



# Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan Engagement Report 1

29<sup>th</sup> July 2019

## Introduction

As part of the process for bringing forward the Newbiggin by the Sea Neighbourhood Plan, a public engagement exercise on the key issues for the area was undertaken between 21 March and 15 April 2019.

The engagement was promoted through:

- Town Council website
- Coverage in local media
- Questionnaire distributed to all households in the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Plan area
- Drop-in sessions within Newbiggin by the Sea
- Hardcopy and online questionnaires available

Consultation drop-in sessions were held on the following dates:

Wednesday 27th March 2pm-7pm at St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

Saturday 30th March 11am -3pm at St. Bartholomew's Church Centre

Around 61 residents attended the drop-in sessions. The drop-in sessions consisted of information engagement boards, including;

- Information on Neighbourhood Development Plans,
- a plan of the Newbiggin Neighbourhood Area,
- the 'Big Issues' as identified and agreed by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group,
- Potential future projects as identified by the Steering Group, and
- Information on the 'next steps' subsequent to this engagement process.

The events were staffed by the Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk and in part by a Northumberland County Council Planning Officer.

Verbal representations made at the drop-in session included concerns that there was not enough information and that residents did not understand what they were being asked.

At the close of the engagement period a total of 112 responses had been received via the online survey and hardcopy questionnaires. 3 responses were not included as they did not contain significant information to identify them as being from residents of the parish. The analysis of responses was based on 109 received.

The overwhelmingly positive nature of the responses, particularly the areas encompassing regeneration and environmental matter, provides a strong springboard to develop the details of the plan.

Respondents were asked whether they would support key issues relevant to the 'Big Issues'

1. A clear separation of settlements to enhance the character and distinctiveness of Newbiggin,
2. New 'wildlife Corridors' to protect natural habitats, incorporating sustainable drainage for the Ashington developments and former Alcan ash lagoons.
3. Regeneration of the town through endorsing employment and providing appropriate infrastructure and start-up units.

4. Improved visitor attractions are needed to sustain visitor growth to contribute to commercial sustainability.
5. Improved pedestrian and cycle routes to public transport and a new road link to the strategic network from Woodhorn Roundabout.
6. Housing Growth and improved choice to retain and attract families.

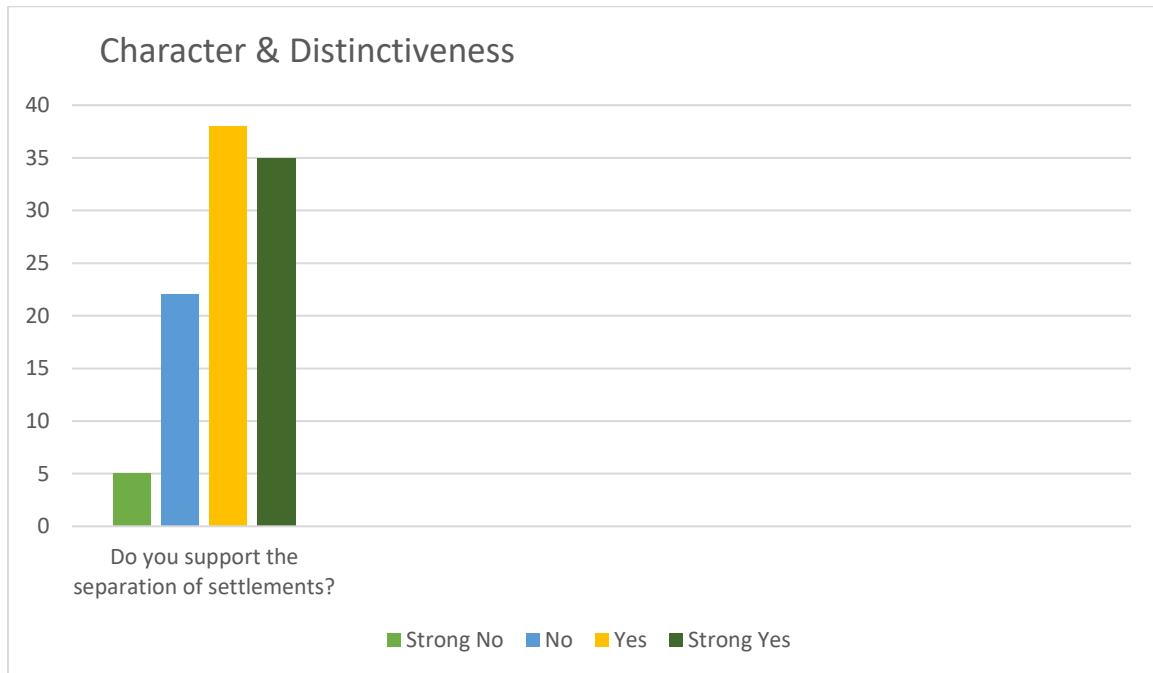
The questions focused on whether elements of the 'Big Issues' were supported and could be considered in the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

The responses from the questionnaires have been analysed with the findings set out below under each of the relevant themes.

# The Big Issues

## Character & Distinctiveness

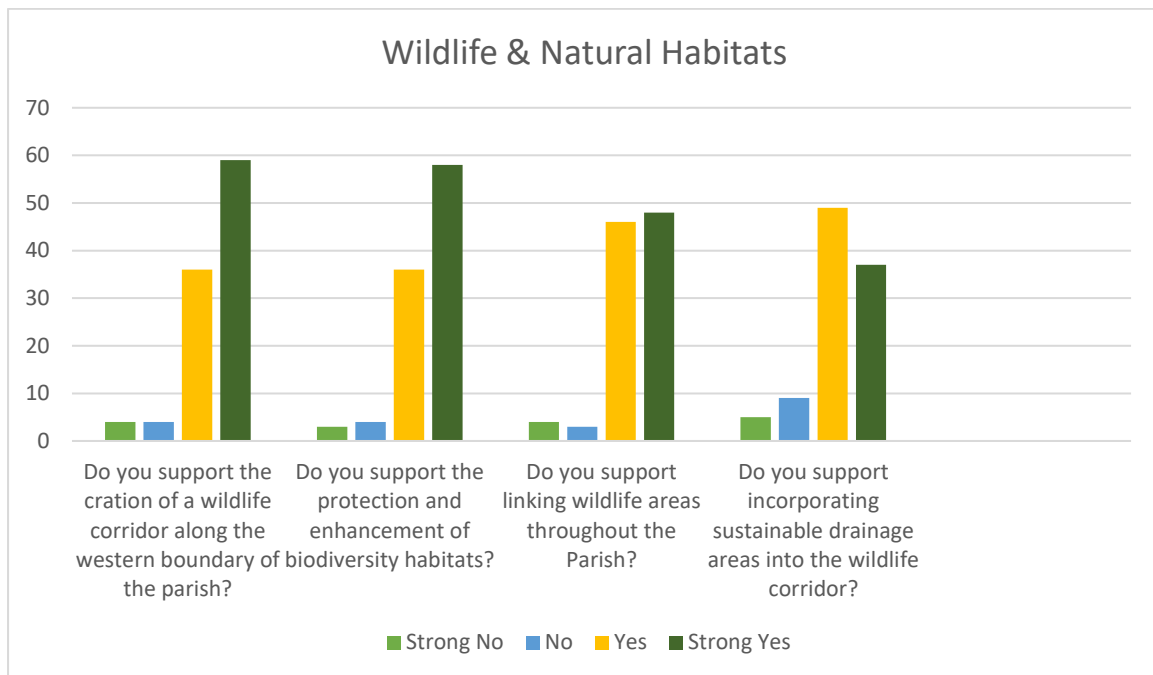
Responses can be found summarised in the chart and table below.



Number of responses

- Of 100 respondents who answered this question, **73% supported/strongly the separation of settlements**. A further 27% did not support/strongly.

