

Comments from Your Issues, Our Proposals

Response No	Comments	Consideration
1	I think you have covered everything. Myself and my husband are pensioners in our 60s. Reasonable sized bungalows would be nice. Just cause we are old, I don't see why pensioners should have to live in small place. We don't wish to live in a rabbit hutch which is what it feels like.	Support the proposals
2	To upgrade road from A689 to Woodham. This road is not fit for purpose. The entrance exit to Tescos is like being at the funfair, dodgems. People living in this area should learn to indicate, before bringing in the speed issue. Since when is it correct for postmen to jump over a garden wall as a shortcut to deliver mail.	Upgrade of A689 to be put forward as a CIL/Section 106 priority
13	Some older people would like a small house but a bigger garden. I would prefer a larger retail park.	Bigger houses less affordable, affordable is a priority retail
15	I moved to Newton Aycliffe in Jan 15 having lived in the south previously. It is very important to me that the green spaces and woodland areas are not encroached upon for any development needs as this is a key reason why I chose to live where I do now.	Support the proposals
16	We recently moved to Newton Aycliffe as the area keeps the green belt/open spaces. More trees should be planted for the future, any factories should have green areas around them.	Support the proposals
19	Housing 3 - Not totally avoided	
20	Get some shops that serve people not eg male outfitters not just one shop. Is Newton Aycliffe ready for Big Boom down on business park with shops and housing my partner? Move on what was Newton in 50s but now sitting still there now.	retail
21	It would have been better to have a complete shopping mall on the Aycliffe Industrial Estate and make the Town Centre into a leisure park with cafes and pleasure facilities if possible. I have spoken to other people who think the same.	retail
22	More attention to the state of footpaths and run off areas to facilitate those using electric scooters, wheelchairs etc. A lot are in a terrible state and appear to have been forgotten.	Issues already passed to DCC
24	1. To encourage residents to maintain their property and gardens in good repair and tidy. This includes landlords. 2. To develop green energy and have solar panels fitted to all council buildings	Not planning

26	<p>1. In respect of the 'Green Wedge' in Aycliffe Village, the historic St Andrews Church should be included within.</p> <p>2. Whilst I support some retail development on the industrial estates it should not detract from existing retail areas in the Town itself.</p> <p>3. Now the retail/industrial park is extended, why not extra post boxes.</p>	
27	<p>Environment Prop 1 - don't give up any green space to parking.</p> <p>Housing 5 - keep the green spaces.</p> <p>Town Centre Litter problem - bins need to be emptied daily, especially the ones outside Argos and Barnardos Charity Shop, they overflow and on windy days blow right down the street and could encourage rats. Stop the man feeding pigeons outside Argos daily, there must be 100 there (or more), the mess is huge.</p> <p>Empty shops in Town Centre - why not let cooperatives or craft students have them on short leases and low rents just to fill the area up and encourage footfall.</p>	<p>Retention of green spaces more important than anything else</p> <p>Retail</p>
35	<p>Housing3 - The bedroom tax requires a supply of one bedroom houses so I do not understand this proposal - is there not a shortage?</p> <p>Retail 3 - this would take business away from the shops in Newton Aycliffe</p>	
36	<p>Env 2 - It makes roads dangerous because at junctions, because the grass is too tall. Bottleneck at Bluebell junction put a one way road to the left for Burn Hill and Rushyford. That would help keep it clear for right turn, also one bedroom bungalows for older people to free up houses. A traffic warden is needed urgent, people parking in car areas made for electric cars. Also where our flower beds by the Chase and Byerley Park, thousands of cars use this road.</p>	
37	<p>'In our Image' Why isn't this striking piece of sculpture used more to promote and give identity to Aycliffe? Why does it stand hidden and largely forgotten behind tall trees on its present site? Can it be relocated to a more prominent and appropriate site</p>	Not planning
40	<p>Toilets in Town Centre. A market on waste ground (Cubby one) next to Tesco</p>	Not planning
42	<p>Transport and Access - At the moment there are 5 buses going from and to Newton Aycliffe. Could it be arranged that one of them could be re-routed to provide an hourly service from School Aycliffe (Heighington) to Darlington i.e. No 21 (Darlington to Sedgfield). At the moment the service 17 stops at 2pm and does not run at all on weekends and it could be re-routed around Newton Aycliffe to provide a proper Town Service??</p>	Transport issues already forwarded to DCC
43	<p>(Agnew - Greenfield Site home plans may go ahead) How can this be recommended!! Does not fit any criteria! In fact goes against everything Great Aycliffe Neighbourhood Plan envisages! Reply requested please.</p>	Reply sent

