Farm East	15/ 17	
Newton Bewley	Infill only	Less than 5	

New housing development should provide a mix of house types and tenures on sites of 5 or more dwellings in accordance with the latest evidence of housing need.

**STRONGLY AGREE**       **AGREE**       **DISAGREE**       **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY H2 AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Affordable housing will be required in proposals for residential development that consist of a gross addition of five or more dwellings (or 0.4 hectares). These include residential new build, renewal of lapsed unimplemented planning permissions, changes of use and conversions.

The affordable housing need within the Borough equates to 27.5% of new housing development. Developers will be required to deliver affordable housing in a bid to contribute to the delivery of this target. The affordable provision and tenure and mix will be negotiated on a site-by-site basis, having regard to the economic viability of the development and the most up-to-date evidence of housing need, aspiration and the local housing market. The affordable homes provided must be of a tenure, size and type to help meet identified local housing needs and contribute to the creation of mixed, balanced and inclusive communities where people can live independently longer.

Market and affordable homes on sites should be indistinguishable and achieve the same high design quality.

It is expected that affordable housing will be delivered through on-site provision and where appropriate, be peppercotted throughout the development. However in certain circumstances it will be acceptable for provision to be made off-site, preferably within the same village, where:

- Applicants can provide sound, robust evidence why the affordable housing cannot be incorporated on-site; and/or
- Hartlepool Borough Council and the Parish Council is satisfied that off site provision will benefit the delivery of affordable housing in the Rural Plan area.

Units provided shall remain affordable for future eligible households or for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision. Other than in exceptional circumstances all affordable units will be delivered in partnership with a Registered Provider by means of a Legal Agreement, and appropriate provision to secure long term availability. Where the scheme's viability may be affected, such that an adequate amount of affordable housing cannot be provided, developers will be expected to provide viability assessments which will be submitted as an open book viability assessment. There may be a requirement for the provision of 'overage' payments to be made to reflect the fact that the viability of a site will be agreed at a point in time and may need to be reviewed, at set point(s) in the future.

**STRONGLY  
AGREE**

**AGREE**

**DISAGREE**

**STRONGLY  
DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY H3 RURAL EXCEPTIONS HOUSING FOR LOCAL NEEDS**

Rural Exceptions affordable housing will be permitted as an exception to other policies concerning the countryside, to meet locally identified affordable housing need, subject to all of the following criteria being met:

1. Sites should adjoin the village envelope;
2. Proposals must be for small schemes of 10 dwellings or fewer. Any such developments must be appropriate in scale, design and character to the locality;
3. A thorough site options appraisal must be submitted to demonstrate why the site is the most suitable one. Such an appraisal must demonstrate why the need cannot be met within the settlement;
4. In all cases, proposals for rural exceptions housing schemes must be supported by an up-to-date Housing Needs Survey that identifies the need for such provision within the village or group of villages;
5. Occupancy will be restricted, in perpetuity, to a person in housing need and resident or working in the relevant village, or who has other strong links with the relevant locality in line with the community connection criteria, both initially and on subsequent change of occupancy. This could include Self Build;
6. The locality to which the occupancy criteria are to be applied is taken as the parish (or any adjoining rural parish), unless otherwise agreed with Hartlepool Borough Council and the relevant parish council;
7. To ensure that a property is let or sold to a person who either lives locally or has strong local connections in the future, it is expected that a 'cascade' approach to the locality issue appropriate to the type of tenure will be adopted. Thus, first priority is to be given to those satisfying the occupancy criteria in relation to the village or adjoining village or group of rural villages.

Cross Subsidy

8. Proposals must consist in their entirety of affordable housing that will be retained in perpetuity. In exceptional circumstances, proposals that intend to include an element of market housing, or plots for open market sale, may be acceptable, if they meet all of the above criteria, along with the criteria below.