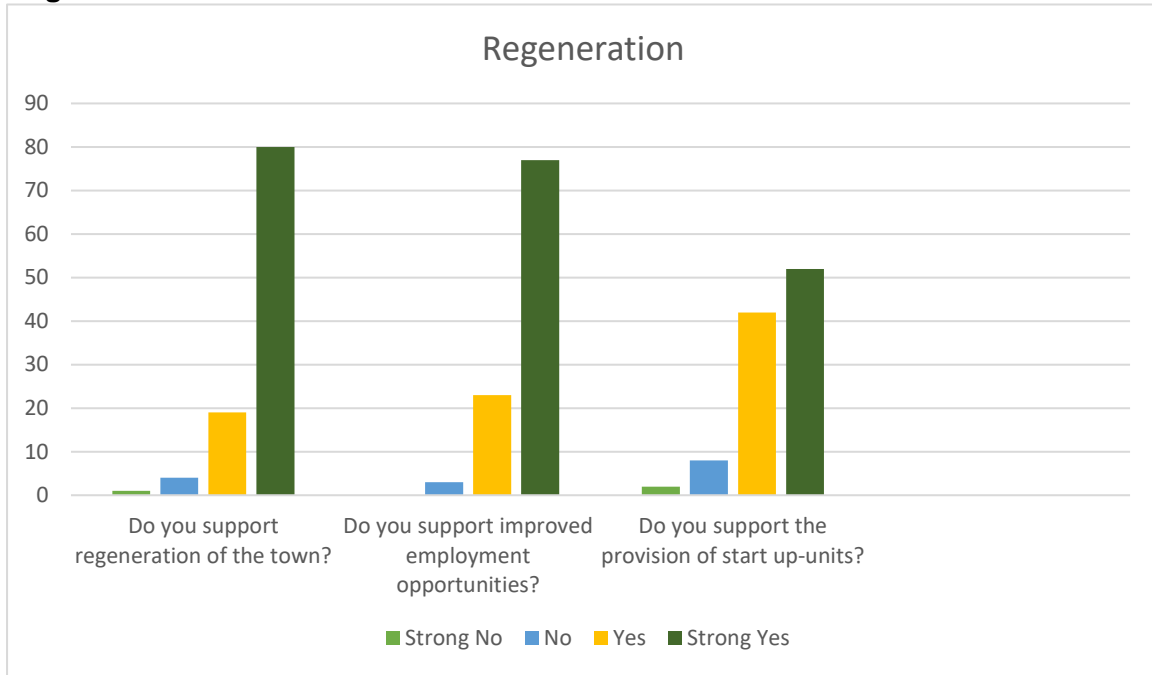
## Wildlife & Natural Habitats



Number of responses

- Of 103 respondents, **92% supported/strongly the creation of a wildlife corridor along the Western boundary of the Parish.** A further 8% did not support/strongly.
- Of 101 respondents, **93% supported/strongly the protection and enhancement of biodiversity habitats.** A further 7% did not support/strongly.
- Of 101 respondents, **93% supported the linking of wildlife areas throughout the Parish.** A further 7% did not support/strongly.
- Of 101 respondents, **86% supported incorporating sustainable drainage areas into the wildlife corridor.** A further 14% did not support/strongly.

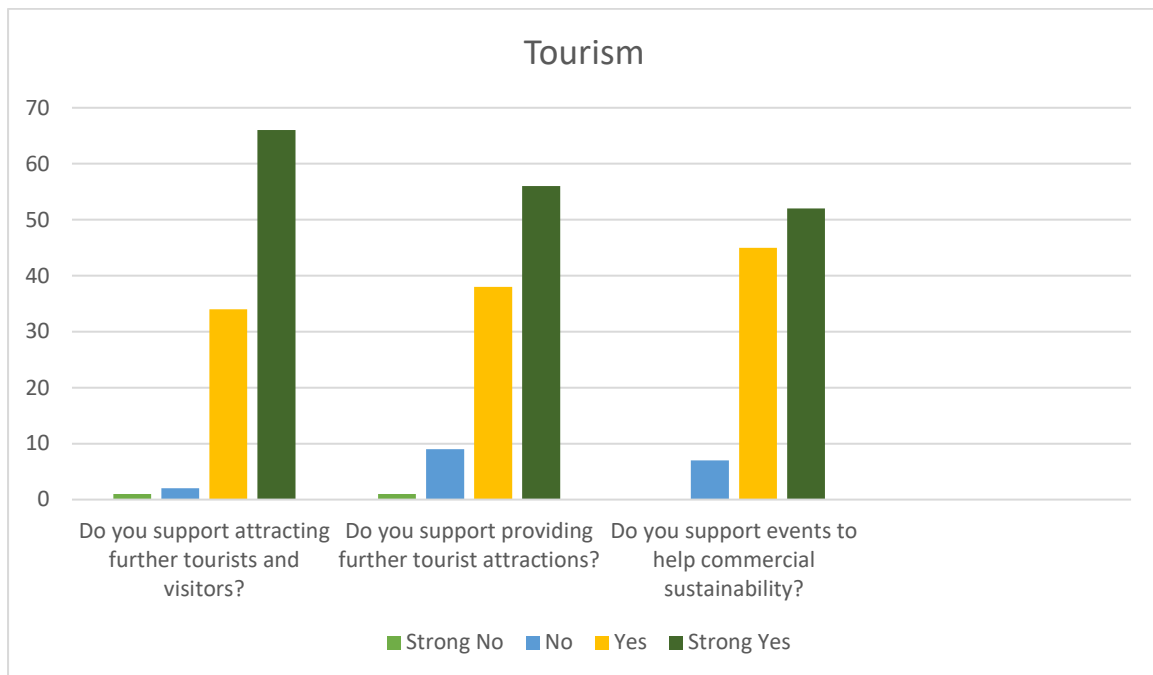
## Regeneration



Number of responses

- Of 104 respondents, **95% supported/strongly regeneration of the town.** A further 5% did not support/strongly.
- Of 103 respondents, **97% supported/strongly improved employment opportunities.** A further 3% did not support/strongly.
- Of 104 respondents, **90% supported provision of start-up units.** A further 10% did not support/strongly.

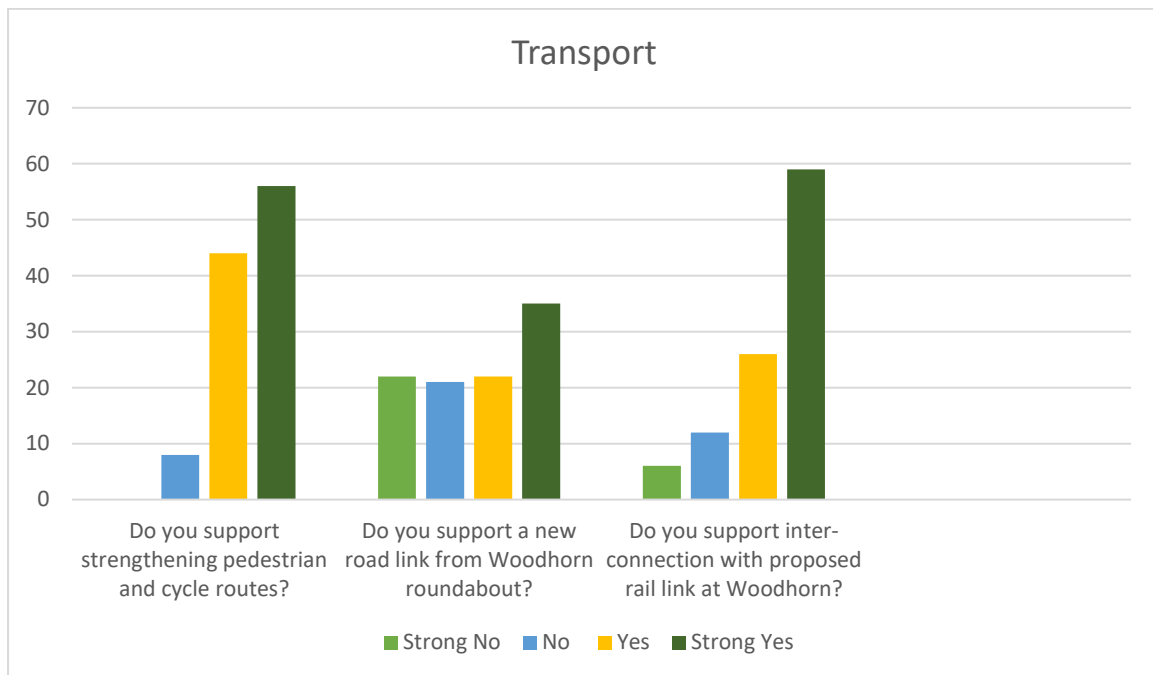
## Tourism



Number of responses

- Of 103 respondents, **97% supported/strongly attracting further tourist and visitors.** A further 3% did not support/strongly.
- Of 104 respondents, **90% supported/strongly providing further tourist attractions.** A further 10% did not support/strongly.
- Of 104 respondents, **93% supported events to help commercial sustainability.** A further 7% did not support/strongly.