44	<p>(Housing Option 2 (for oaps)) 1. Aycliffe needs to stay the size it is with no further development except to finish current sites. Congestion is a major issue, especially at peak times.</p> <p>2. Facilitate better parking by utilising grass verges, they are usually barren and damaged anyway.</p> <p>3. Make pigeon control in our Town Centre and beyond a priority. Our 'New' Town Centre is being ruined already.</p> <p>4. Anti social behaviour such as leaving dog mess, inconsiderate/illegal parking, barking dogs, speeding cars/motorbikes etc etc should be issues our Council wardens/workers are targeting.</p> <p>5. Tree lined avenues in Aycliffe are all well and good but spare a thought for Aycliffe residents who are surrounded by big, old trees that cast shadows over their homes on a daily basis. Some can't see out of their own windows, let alone relax in the sun in their gardens. A comprehensive tree, bush felling/pruning operation is needed to ease residents' frustrations.</p> <p>6. Too much local authority pen pushing paper exercises. Not enough getting out there among it, circulating amongst residents and really finding out what p***es them off. Oops don't get me started.</p>	<p>Some support</p> <p>most not planning</p>
45	That the Town's population is regularly recorded so that prospective 'big name' retailers can reconsider whether the football justifies their future investment.	retail
46	<p>1. Although you have no direct influence over the town centre rents and development, as a town council, you need to be keeping up the constant pressure on the 'absentee southern landlords' who have no vested interest in it apart from profit. It is not enough to say you have no influence. You are our representatives.</p> <p>2. The same applies to the business park. If this is part of your geographical area, you need to have an influence into the development.</p>	retail
50	<p>1. A cinema and restaurant development would attract people into the Town.</p> <p>2. A food and drink fair like Bishop Auckland holds attracts many people and could be held at Oakleaf Leisure Centre.</p> <p>3. A festival of thrift fair like Lingfield Point, Darlington holds also at the Oakleaf.</p> <p>4. The multistorey car park is a huge eyesore and should be replaced with an open piazza with cafes and craft shops as it is on a main road through the town and would look more inviting to visitors.</p>	<p>Cinema, restaurant development has been investigated in the past</p> <p>Not planning</p>

51	<p>1. I live on Bickford Terrace. The 'Green' between our homes and Heighington Road is a wonderful green public area; we are lucky; vehicles are constantly parked in one area. Please, to preserve this area in line with your proposals, could a tree/boulder barrier be placed around the edge? To stop this vandalism! Or Perhaps just 1 or 2 'parking forbidden' notices on the green. Years ago there were such signs!</p> <p>2. The 'feel' of the Town Centre is not good! Especially with so many closed properties would a McDonalds or some such shop not be a good idea to bring more life to it?</p>	<p>Support the proposals</p> <p>retail</p>
56	Been on with town centre for months still not finished why	retail
60	The only worry of all the empty shops in the town centre. The Christmas decorations are lovely but only makes the centre more desolate.	retail
61	<p>Housing 2, not if it means demolishing existing pre-fabricated bungalows. 1. To improve our Town, more bins and dog bins especially on walking routes such as the route from Moore Lane Park all the way to the newt pond. Not one bin! But so much rubbish in the woods and along the road (Past the Gretna). I feel the Council and Livin no longer look after the towns residents/old!! ADC had residents at the top of their list.</p> <p>2. My example being - the lovely pre-fab bungalows on Clarence Green and Travellers Green - 8 (or more) are standing empty - yet there is a list of older or disabled waiting for properties exactly like them. I know for a fact there is nothing wrong with these bungalows - maybe a bit of a refurb but Livin I'm sure, are going to leave them empty for so long that eventually they will rot - (which of course will then be their excuse for ripping them down) - they are Aycliffes' history and need to be kept!! Also - the beautiful field which Gleeson are now building on was/is a disgrace! How/Why?? Did they get permission to build 80+ houses when the original owner of the field was NOT allowed to build ONE bungalow for himself (field behind Gilpin Road). Firstly, where they are building belonged to a - Green belt area - very close to natural pond (with GCNewts) - ALWAYS has been a quiet area of the town - hence the reason to house older folk and disabled (as not much traffic). IF anything HAD to be built - then it should have been bungalows and created an old folks community - with a gated area + a green with seats + trees + flowers - NO TRAFFIC BUT plans went ahead without asking residents of surrounding streets (until it was too late) - Its all about MONEY nowadays - not whats best or needed for the residents of Aycliffe. RETAIL: fill empty shops BEFORE building more. - REFURB existing EMPTY bungalows (ie Pre-fabs at Clarence Green) where 8 are standing empty! - GREENS - monitor and take action on people using playing greens as a 'highway' to park outside their homes!! (i.e. Pudsey Walk).</p>	