Such proposals will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the site would not be viable, as a rural exception site, without cross subsidy. The developer will be required to submit an open book viability assessment to be carried out by Hartlepool Borough Council. In such cases:

- the Council will not accept aspirational land value as justification for allowing a higher proportion of market value units;

- the assessment must show that the scale of the market housing component is essential for the successful delivery of the rural exception affordable housing scheme and that it is based on reasonable land values as a rural exception site and must not include an element of profit;
- the majority of the development must be for rural exception affordable housing; and
- no additional subsidy is required for the scheme.

**STRONGLY  
AGREE**

**AGREE**

**DISAGREE**

**STRONGLY  
DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY H4 HOUSING IN THE COUNTRYSIDE**

Outside village envelopes, new housing will be permitted exceptionally

1. where it is essential for a person employed in agriculture, forestry, or other use requiring a countryside location where it is essential for the worker to live permanently at or near the place of work; or
2. it would re-use existing rural buildings where the building is permanent, substantial and would not require extensive alteration, rebuilding or extension; or
3. for the replacement of an existing dwelling by a new dwelling not materially larger than the dwelling it replaces; or
4. for new housing of an exceptional quality or innovative nature that reflects the highest standard of architecture, significantly enhances its setting and is sensitive to the landscape character and heritage assets of the area.

Proposals for new housing development and the reuse of existing buildings should pay particular attention to design and landscape character so to preserve and enhance the character and distinctiveness of the countryside.

**STRONGLY  
AGREE**

**AGREE**

**DISAGREE**

**STRONGLY  
DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY H5 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT ON THE EDGE OF HARTLEPOOL**

New housing development on the edge of Hartlepool should be designed to:

- create distinct new communities designed to create a sense of place around a central community hub containing a community centre, shops and other local services on a scale that meets the needs of the new community;
- incorporate a diverse housing mix with a variety of house types, sizes and tenures;
- provide an open and attractively landscaped development with the gross density of the development of about 25 dwellings per hectare (or less);
- include a strong landscape buffer where the development adjoins the countryside to reduce the visual impact of the development and create a continuous habitat for wildlife linked into existing natural areas and wildlife habitats;
- include landscaped open spaces, roads and footpaths, incorporating children’s play areas, throughout the development linked to the peripheral landscape buffer to provide green routes through the housing areas that enhance the quality of the development and provide wildlife habitats;

- link new footpath and cycleway routes through the development to routes in the countryside, and to schools, community facilities and the town centre;
- retain existing farmsteads, trees and hedgerows within the development;
- not compromise the Green Gaps between the urban area and villages;
- address any significant impacts arising from an increase in traffic on the road network between Hartlepool and the A19 as a result of the new development. This includes improvements to the junctions from the villages to the A19, A179 and A689 as well measures to discourage traffic from the new development using minor roads through the villages in the plan area and traffic calming where necessary; and
- avoid areas at risk of flooding and incorporate sustainable drainage measures to manage rain water run-off from the development.

**STRONGLY  
AGREE**

**AGREE**

**DISAGREE**

**STRONGLY  
DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY EC1 DEVELOPMENT OF THE RURAL ECONOMY**

The development of the rural economy will be supported through:

- the retention or expansion of existing agricultural and other businesses;
- the re-use or replacement of suitable buildings for employment generating uses in villages and the countryside;
- the provision of live-work units and small scale business units;
- through the construction of well designed new buildings in association with existing buildings to assist in the diversification of the agricultural holding to sustain its viability, or to assist in the expansion of an existing business;
- appropriate tourism related initiatives; and
- recreation uses appropriate to a countryside location.

New specialist retail businesses, including farm shops, garden centres and similar outlets selling goods grown or manufactured in the locality, will be permitted where such developments would provide support for the rural economy, and could not reasonably be expected to locate within the village envelope or Hartlepool urban area by reason of the products sold, or their links to other uses on the site.

The development should be of a scale appropriate to its setting and enhance the local landscape character and nature conservation. It should not be detrimental to the amenity of nearby residential properties, sites of geological importance or result in significant impacts on the local highway network or infrastructure.