## Transport

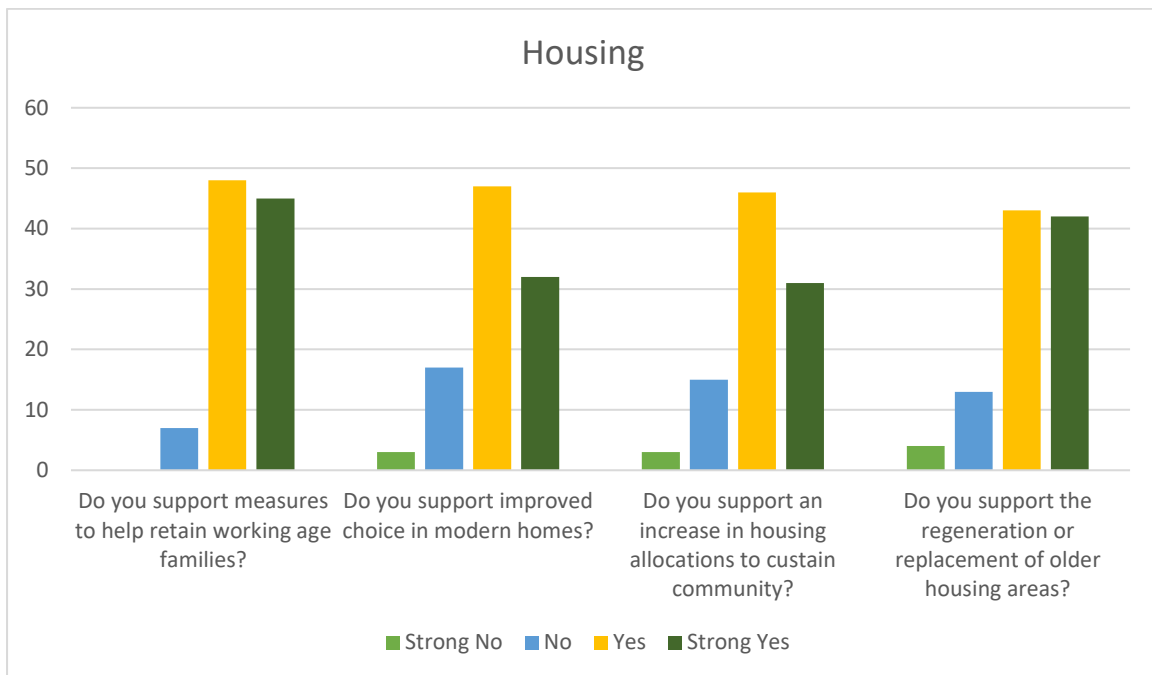


Number of responses

- Of 108 respondents, **93% supported/strongly strengthening pedestrian and cycle routes**. A further 7% did not support/strongly.
- Of 100 respondents, **57% supported/strongly a new link road from Woodhorn roundabout**. A further 43% did not support/strongly.
- Of 103 respondents, **83% supported inter-connection with the proposed rail link at Woodhorn**. A further 17% did not support/strongly.



## Housing



Number of responses

Of 100 respondents, **93% supported/strongly** measures to help retain working age families. A further 7% did not support/strongly.

Of 99 respondents, **80% supported/strongly** improved choice in modern homes. A further 20% did not support/strongly.

Of 95 respondents, **81% supported** an increase of housing allocations to sustain community. A further 19% did not support/strongly.

Of 102 respondents, **83% supported** the regeneration or replacement of older housing areas. A further 17% did not support/strongly.

## Appendix 1. – Responses by number

Although 109 responses were received, some omitted to answer certain questions.

The below table shows the number of answers to each question and this is translated into percentages.

	Strong No		No		Yes		Strong Yes	
	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
Separation of Settlements	5	5	22	22	38	38	35	35
	No	%	No	%	No	%	No	%
Wildlife corridor – west boundary	4	3.88	4	3.88	36	34.95	59	57.28
Protect & enhance biodiversity habitats	3	2.97	4	3.96	36	35.64	58	57.43
Linking wildlife areas	4	3.96	3	2.97	46	45.54	48	47.52
Incorporate Sustainable drainage into corridor	5	5	9	9	49	49	37	37
Support regeneration	1	0.96	4	3.85	19	18.27	80	76.92
Improved employment opportunities	0	0	3	2.91	23	22.33	77	74.76
Start-up units in town	2	1.92	8	7.69	42	40.38	52	50
Attract tourists & visitors	1	0.97	2	1.94	34	33.01	66	64.08
Further tourist attractions	1	0.96	9	8.65	38	36.54	56	53.85
Events for future sustainability	0	0	7	6.73	45	43.27	52	50
Strengthen pedestrians	0	0	8	7.41	44	40.74	56	51.85

& cycle routes								
New Link Road – Woodhorn Bridge	22	22	21	21	22	22	35	35
	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>%</b>
Inter-connection with Rail Link	6	5.83	12	11.65	26	25.24	59	57.28
Measures to retain working age families	0	0	7	7	48	48	45	45
Improved choice in modern homes	3	3.03	17	17.17	47	47.47	32	32.32
Increase in housing allocation to sustain community	3	3.16	15	15.79	46	48.42	31	32.63
Regeneration or replacement of older housing	4	3.92	13	12.75	43	42.16	42	41.18

## Appendix 2. Comments received

In addition to the survey questions in the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire, the Steering Group sought 'any additional comments' of local residents in Neighbourhood Plan Area.

The table below includes the comments of local residents as taken from original submissions and the text is not altered. Some comments are duplicated as more than one resident of a household responded on the same form.

A large number of the 'any additional comments' were not relevant to neighbourhood planning and cannot be taken into account in this process. Any further consultations will be modified to a format to ensure relevancy of comments in relation to Neighbourhood Planning.

I am a native of Newbiggin by the Sea and love the place. I have very fond memories of my childhood here, particularly the many hours I spent on the Beach. I was very lucky because my Grandad worked in the Middle Shelter, hiring out tents and deckchairs to the scores of visitors who came every week. Consequently, I spent many happy hours with him on the beach. Our new beach, unfortunately, is not as nice as the old one, although the forces of nature are slowly improving it. The Old Beach was flat so that the tide came up to the Promenade, kept the sand clean and stopped it blowing around so much. I am grateful to the Councillors, together with DEFRA, who enabled the construction of the Breakwater and replenishment of the Beach which has been successful in preventing erosion, but I think it is time to improve what is now our main asset for the families of the Town and our many visitors. My suggestions for improvements are: 1. Re-profile the beach. 2. Attract more sailing activity and possibly have some kind of Marina. 3. If we attract more visitors we will certainly need more adequate Town Centre Parking. The current system is a disgrace and I cannot understand how it got passed by Health and Safety. 4 when I was a student, I worked for Newbiggin Council as a road sweeper when Roy, Stan and Ozzie were on holiday. We cleaned every nook and cranny in Newbiggin, which unfortunately, is not the case today. We need three people with brushes and a wheelbarrow keeping the place tidy. 5 Most seaside towns have banners and flags to give them a seaside atmosphere. This would be nice along the Promenade and on the Quay Wall. 6. We could have some nice picnic areas around the existing tables on the Church Point. 7 We need the Church Point toilets refurbished as planned, which was voted down by some short-sighted Councillors. 8. We could try harder to be wheelchair friendly. I didn't realise how difficult it is to navigate the Town by wheelchair until I accompanied a good friend of mine in his wheelchair. The Lifeboat ramp is a good example of this.

