

AYCLIFFE VILLAGE HALL MEETING – MONDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 2014

We held a very successful first event at Aycliffe Village Hall on Monday 1st September. There was an amazing turnout with 72 residents attending, thank you everyone for taking the time to come along. Its important to stress that this is your time to have your say and help shape the future of the Village.

The main issue of the evening was housing – including the site which has been identified at Congreve Terrace for 30 houses. The overriding concern raised was about poor access. Angela Corner will be contacting the DCC Planners to see if she can find out more information on this site.

The protection of the village identity was paramount for everyone in attendance. Protection of the green ‘village type’ areas was discussed as well as the need for a buffer zone to ensure it stays as a Village. Part of the evening was spent discussing a map [click here to view it.](#) where ‘potential development sites’ were identified. This was not saying, this is where housing is going to be, just, that it could possibly go there. The idea was to raise awareness of this and get residents to think about what they wanted that space for. Such as new housing, some off-street parking, protecting the green spaces.

A large number of people were concerned about the speed of vehicles passing through the village on the A167 including the fact that some housing now had access onto the main road. Mr Ron Hogg the Police Crime Commissioner for County Durham was in attendance and asked that anyone with an issue could contact his office. <https://www.durham-pcc.gov.uk/Contact/Contact.aspx> This could also be discussed at the regular PACT meeting as well.

It was very clear that the preferred option for the North Brit site was a shop. Angela Corner has been in discussions with the Owner of the site who is keen to hear what the residents want/need here.

The need to retain and protect the Village School was also discussed. There was concern that the land could be sold off and the fact that the school was already over subscribed without taking into account extra housing

This is a very brief outline of the main concerns raised but watch this space for updates and additional comments.