Improvements to technology and communications infrastructure will be supported to facilitate the development of businesses in the area.

**STRONGLY  
AGREE**

**AGREE**

**DISAGREE**

**STRONGLY  
DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY EC2 RETENTION OF SHOPS, PUBLIC HOUSES AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

The change of use or redevelopment of a village shop, public house or community building will only be permitted where:

- at least one other similar facility exists within the village; and
- it can be demonstrated by the applicant that all reasonable efforts have been made to sell or let (without restrictive covenant) the property as a business or community facility, and that it is not economically viable; and
- there is no evidence of significant support from the community for the retention of the business or community facility.

Preference will be given to the premises remaining in some form of community or employment use; as long as there are no significant impacts on the rural road network, residential amenity, environment, heritage assets and their settings or the conservation area.

**STRONGLY AGREE**       **AGREE**       **DISAGREE**       **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY EC3 FORMER RHM SITE TO THE SOUTH OF GREATHAM STATION**

The redevelopment of the former RHM site at Greatham will be supported for community and leisure uses to include:

- A park and ride facility linked to the reopening of Greatham Station;
- A visitor centre with associated car parking and improved footpaths links, to inform visitors about the importance of the local environmental habitats, the historic and archaeological importance of Greatham Creek and renewable energy;
- A solar energy installation.

The visitor centre should be of an innovative design with high sustainability credentials. A comprehensive scheme of landscaping and environmental enhancement should form part of any proposal. An archaeological assessment of the site should be carried out prior to any development taking place. Development proposals should not result in an increase of traffic movements above that of the former industrial use of the site. Appropriate mitigation measures to address any effects identified arising from the development on the local habitats will be required prior to any development proceeding.

**STRONGLY AGREE**       **AGREE**       **DISAGREE**       **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

**POLICY EC4 SERVICE STATIONS AND TRAVEL RELATED DEVELOPMENT**

Land at the service stations on the A19 shall be safeguarded for the following uses to serve the travelling public:

- Petrol filling stations with an ancillary shop, premises for the sale of hot and cold food and drinks; vehicle recovery; parking for cars and heavy goods vehicles.
- Proposals for new or improved facilities within the safeguarded sites or within an extension of the safeguarded areas shall not give rise to an intensification of use of the access roads unless improvements are made with the approval of the Highways Agency. Improvements to the environment and landscaping of these areas shall be included in any proposals.

**STRONGLY  
AGREE**

**AGREE**

**DISAGREE**

**STRONGLY  
DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

### **POLICY T1 IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HIGHWAY NETWORK**

Support will be given to the Highway Authority in securing the following highway improvements:

- improvement of the A179/A19 junction;
- the dualling of the A179;
- improved junctions to the A179, A689 and A19 junction from Dalton Piercy, Elwick, Greatham, and Hart;
- alleviating the impact of the increase in traffic on the A179 and A689 arising from new development in Hartlepool on Greatham, Hart and Newton Bewley;
- measures to discourage traffic from any new development on the edge of Hartlepool using minor roads through the villages in the plan area, including traffic calming, where necessary.

**STRONGLY  
AGREE**

**AGREE**

**DISAGREE**

**STRONGLY  
DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

### **POLICY T2 IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

The reopening of Greatham railway station will be supported provided that:

- It would not result in an increase in road traffic accessing the station that would be detrimental to road safety or the quality of life in Greatham village; and
- The station is served by a new car park and bus service to provide a park and ride service together with new cycle and pedestrian routes to employment sites at Queens Meadow, Graythorp and Seal Sands, Hartlepool.

The re-opening of Hart Station together with a park and ride facility will be supported.