I have filled in the questionnaire but would like to add the following: Regarding the town centre, last year one of my favourite things was the lavender planted on the Main Street in front of the shops (Wool shop, Ink Spot, etc). My kids were happy watching the bees collect pollen and we spotted butterflies too. In addition, the scent was lovely. In order to promote biodiversity, it would be great to see more bee/butterfly friendly planting in the town. If this could include a sensory aspect, it would enhance and promote well being in the population. Herbs such as thyme and rosemary look nice and smell great - and provide greenery in winter. Echinacea provides height and colour, as well as alliums. Furthermore, Blyth has wildflower planting on council owned grass areas. The strip of grass on central parkway between the footpath and road is ripe for this kind of planting and would help wildlife. It would also provide a boundary for kids walking to school. While the planting beds on Gibson street look good, surely the cost of changing out plants is more than planting perennials and maintaining them? With a bit of thought, we could have permanent beds that provide year long colour. I would also like to see the planting of more

trees in public spaces. Trees promote biodiversity and also help reduce flooding. I would like to see the Cleveland Avenue school site developed properly into car parking. The car park is convenient for the GP surgery, shop and residents but it looks like an eyesore. It needs surfaced properly. Raised beds could be used to add colour and a pleasant aesthetic while serving the function of separating areas of the car park. As only half the Cleveland School site is currently used for car parking at most, maybe some of the land near the Boxing Club could be used for a small green area with seating and planting? A dedicated sensory garden would be great and this space could be used for that. Further to my previous email, I have another request for consideration. Additional allotments. The current allotments have waiting lists however, when plots become available, they are often offered to current plot holders before being offered to those on waiting lists meaning that a minority of people hold more than one plot and waiting lists remain stagnant. Bear with me while I explain why we need more allotments. As someone who has diagnosed anxiety and depression, I often read literature surrounding the subject. A book by Johann Hari called "Lost Connections" has examined the research into mental health and has linked being involved in nature with greater mental health outcomes (there are other factors, but as a town council, this would be a good first step to be proactive in protecting residents' mental health). Bearing in mind that we are seeing a surge in mental health problems in young and old, we need the environments we live in to help promote wellbeing, which in turn promotes pride in our local area. Greater greenery in town would go a little way to helping, however, more allotments and, as part of this, a community garden in this, would be a wonderful project for all ages to promote getting back to nature. In terms of young people, it could run projects showing them various aspects of caring for the environment and wildlife, as well as encouraging them to grow their own fruit and veg. As children benefit from interaction with a wide range of ages, we could use this to get the older members of the community involved too. Anything grown in the garden could be used/sold for the benefit of the town/community. (Another point Hari makes in his book is that we have lost our sense of community so projects like this - as trialled in London by a psychiatrist looking to reduce severe depression - will help foster a sense of community and enhance well-being).

We need to think about the architecture involved in housing/commercial developments. The very modern architecture on the Windsor school site is NOT in keeping with the rest of the town and actually is jarring in it's juxtaposition with more traditional housing. The Maritime Centre has the same affect. I have no issue with new development but would prefer a more sympathetic approach rather than ultra modern buildings. With new techniques in artificial stone cladding, we could retain the village charm rather than trying to be something we're not. The vintage style signage on the shops is great but the new council offices/flats are too modern to provide an overall aesthetic of small town charm. You need to decide not only on what to provide but how it will look. A mish mash of styles not only looks disjointed but makes Newbiggin look like every other cookie cutter town. Keeping a traditional look to the town doesn't mean we aren't moving forward but does mean we offer something different for visitors as we won't look like every other town out there.

I received the neighbourhood plan leaflet through the post this morning. I've had a good read through it and thought that I would make a few suggestion on the ideas outlined. The separation of settlements scheme is a bad idea. It creates a 'them and us' mentality. We live in a globally integrated society and segregation only causes more division in society. Newbiggin has got a unique seaside atmosphere, but segregation of settlements is a negative step. Newbiggin by the Sea desperately needs the proposed marina scheme to go ahead. It would bring many visitors to Newbiggin to moor their yachts and pleasure cruisers, as well as people with sport fishing boats. These people would be spending money in local shops, pubs and restaurants, thus giving the local economy a major boost. This would also create employment opportunities for local people. Pods could be erected on the old tennis courts, next to the bowling green, similar to the ones at Amble. These could support small start up businesses, also encouraging more people to visit our town.

This would also create more employment opportunities. We could also do with a nice landscaped park with trees, flower gardens, a duck pond and a café. This would give visitors somewhere to go when it's too windy on the sea front. This would also provide a great venue for local outdoor events. Newbiggin was a mining community and of course the mining heritage needs to be commemorated. However, the colliery closed in the 1960s and it isn't coming back. We need to look to the future with regard to employment opportunities. There should be a patch of waste land allocated to build a business park. This could then be pitched to companies to set up businesses such as manufacturing, providing some much needed stable employment for local people. The proposed reopening of the trainline from Ashington to Newcastle has the potential to bring people to our town. There needs to be a quick and easy transport link to get these people to Newbiggin. I hope that these suggestions give a useful insight in to what Newbiggin by the Sea needs for it to thrive in the 21st century.

To enable all the previous items to be implemented capital investment is required - we need to sell ourselves to the corporate world. I would like to see a small residential hotel in place i.e. on the piece of waste ground just off Woodhorn Lane. Also the Bay lends itself to a small marina as many small yachts sail by the Bay and the only marina along this coast is at Amble as far as I know. I could think of one person who would be able to achieve funding , she has a great deal of experience and is a Newbiggin resident. Also some of the black spots need to be dealt with i.e. the front of the Bank House.

Heard a rumour that there is to be a marina. Think this is a marvellous idea and will be very good for Newbiggin (look what it did for Amble). Hope railway will be extended into Newbiggin. Impressed with progress so far but realise lots more to be done. Unsure what a 'start up' unit is.

Heard a rumour that there is to be a marina. Think this is a marvellous idea and will be very good for Newbiggin (look what it did for Amble). Hope railway will be extended into Newbiggin. Impressed with progress so far but realise lots more to be done. Unsure what a 'start up' unit is.

Important New generation of housing including bungalows Small units for small and start up businesses CCTV on parks, prom and bertis square. Tackle dog poo and sand problem on prom. West end old tennis courts etc. to be made park/seats/bandstand/BQ areas

To build houses on old Colliery land (school) which is an eyesore to see.

The proposal for a new link road seems likely to create more problems than it solves. Traffic using central parkway already treats it like a race track. An extension to link it to Woodhorn roundabout would create a fast 'through road' directly between the busy school and the green space play park. It would increase hazards when attempting to cross that road where it joins Gibson Street.

Many of these statements are far too vague for me to agree or disagree with - yes attract more tourists, no if this involves amusement arcades. Yes to more employment opportunities, no if this involves heavy industry. The idea of a link road past Grace Darling school is a terrible one. We already have a problem with people driving across the football fields, will this increase immensely if there is actually a road there! People will also be running over the wildlife from your new wildlife corridor.

Dog fouling - better waste bins Beach - tidy off steps Toilets for public opened longer hours in the summer

Who is going to pay for all this? Please don't say council tax payers, we are already paying more than any other areas. I'm all for moving forward and to promote Newbiggin, lots of good things and events make our village a place you must visit. I will always give my best for Newbiggin.

I strongly disagree with the proposed new road, as a regular user of the existing pavement route I have seen a large diversity of wildlife including deer, lizards, bird of prey and insects; I believe these will disappear if the new road goes ahead. Also the increased

danger around the park area and school will far outweigh the apparent 'benefits' of a new totally unnecessary road.

I have given a strong yes to all these aims. I believe this will help the parish. Which will be short, medium and long terms aims? i.e. which can be done quickly at minimum cost promoting activities and clubs within the parish i.e. pushing the council (Northumberland) to put money into cleaning up the Sports and Community Centre.

We think it would be fantastic if there were some access to the sand and beaches for disabled people with their wheelchairs and mobility scooters instead of just going along the prom all the time. Also it would be great if there were more wardens around to stop cars from parking on the pavement as it stops us disabled people from getting past as they nearly always block the pavement particularly at Spittal. Also there should be more done about litter, dog fouling and also fly tipping as at the top end near the moor the rubbish dumped is disgusting.

We think it would be fantastic if there were some access to the sand and beaches for disabled people with their wheelchairs and mobility scooters instead of just going along the prom all the time. Also it would be great if there were more wardens around to stop cars from parking on the pavement as it stops us disabled people from getting past as they nearly always block the pavement particularly at Spittal. Also there should be more done about litter, dog fouling and also fly tipping as at the top end near the moor the rubbish dumped is disgusting.

We think it would be fantastic if there were some access to the sand and beaches for disabled people with their wheelchairs and mobility scooters instead of just going along the prom all the time. Also it would be great if there were more wardens around to stop cars from parking on the pavement as it stops us disabled people from getting past as they nearly always block the pavement particularly at Spittal. Also there should be more done about litter, dog fouling and also fly tipping as at the top end near the moor the rubbish dumped is disgusting.