**STRONGLY  
AGREE**

**AGREE**

**DISAGREE**

**STRONGLY  
DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

### **POLICY T3 IMPROVEMENT AND EXTENSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PERMISSIVE RIGHTS OF WAY NETWORK**

Improvement and extension of the public and permissive network of bridlepaths, cycleways and footpaths will be supported. The following new and improved routes are prioritised:

- New bridges over the A19 near Elwick and over the A689 near Greatham suitable for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians;
- A new traffic light controlled safe crossing point on the A689 at Newton Bewley;
- Cycleways and footpaths from Brierton, Dalton Piercy and Elwick to Hartlepool;
- Cycleways and footpaths linking Brierton, Dalton Piercy, Elwick, Greatham, Hart and Newton Bewley and providing direct and circular routes between the villages and the countryside;
- A cycleway and footpath from Greatham to the Tees Road at Greatham Creek, to link into routes to RSPB Saltholme, Seal Sands, Middlesbrough via the Transporter Bridge and Graythorpe;
- A network of bridleways throughout the rural area.

Improvements to the footways in the villages, including improved maintenance, will be sought to provide accessibility for people with mobility limitations and people with young children, to local shops and community facilities. The provision of new and improved signage, seating and bins will be encouraged.

**STRONGLY AGREE**       **AGREE**       **DISAGREE**       **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

<b>COMMENTS</b>
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### **POLICY C1 SAFEGUARDING AND IMPROVEMENT OF PLAY AREAS, SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND ALLOTMENTS**

Community buildings and open spaces used for play areas, sports, recreation and allotments will be safeguarded unless they are proven to be surplus to requirements or unless improved alternative provision, of similar or better quality, is to be made. The sites shown on the Proposals Map will be designated as Local Green Space. Improvements to provide better leisure, community, sport and recreation facilities will be supported where the proposed facilities are of a type and scale appropriate to the size of the settlement.

Priority schemes are:

- Improvements to Dalton Piercy Village Hall
- A new equipped children's play area at Dalton Piercy
- New car park to serve Elwick Church
- Improvements to Greatham Community Centre.
- Improvements to Greatham Sports Field
- A new multipurpose community open space with equipped play area, sports pitch, wildlife area, dog walking area and allotments at Hart.

Contributions will be sought from new housing development within the village towards the improvement of leisure, community and recreation facilities and open spaces serving the village either through developing new facilities on site or contributions towards the improvement of existing facilities in the vicinity.

**STRONGLY AGREE**       **AGREE**       **DISAGREE**       **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

<b>COMMENTS</b>
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### **POLICY NE1 - NATURAL ENVIRONMENT**

Nature conservation sites of international and national importance, Local Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites and Local Nature Reserves will be protected, managed and actively enhanced. Designated sites are identified on the Proposals Map.

- a. Development that would affect internationally and nationally important sites will not be permitted unless it meets the relevant legal requirements.
- b. Development which would affect a locally designated site will not be permitted unless the reasons for the development clearly outweigh the harm to the conservation interest of the site. Where development on a locally designated site is approved, compensatory measures will be required to maintain and enhance conservation interests. Compensatory measures may include biodiversity offsetting where on-site compensation is not possible.

Enhancement of wildlife corridors, river and stream corridors, other habitats and potential sites identified by the local biodiversity partnership will be encouraged to create and develop an integrated network of natural habitats which includes wildlife compensatory habitats.

Where possible, new development should conserve, create and enhance habitats to meet the objectives of the Tees Valley Biodiversity Action Plan.

Existing woodland of amenity and nature conservation value and in particular ancient semi-natural woodland and veteran trees will be protected. The planting of woodland and trees, and the restoration of hedgerows, using appropriate species, will be encouraged, particularly in conjunction with new development, to enhance the landscape character of the plan area. New tree and hedgerow planting should:

- a. Aim to reduce the impact of any new buildings or structures in the landscape setting. In the area that forms the urban fringe of Hartlepool, areas of woodland and tree belts at least 10 metres wide designed to promote biodiversity and include public access routes should be planted along the western edge of any areas to be developed, prior to any development commencing;
- b. Provide screening around any non-agricultural uses;
- c. Use a mix of indigenous species appropriate to the landscape character area;
- d. Ensure that trees are planted at distances from buildings that provide sufficient space for the future growth of the tree to maturity.