As a town councillor I am very concerned that this consultation was not brought to the town council as the lead body for approval prior to publications and distribution. Delegated powers were given to officers to 'progress' the consultation but as far as I am aware not to 'execute' it. The first sight I had of this document was when it was delivered to my door along with those of my neighbours. Observations I would have made had I had sight of the document prior to publication are now necessarily being made as a resident rather than as a member of the lead corporate body. The questions posed are too imprecise to elicit meaningful responses. Few would be against regeneration, the real questions is what form should it take, develop as a tourist destination, a business centre, industrial centre or heritage attraction and how can this be facilitated via the NP? What kind of housing to residents need, where should it be built, what size of development is appropriate and should it fit in with the existing character of the town? Apart from the questions surrounding the wildlife corridor no information is being gathered about our other open spaces - playing fields community spaces, amenity green spaces, outdoor sports facilities, how important these are to residents or how they could be protected. Other than footpaths and cycle routes there are no questions about recreation and leisure spaces. Conservation and heritage issues have not been considered. Should the significant buildings and frontages mentioned in the current conservation statement be protected? Do we need a Local List? The Colliery War Memorial is a listed monument but is not included in the listings map. There is no 'neutral' box in the feedback so residents have to choose to for or against every question. I have answered very few questions simply because there is insufficient information on which to base a decision. Some questions for example Q18 ask the respondent to agree or disagree with opposing courses of action - to regeneration or replace older housing areas. There is a very heavy emphasis on some areas of relevance to a NP for example wildlife conservation and little or non to other relevant areas such as conservation of the built environment, heritage, other green spaces and recreation.

General observations... 1. Focus should be upon improvement rather than on development. Should try to repair and maintain what we already have rather than development for developments' sake. Sadly development isn't always the same as improvement. 2. I find the format of the questionnaire very frustrating. Firstly, because there is no option for a neutral stance upon proposed developments. I am expected to have a defined opinion on each proposal, when for some a don't have a strong view either way. Secondly, there are many statements which, in themselves, one could hardly disagree with improved employment opportunities. However, without knowing exactly what the employment might be it would be wrong to give carte blanche to any development. A labour intensive incinerator on the moor? I think not. 3. Any proposal should address the short term immediate and specific, realistic needs of those visitors to Newbiggin who come for recreational/tourist reasons. They are often different to the needs of the residents of the town. Residents want to see a clean, safe, pleasant environment throughout the year and not one that appears neglected for long periods of time only to be addressed at the start of the summer months. 4. Environmental quality is important for everyone resident or visitor. This is where the focus upon repair and maintaining what we already have is so important. The tourist focus of the beach and the promenade, as it is for recreational use of residents. Litter collection, removal of dog dirt and clearance of weeds must be done regularly and efficiently. We have to face facts that there will always be a minority who drop litter and allow their dogs to foul the footpaths and verges. (We were told at the public consultation event that the costs for a dog warden for one day per week would be £8,000 per year! I suspect there would be uproar in the wider community if that figure was widely disclosed, not least a queue of people applying for a such a relatively lucrative position. Such a position will not address the issue, not the least on the 6 days, 16 hours per week when said person was not at work. Ensure that litter and waste clearance is explicitly written into the job descriptions of all relevant operatives, plus more regular schedule for emptying and cleaning bins, particularly along the promenade. Having stinking bins positioned next to seating for visitors and residents to use was not the cleverest idea! 5. As a regular dog walker myself I note with frustration the fact that there appears to be a totally random distribution of rubbish bags throughout the town. Some areas have no bins, whilst others seem to have an embarrassment of riches. There are 10 bins within the 30 metres of The Coble! 6. The document refers to Big Issues, one being the distinctiveness of Newbiggin, The seafront and possibly Front Street can be regarded as distinctive. If you live up The Moor or in the Spittal Estate then, in fairness, you could be on any other estate in many other settlements within Wansbeck. It would be naive to claim that there was a distinctive character to the entire settlement. 7. There seems to be conflicting underlying themes which run through the document and the questionnaire. Does Newbiggin want to be promoted as a small village - like community, a centre for tourism with unique character or promoted as a vibrant town with a focus upon commercial employment growth? Traditional retail is in decline throughout the country and this is not solely a Newbiggin problem. Newbiggin needs to cut its cloth accordingly and not try to be what it cannot be without a level of financial investment which is totally unrealistic. Q 1-5: An aerial view of Newbiggin and the surrounding environment would show a significant amount of existing open space, encompassing a variety of biodiversity habitats. Further planting of appropriate vegetation is to be encouraged. However, it will need to be maintained and not left as many existing parts are, to be gathering grounds for litter and fly tipping. Note the planted area adjacent to Spittal Burn by the sewage works and the open space adjacent to East Lea which have been traps for rubbish and only cleared on a regular basis by volunteer litter pickers. The other green approach via the 'narrow path' has real potential for further planting, but has virtually never been maintained by the Council. (This spring the area did get a verge cutting and council litter pick...the first in a great many years.) As stated in the outset, focus on repair and maintenance. Q 6-8 In principle these seem laudable aspirations, but they need to be appropriate for the needs of both residents and tourists. Poorly thought out schemes are invariably end as white elephants, causing further frustrations. An example of this is the long term vacant retail



units adjoining the Town Council Offices. Realistically, Newbiggin is a dormitory settlement, with good existing communication links to existing employment centres within the wider region. Q 9-10 As stated previously, the principal attractions relate to the promenade, beach and areas immediately adjoining. These must be maintained to the best standards throughout the year. Litter Bins need to be emptied and cleaned on a regular basis, particularly after busy weekend/Bank holiday periods. The promenade wave splash needs regular weeding throughout the growing season, likewise mowing the grassy banks and the south end of the promenade and adjacent two ramps. Litter and weeds need to be the ongoing focus of council workers, rather than sweeping and shovelling sand, which only returns the next time we have wind off the sea. What a pointless exercise, particularly when there are litter issues ongoing throughout the town. British coastal tourism is heavily weather dependant, a factor out of all of our hands, so visitor numbers can fluctuate widely day by day throughout the busy season. A clean, welcoming environment, with clean and accessible toilets will go a long way. It is outside the scope of this plan, but a post office would have a massive positive impact on both tourist and residents alike. Q13 - Absolutely no need and at prohibitive cost, both financial and environmental. Short term queuing at peak time at the North Seaton exit to the village cannot justify the cost of a new road link. If there is an issue with congestion at this point then reconfigure the lanes on the roundabout for a lip lane running out of Newbiggin. The proposed road link would adversely affect the existing wildlife corridor along the narrow path, bring additional speeding traffic passed the school and park areas where lots of young children play unaccompanied. It will also encourage ribbon development, thus contradicting the aspiration to retain a clear separation of settlements. Q16-18 Unclear what the focus here is meant to be. Building for what purpose? Is there a waiting list for property of any type: is there a shortage of a certain type. Greenfield or brownfield development. Major development will increase risk of the settlement merging with Ashington. The old Moorside School site has remained vacant for a considerable period and is not a sightly approach in its present state.

Q1 - Keep green area around Newbiggin and don't build another road through it. Q4 - At the expense of what - is wildlife bothered? Q5 - Doesn't some wildlife like wet areas? Q7 - Improved employment opportunities - Newbiggin is really only a large village and it will never be a great hub of employment. Most people commute to work and we have many larger towns within a short distance. Newbiggin needs to be a pleasant place to live and commute to work in SE Northumberland/Newcastle. Q8 - Use the empty shops int he town council building. Q 10 - Providing future visitor attractions: - Again Newbiggin is quite small and already has the natural attraction of the sea. We cannot afford to build or maintain a large scale attraction that would not fit in anyway. We need to make the most of the assets we have by keeping them clean and tidy - particularly the promenade. Newbiggin needs to be a beautiful place to visit and a great place to live because this is what provides prosperity for the retail outlets which are our main source of employment and which in turn keep Newbiggin looking prosperous and attractive to residents and visitors alike. Q 12 - by not building a road near the narrow path Q13 - A new link road from Woodhorn roundabout: ABSOLUTELY NOT. a) cutting through our green space & spoiling the narrow path which is our best and safest walking/cycling route, b) passing the school and the doctors surgery, c) making the junction by memorial park much busier and more dangerous, d) making future development in the green area much more likely in the future. We need a feeder lane to Newcastle on the North Seaton roundabout, or lights for rush hour in the morning - at most times of the day it is not particularly congested. Q14 - Not at the expense of green space. Q15 - Such as?? Q16 - Build on Moorside School NOW! Q17 - Don't understand the question. We don't need lots of new development - apart from building homes on the Moorside site which is an eyesore - we need to concentrate our resources on properly maintaining what we already have. Someone said we are spending £8,000 a year of a one-day a week dog warden - a total waste. We need to employ someone to keep the place clean and weed free. The County Council van that goes along the prom does very little, they waste lots of time sweeping sand.

I would like to see the area where the old tennis courts are used as a leisure tourist areas. Cae - doggy friendly with little pods for local artists and crafts people to use as workshops and shops. I believe this will encourage people and tourists to walk & use the whole length of the prom, where as at the moment they only walk half way along the prom, as there is nothing further along. I believe the views back across the bay from this point are the best Newbiggin has to offer & should be celebrated to encourage more people to visit and work in the town.

I don't think the road from Woodhorn roundabout is needed, at the moment the road needs traffic calming. Not sure what other attractions you mean but I think people will come if the beach and prom are kept clean and tidy. Please not more mention of the Cresswell Arms toilets. Maybe look at making East Sea Sands more accessible to people.

Q6 Encouraging local shops to be used by locals, 'use it or lose it' flyers through all doors reminded. Toilets at car park to me open, may encourage bus trips etc. Q9 I believe 'cobles' used to do trips out of the bay for public years ago, probably not possible now but would be a great attraction. Cross collaboration with other councils: given the advancement of Amble and all of the improvements there surely it wouldn't hurt to liaise with Amble council to see if any of their initiatives can be transferred to Newbiggin.

1. Repair and renovate dilapidated housing and garages 2. road and path repairs 3. Make parking areas outside peoples homes and get parked cars off main roads. 4. Parking outside co-op needs addressing

Q. 10 - No amusement arcades please. Q. 17 - What is meant by allocations.

Q. 10 - No amusement arcades please. Q. 17 - What is meant by allocations.

1. Provide better parking in village centre 2. Clean up beach/sea front areas more frequently 3. Improve local library facility, it has deteriorated greatly since library closed 4. When can we expect a post office

I would like a rail link to come to the top end of Newbiggin around the Woodhorn Roundabout area. Also a water/splash park (like Ridley Park, Blyth), also a summer music festival/day on the prom, also more housing for families to stay local which would be best served by rail links.

Regeneration - helping new businesses and existing businesses grow. We don't need to look at the past but to the future, car parking and signage is a major thing. How can visitors know where parking etc. is if there isn't enough clear signage. I often point people to the beach once they've been to may shop, a lot don't know that there are several entrances to the beach from the main road. Get the basics right and the rest will fall into place. I do think Newbiggin should be made better for its residents firstly rather than doing everything for the visitors; we live here all the time. Traffic issues need to be addressed, cars using the roads into the town are fast and irresponsible at times. I live on Woodhorn Crescent, the road is wide and unsafe to cross at times. There are a few older people who live in the area and its dangerous when they cross and cars using it as a racing track. The parking next to the doctors on the bend as you enter the new road towards the school is an accident waiting to happen. I know it's not the town councils responsibility but it needs to be sorted alongside the parking at the school, I know it's encouraged doe parents to walk, I do but lots can't as they are on their way to work. Children and adults find it difficult to cross the crossing point as there are often cars parked on the side of the road up to there and cars don't stop. This will only get worse if the road is opened up to the roundabout. A proper crossing or a lollipop lady is needed asap before someone is hurt. The promenade is desperate for better designed bins so you don't have to touch them to dispose of rubbish. Planters next to seats instead of smelly bins would be nice. Businesses could 'sponsor' a planter so a small plaque with their business details are on it. A yearly fee would cover the planting for them. A beach warden would be an asset so it could relieve the council cleaners to do the rest of Newbiggin, the beach warden could concentrate on the beach, prom, main street to help keep it clean, fix problems and general handyman services. In the winter they could collect small items for disposal and do the small tubs the council don't have the budget for anymore.

Q6 - Our concern is that previous regeneration seems to have meant pulling down the old to replace with empty shops and flats in an uninspiring building. Q9 - We already have a considerable list of attractions and events. Past proposals have not always been successful e.g. the over spill car park cost £8,000 has never housed a single car. Q10 - no more toilets needed Q14 - Difficult to know what this means precisely, the A197 effectively connects the village centre to Woodhorn and the bus route already exists. If a station was built presumably it would have car park facilities and bus access.

Q6 - Our concern is that previous regeneration seems to have meant pulling down the old to replace with empty shops and flats in an uninspiring building. Q9 - We already have a considerable list of attractions and events. Past proposals have not always been successful e.g. the over spill car park cost £8,000 has never housed a single car. Q10 - no more toilets needed Q14 - Difficult to know what this means precisely, the A197 effectively connects the village centre to Woodhorn and the bus route already exists. If a station was built presumably it would have car park facilities and bus access.

In my view car parking is the biggest problem in Newbiggin by the Sea. A recent example was an event at the Sports Centre that attracted hundreds of people who arrived in cars. Every area around the Sports Centre was used for car parking. Cars were parked on either side of the road creating a hazardous situation; almost every grass area was used for parking. Friends and visitors constantly tell us that parking in Newbiggin is inadequate.

We are members of the Newbiggin Dolphin Watch and feel that this organisation deserves more financial support from the following reasons: Raise marine wildlife awareness, Attract visitors from outside Newbiggin, Visitors should bring in revenue, This organisation is a wonderful way to help promote Newbiggin's unique wildlife diversity, It could help bring the community together, Dolphin watch brings people of all ages together. We are not opposed to having a pier or marina in Newbiggin

Regarding Q 2,3,4&5 - Future development should be guided by past failures. The woodland area between Woodlea and East Lea which is a main bus route carrying visitors to the town, and, which the council has failed to protect this area from the dumping of household waste on a frequent basis. We seem to be operating a system of damage limitation, ineffective and total clean ups and fines for those responsible. Rough sleepers are present in this area which can be seen by the waste materials produced i.e. hundreds of beer cans, presumably from the colliery off licence, judging by the brands. Litter, garbage, bags of household rubbish and garden masonry and rubbish which have a devastating effect of local wildlife. Horses harnessed and tethered to fences have wrecked protective fencing. This development cost thousands of pounds of council tax payers money and grants presumably. Nothing has been done to protect it. Lessons should be learned from this and if past project protection can't be achieved then there lies a fundamental problem. Tidy current pedestrian and cycle routes as well as wildlife area should be a high priority. I am happy to provide a guided tour of the effected/surrounding area to officials so the scale of the problem can be fully appreciated. I am a 40 year resident of Newbiggin and my wife was born here. We love Newbiggin and are happy to share ideas and opinions in order to maintain and improve the area.

Newbiggin by the Sea has almost no industry or commercial offices. We need 'disposable income' to generate an economy and that means upmarket housing and high quality facilities for visitors. A thriving economy means jobs and higher standard of living for all residents. Too many of our young people move away because they cannot get the career prospects they look for

Q6. - Tidy up landscaping Q8. In Northern area Q9&10. More floral displays on prom and temporary kiosks for fayres At present Newbiggin Council cannot keep the town in an attractive manner. Poorly kept flower beds, boring promenade - no floral tubs etc. The landscaping around 'the couple' sculpture is pathetic. Comparing Newbiggin to Morpeth shows a marked difference. A lot of people come to Newbiggin to walk the promenade and free plentiful parking is a good draw. More industry around the old Alcan site would be good. A Christmas Fayre along the village street using timber kiosks linked to the existing

shops like is done on the continent. These kiosks could be kept stored for other uses over the year.. The town looks pretty around Gibson Street but shabby elsewhere. Spend some money on smartening the place up and use easy maintained landscaping.

There must be a focus on attracting investment into the town and upon increasing commercial activity. If people do not visit Newbiggin the town will wither and die. New and existing visitor attractions must be properly maintained and developed. In particular the beach and promenade must be kept clean and could be enhanced by the addition of a shelter at the west end and various flower planters and hanging baskets along the length.

New or refurbished toilets at Maritime Centre carpark end of town needed/ Possibly with showers for day trippers. Overnight parking to encourage campervans to visit short term.

New or refurbished toilets at Maritime Centre carpark end of town needed/ Possibly with showers for day trippers. Overnight parking to encourage campervans to visit short term.

Lack of litter bins in East Lea and the wooded grassed areas. It will be a beautiful area if maintained and of great aesthetic benefit to Newbiggin. Why can't the council provide skips to help get rid of unwanted rubbish.

Q.18 Regeneration but not replacement, far too many historic buildings have been replaced to the detriment of the town. A Newbiggin by the Sea Family Heritage Centre would be a unique new selling point for the town - attracting new visitors and an important under developed marking in 'homecoming' - local people away coming back to their roots. It would be a wonderful resource for local people building upon visceral interest in the own family. Supporting the development of new research skills, communication in writing, speaking and IT, helping people gain marketable skills and building a confidence in the community based on Newbiggin's wonderful past achievements. Located on the former tennis courts in Milburn Park this would be a wonderful new amenity complimenting the Maritime Centre and encouraging the development of the whole of Newbiggin Bay.