**STRONGLY  
AGREE**

**AGREE**

**DISAGREE**

**STRONGLY  
DISAGREE**

**COMMENTS**

The development of renewable and low carbon energy schemes, together with any ancillary buildings and infrastructure, will be supported and considered in the context of the wider environmental, economic and social benefits arising from the scheme whilst considering any adverse impacts, individually and cumulatively upon:

- a. The surrounding landscape including natural, built, historic (including archaeological) and cultural assets and townscape; including buildings, features, habitats and species of national and local importance;
- b. Residential amenity including visual intrusion, air, dust, noise, odour, traffic generation, recreation and access; and
- c. The operation of air traffic operations, radar and air navigational installations.
- d.

Appropriate mitigation measures to address any effects identified and considered will be required prior to any development proceeding. Given the nature of some forms of renewable and low carbon energy schemes and their supporting infrastructure and ancillary buildings, it will be necessary and appropriate in certain instances to secure removal of the scheme and its supporting infrastructure and ancillary buildings and restore the land to an appropriate use once a scheme is ready for decommissioning, through the imposition of planning conditions.

**STRONGLY AGREE**       **AGREE**       **DISAGREE**       **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

<b>COMMENTS</b>
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**POLICY BE1 – ENHANCEMENT OF HERITAGE ASSETS**

Proposals to safeguard, conserve and / or enhance the area’s heritage assets will be supported. The following projects have been identified:

- Review of the Article 4 direction in Elwick Conservation Area and encouragement to use more appropriately designed windows, doors, boundary features and other domestic features.
- Enhancement to the environment of Elwick Village Green by resurfacing of access lanes with, for example, resin bonded gravel to give a more informal appearance.
- Extension of the Article 4 Direction in Greatham Conservation Area and encouragement to use more appropriately designed windows, doors, boundary features and other domestic features.
- Environmental enhancement at Greatham of the areas around The Green, the area to the front of the Hospital of God, High Street and the area around Vicarage Row including landscaping works, sandstone paving, other resurfacing works and lighting.
- Enhancement of the environment in the area around Hart church and the medieval walls.
- Protection of the ridge and furrow landscape.
- Interpretation boards at scheduled monuments and other key sites.
- Reduction in traffic signs and poles.

**STRONGLY AGREE**       **AGREE**       **DISAGREE**       **STRONGLY DISAGREE**

<b>COMMENTS</b>
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**POLICY INF1: CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS MEETING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES**

Developer contributions together with other community benefits and grant funding will be used to fund new and improved community infrastructure in the plan area, including, but not limited to:

- Dalton Piercy: Village Hall improvements
- Dalton Piercy: new equipped play area
- Elwick: new car park to serve the church
- Greatham: Community Centre improvements
- Greatham: sports field improvements
- Greatham: new visitor centre at the former RHM site set out in Policy RE3
- Hart: new multi-purpose community open space with equipped play area, sports pitch, wildlife area, dog walking area and allotments
- New and improved bridleways, cycleway and footpaths set out in Policy T3
- Environmental enhancement as set out in Policy NE1
- Heritage assets enhancement as set out in Policy BE1
- Surface water flooding alleviation measures

Developer contributions will be determined on a site by site basis in accordance with Hartlepool Borough Council’s Supplementary Planning Document on Planning Obligations.

<b>STRONGLY AGREE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>AGREE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>DISAGREE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>STRONGLY DISAGREE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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<b>COMMENTS</b>
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Your completed form can be returned to the following locations:

- Greatham Post Office
- Greatham Community Centre (via the letter box)

Or you can e-mail it to:

[johncunliffe@hotmail.com](mailto:johncunliffe@hotmail.com)

**CONSULTATION CLOSING DATE 3<sup>RD</sup> JULY 2015**