The Newbiggin library should be on the main street.

I used to hear Newbiggin described as a 'dead end town'. Anything that can build on tourism as employment and enhance the place for residents. Encourage the place on Coastal Route, clean it up more. Enforce litter and dog fouling. Mark our parking spaces more efficiently. Bring some colour into the town centre e.g. flowers, bunting. Use the 'by the sea' theme. Encourage people off the prom and onto the street to spend money in local shops. Make Newbiggin a day out, not just a walk along the prom. Provide facilities for beach, deck chairs etc.

Newbiggin needs a permanent attraction such as a proper harbour with boat trips etc. a marina would be a great improvement bringing lots of visitors. A good example would be Amble. We need better shops with more choice, such as a supermarket or freezer shop! Also a hardware shop would be great. We are once again desperate for a post office.

Newbiggin has a lovely beach, bay and promenade that could host i.e. Sunday market or beach hut types small business opportunities (similar to Amble). This addition to Amble on the harbour brings a lot of tourists, day trippers and walkers which enhance the town. I'm sure Newbiggin could match/mirror this on the nice promenade which in turn could help local business. Boarded up shops; surely reduced rents/ rates to encourage new business should be looked at as boarded up shops make nothing, employ no-one and make the town look run down and poor. i.e. Blyth Town Centre is the perfect comparison. Flower tubs and hanging baskets throughout the main town centre would have a nice impact. As a resident of Newbiggin I'd love to get involved with the running/management of its town centre. Telephone number provided.

We desperately need a post office, local bank and solicitors and 24/7 public toilets. We need to make Newbiggin more welcoming e.g. mobile homes and caravan tourers. We need to get rid of stray dogs . We need CCTV monitoring, Ensure limits are in place on holiday lets. Focus on bay activities positives, have a dedicated travel/tourism shop of information centre, promote marine wildlife viewing. Invest in high end seafood restaurant, Newbiggin Maritime Centre should be open every day in the summer. No mention of a

<p>marina - even a small scale one would be useful. More plants and shrubs around the town to make it colourful . Some of these can be achieved at little cost.</p>
<p>Apart from the traders and RNLI few events are organised. Full assistance should be given to these organisations as without them few events would be held.</p>
<p>Improvements needed to the promenade</p>
<p>Q. 18 - Support regeneration of older housing areas but not the replacement of older housing areas.</p>
<p>Q 18 - Support regeneration but NOT replacement</p>
<p>1 - Improve street signage - i.e. spital road sign obscured by metal posts/box. 2 - Clear sand form the promenade - it's built up in certain parts of the promenade. 3 - Install (at least one) webcam - to show beach, couple sculpture/and or Maritime Centre/Church. The people can view online.</p>
<p>At Christmas the lights need to be all together, not spread out at Dixons Corner or The Colliery areas. They should be all together in the commercial "shopping" area of the town. The tree has been poor for the past couple of years, compared to when it was first erected. Our Prom is the longest in Northumberland. and not enough is made of that fact, i.e. it should be lit up all year round with coloured lights at Christmas time. This would be an excellent tourist attraction and fundraising could be done for it.</p>
<p>now most of the subjects that on this leaflet are old questions some must be 40yrs old, still nothing ever comes of them. Link roads, train stations, pit flood plains, drains, homes to be built. Do you think any notice is in your favour.</p>
<p>Some questions are difficult for me to answer definitively because I do not understand the situation well enough. Particularly with view to what are termed "start up units" I do not know what these are really. If they are small businesses perhaps they should be in an area on the outskirts or if they are directly of benefit to the communities day to day living such as new retail shops then in town would be OK. With regards to providing tourist attractions that would very much depend upon what the attractions were that were being proposed. Noisy gaudy attractions would not be my preference but those that help the enjoyment of the coast and wildlife such as a sanctuary might be wonderful. I have done my best to answer the questions I could and would have wanted an option for "don't know" for questions number 8, 9, 10, for number 11 I answered yes. Because this survey cannot be sent without an answer I have opted to answer no to most of the ones I am unsure of (when in doubt, do nowt! so they say). Those that I cannot really answer. As a new resident, I am very interested in how Newbiggin proposes to develop and hope there will be further opportunities to have input. Thank you for the opportunity to think about these things.</p>
<p>No</p>
<p>There is a need for affordable food shopping outlets post office petrol station. Any future retailers need to provide new shops not replicate what already exists i.e. no more cafes or pizza shops.</p>
<p>We need more in Newbiggin for children between the ages of 11 and 18 they are roaming the streets causing trouble and vandalising things as "there's nowt better to do"</p>
<p>Money would be better spent on putting parking bays alongside the school road to improve parking &amp; safety and if need be a road to connect from the colliery to school road to reduce traffic at White House corner rather than putting in a road from Woodhorn roundabout.</p>
<p>I feel creating family homes with 2+ double bedrooms, large gardens, good size rooms and off street parking will bring hardworking families to the area who will spend their money locally and attend events within the town with their friends and family therefore boosting the local economy. Well maintained green spaces utilising and employing local families will boost community pride and lead to less fly-tipping and vandalism. Community events and projects providing training and experience opportunities will strengthen already strong bonds and increase local pride giving families hope for improved living standards and career opportunities. Newbiggin has many committed activists and volunteers who</p>

litter-pick, fund-raise, organise events, take care of wildlife, make eco-friendly improvements and run local charitable businesses. If Newbiggin-by-the-Sea can become known for being a leader in environmental protection and disability (including autism etc) inclusive (beach wheelchairs - autism friendly day - vegan food choices at cafes - no single use plastics - recycling - beach cleans) we can attract many businesses, wealthy families and tourists to the town.

What is needed in Newbiggin are 2 and 3 bedroom bungalows.

I support regeneration but not at the expense of older homes some of which are better built than the new ones. Refurbish the old ones. I was told by a County Councillor long before the school was built that the road was taken off the plan because it would be dangerous for the school and school children, so I certainly do not support the road. It will cut Newbiggin in half. A 'rat run' that will encourage people to speed with twice as many cars crossing the grass between Collingwood Road and Central Parkway as they do now, which is too many. They are causing deep ruts and it looks a mess. It gets worse every year, and very bad when children are going to and from school. An accident waiting to happen. A so called Northumberland County Council's "Protected open space" according to the Local Plan.

I was unable to attend either of the drop-in meetings that have been held but I would like to ask that a history centre is included in the plans as I feel that it is very important that our heritage isn't forgotten & that it is available to be on display to locals & visitors alike. I am part of the Newbiggin Genealogy Project & we have held two very successful exhibitions, we received some amazing comments & I feel that there should be somewhere available so that they can be on permanent display. I hope that my suggestion can be considered by the Town Council and be included in the Development plan

I support Newbiggin retaining it's own identity in terms of separation of settlements but some links must remain to welcome to the town of Newbiggin ensuring it is accessible and welcoming by both foot, cycle or car. The creation of a wildlife corridor that links to other wildlife areas within the Parish should be welcomed but must include a robust management plan so that it does not become another areas for fly tipping. Regeneration should be welcomed; organisations within the town should work together to create a strategic plan for regeneration and employment, asking Northumberland County Council to back the plan both in principle and with some financial investment as at present Newbiggin appears to be off the radar as far as County Council are concerned. The beach and promenade are Newbiggin's main asset and responsibility should be taken in reviewing the management of the beach with investment to create and enforce a management plan. More should be done to encourage cyclists travelling on route 155 or route 1 to stop or take a rest break in Newbiggin. Some signage along the route promoting what Newbiggin has to offer and steps to become a cycle friendly town to reduce parking issues, carbon omissions and encourage healthier living. A road link from Woodhorn would encourage more to visit Newbiggin but due to the proximity of the academy steps must be taken to ensure this is done with the safety of the children has a top priority. Housing development should be welcomed to promote sustainability of the town - with more done to encourage people to shop local.

My family live in Newbiggin and always give it praise and my two sisters who are 16 and 18 are hoping to find work in Newbiggin and as there are not a lot of job opportunities in the area have to look elsewhere, if there was new stores and the town was updated it would greatly improve the town

Rail link would only work if it came into the town and terminated at the old terminus of the surgery, making the proposed road link obsolete and only viable to take traffic to all day parking at the welfare fields. A better traffic control system at North Seaton(Sandy Bay) roundabout would improve the flow to remove the need of a costly third road system that would only benefit our racing community.

Improved parking close to town centre whilst there is a large car park near the visitor centre it is a long walk for people with reduced mobility and may be put off coming to Newbiggin because of that reason

We need to boost the profile of our village and make it attractive to live in and attractive to visitors

There is a huge problem with nuisance neighbours and anti-social behaviour in parts of Newbiggin. There should be tighter controls as this spoils our reputation and stagnates property values. It is extremely frustrating to have to live next door to dysfunctional drug dealers/users. It is not good to be kept awake all night by noise from neighbours and then have to get up for work without much sleep. Tighter controls are needed for landlords who rent to people who have been evicted from other areas. Who would want to relocate to this town with individuals like this living here?. The police come out regularly but the problem is never solved. The community environmental team also seem to be ineffective. Solving the problem of anti-social individuals would be the single most benefit to the development and future of Newbiggin.

Please see my comments below regarding a Woodhorn Road Link reference NCC Local Plan Policy TRA 3 section 3(d) - Policy TRA 3 3(b) Newbiggin/Ashington Link Positively Prepared: The local plan for the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' shows no evidence that the needs of the area has been objectively assessed. Justified: I can find no justification to state that this local plan ('Newbiggin/Ashington Link') is- 1. an appropriate strategy, 2. that no appropriate alternatives have been taken into account, and 3. the need for the local plan is based on proportionate evidence. Consistent with national policy: The local plan for the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' fails to comply in 3 topics covered by the National Planning Policy- Section 3. Plan Making – 'd) ...contain policies that are clearly written and unambiguous,...' – My interpretation of the local plan for the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' is that a road will be built as a continuation of Central Parkway, Newbiggin by the Sea alongside the Grace Darling Campus school entrance, along the 'narrow path' and joining the Woodhorn roundabout. Council officials I have spoken to infer that there are no plans to build a road – but the policy outlines safeguarding the land to protect it from other developments. In my opinion, the local plan is not clearly written and it not unambiguous. Section 8. Promoting healthy and safe communities – In general and in particular- '91. Planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places...' With the proposed local plan for a 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' I personally think a main road from Newbiggin to the Woodhorn roundabout will inhibit pedestrian connections between neighbourhoods (in contradiction with 91(a)). Section 9. Promoting sustainable transport – 102. In general With the proposed local plan for a 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' I personally think a road from Newbiggin to the Woodhorn roundabout will not promote opportunities for walking, cycling or public transport. I cannot find any evidence where the environmental impact of traffic and transport infrastructure has been identified, assessed and taken into account for a 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' – including appropriate opportunities for avoiding and mitigating any adverse effects. I cannot find any evidence for the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' where patterns of movement, streets, parking and other transport considerations has been taken and incorporated into the design of the 'Newbiggin/Ashington Link' Local Road Improvement Scheme. General Comments: Policy TRA 3 section 3(b) outlines plans to support improvement of Northumberland's Local Road Network. This is understood. However, I find no evidence, findings or justification given within the local plan or the 3rd Local Transport plan 2011-2026 that there is a business case or economic sense to build an additional road that links Newbiggin Central Parkway road to Woodhorn roundabout. In the 3rd Local Transport Plan 2011-2026, there is no mention of Newbiggin other than in section 4 - Economic Growth and regeneration – 'The visitor economy has seen significant development in recent years with the redevelopment of Woodhorn Museum, near Ashington, and a maritime museum is being developed in Newbiggin-by-the-Sea.' This alone does not in my opinion justify or creates a business case to build a

Newbiggin/Ashington Link road. In the 3rd Local Transport Plan 2011-2026, the Central Government guidance sets five national transport goals. The LTP states that it sets out Northumberland's Transport strategy in context of these national goals. Building a Newbiggin/Ashington Link road contradicts three of these goals – 'Reduce Carbon Emissions', 'Contribute to Better Safety, Security & Health' and 'Improve Quality of Life and a Healthy Natural Environment'. The original Newbiggin/Ashington Link road was proposed in the Wansbeck District Local Plan (July 2007) Policy T9(g) - the A197 Woodhorn to Newbiggin Link Road section 7.29. Since then the former Newbiggin Middle School was demolished and the Church of England Grace Darling Campus built. The main difference now is access to the School – The new school entrance is along Central Parkway (the former Ashington/Newbiggin railway and where the Newbiggin/Ashington Link is proposed). In addition to this, there is planning application registered for the 'Proposal for the erection of a new single storey sports clubhouse for the use of AFC Newbiggin with associated car park' – which is on the field opposite to the Grace Darling campus school. This is where I feel that the safety of pupils, parents, sports persons and local residents would be put at a significantly increased risk of serious injury or fatality due to the envisaged the traffic from/to Newbiggin by the introduction of a Newbiggin/Ashington Link road. Changes sought: Withdraw section 3(b) Newbiggin/Ashington Link from Policy TRA 3. The reasons behind this are- 1. Safety: Pedestrians (including a majority of children) may be put at a significant risk of serious injury or fatality 2. Justification: There is no evidence, facts or business case that Newbiggin/Ashington Link is required 3. Soundness: There are no facts or justification that support the notion that Newbiggin/Ashington Link scheme should be classed as a Local Road Network improvement

I would like to see a no tolerance crack down on litter & Dog fouling. as it takes away the beauty of Newbiggin by the sea. Also it would be nice to encourage the likes of a Brewers Farye/Generous George or such like for local families and tourists to go in the evenings.

I find it difficult to present an informed opinion without knowing the available budget and costings for the ideas presented as 'Big Issues'. It is not clear what problem has been identified that the 'Big Issues' have been formulated to address. It presents as a disparate list of unrelated ideas. Taking the first 'Big Issue' for instance, why is it necessary to separate settlements? In the current social and political climate I would argue that this concept is fundamentally open to misinterpretation. If however the big idea is to re-invent Newbiggin by-the-Sea as an ideal place to visit on a day trip or to stay for a weeks holiday that would negate the need to ask the question as Newbiggin by-the-Sea would assert its own identity. This is something that would have my wholehearted support. Many of the Big Issues listed are not issues at all but a list of things it might be 'nice' to do. What is the issue that requires the creation of a wildlife corridor? Anybody who has ridden on the cycle paths around Newbiggin by-the-Sea would know that the beginnings of a wildlife corridor already exists. This does however urgently need extending. Cyclists coming from the north on the North Sea cycle route come to a stop around Newbiggin by-the-Sea. The next part, which would take them safely south, is currently a hideous journey, wrought with danger. Please try and navigate it yourselves before embarking on any proposals for change. Whoever suggested a link road from the Woodhorn roundabout has not taken into account the safety of the pupils entering or leaving Grace Darling Campus. Cars speed along Central Parkway in advance of the speed limit. Currently they have to slow down and stop at the school. Imagine what it would be like if they didn't have to slow down there but could carry on all the way to Woodhorn! Cars, vans, motorbikes and 4X4's already criss cross across the colliery field endangering unwary pedestrians, maybe a fence around that would be a clear response to an already identified issue. What is the issue that has raised the suggestion that new families are to be encouraged into the village? Grace Darling Campus has reached its standard number every year. There have even been occasions where, due to oversubscription, children have been placed in William Leech Campus at Lynemouth. Where is the data to suggest that families with young children are moving out of the village? I would have thought policies regarding any



changes to the housing in Newbiggin by-the-Sea would be beyond the remit of the Parish Council but encouraging landlords and residents to take responsibility for maintenance of gardens, instilling a sense of civic pride would be well within its capabilities. As far as I can see your Big Issue should be the re-generation of Newbiggin by-the-Sea as an inviting seaside holiday destination. Your action plan could then concentrate on ensuring there are measures in place to achieve that aim. Happy to discuss.

Regeneration of the town centre would bring more people to shop, the maritime carpark and town centre carparks are full on weekends so the customer base is there.

A new road into Newbiggin must be treated as high priority for commuters like me

Strongly disagree to the new road as the increased volume of traffic will be dangerous as the situation in the roads around central parkway is already dangerous. Certain councillors are looking after their own interests to keep traffic away from their own houses and direct it to others. Disgusting behaviour. Children are not safe in the central parkway area and it will only get worse.

We need more youth and young person's policies to encourage younger people to stay and sustain the town if you keep hearing everything to the over 55 demographic the town/village will die

I strongly believe the link road to Woodhorn is a bad idea. That road is already being used at speed despite it leading to a school. I am surprised there hasn't already been an accident. There is no need for a further access road in my opinion.

Love Newbiggin, been here for 5 years now. So friendly and welcoming.

Can County Council help support these improvements to a greater degree?