63	It is essential that Lord Beveridge's vision be retained as much as possible. Lack of uptake by retailers at Town Centre should be made an absolute top priority - pressure put on landlords to reduce rents would help.	Support the proposals Retail
64	Litter/rubbish continues to be a problem in the town centre, green spaces, along the Woodham Burn. The improvements to the town centre are encouraging but overflowing/unemptied bins detract from this. The problem is particularly prevent in the Tesco Aldi and Greenwell road fast food outlets, with discarded pizza/burger boxes, beer cans, plastic bottles etc. left on the roads/pavements. More regular cleaning required.	Not planning
67	As well has bungalows for the elderly smaller houses for young couples at an affordable price	Support the proposal
69	DCC seem to see the City area as a priority and the areas furthest away are, to the most part, forgotten or ignored. They need to address this.	
70	Need to ensure this plan is not as focussed on Aycliffe Village and serves the needs of the wider community.	
72	Re Transport and access - parking: What will Gt Aycliffe Town Council do to stop residents etc. parking on residential streets or half on pavement/half on pavement in residential streets (in existing housing areas)?	
74	Very disappointing that the whole ambience and population's experience of the town is dictated by excessive town centre shop rents. I believe this is the largest town in county Durham with a lot of private housing and households brining money in - if suitable shops were here. Don't appreciate being held to ransom.	Retail
75	Although I support the retention of trees around Newton Aycliffe, I think consideration needs to be taken into the proximity to houses and pavements etc. Taking into account the damage that can be caused by mature tree roots. Trees with a smaller eventual height should be considered as they also block the light.	Support the proposals
78	Environment item 2 - agree but with some reservation as ensuring green spaces are maintained should be the main priority. Item 4 I question if this is practicable in the long term. Housing item 6 – word the requirement for energy efficiency to be worked more strongly than encouraged. Ensure that all new development will not conflict with existing infrastructure and population.	
79	I am complaining about the state of the paths around Aycliffe, the surfaces are worn away in patches and tree roots are growing just below the surface and disturb? the surface also in fact they are a total disgrace and every time I go to town on my	

disability I am in danger of getting a puncture. Most disgruntled??

- 80 As a relatively new resident, I am very pleased to see this document. Just one niggle. The multi storey car park. The approach to, and the lift itself is ALWAYS dirty and/or wet. Retail No. 2 'too long'
- 81 Retail: land adjacent Cobblers Hall is ideal for a retail park similar to West Auckland Retail Park retail
- 82 Retail: allowing a small 'retail row' will possibly reduce existing shops locally to business parks turnover, and therefore 'possibly' see more closures
- 84 What is CIL or 106? CIL: who is going to inform Town council of the amount of funding available from CIL and Section 106. Also surely, this is essential information required before any plans can be drawn up. When setting up and prioritizing for investment do the local residents have a say.
Environment: Most if not 90% of the land is now owned by Livin who's policies seem to be the systematic removal of all garages in the town. Plus What green areas they do not own Durham council own. You also mention a green wedge in Aycliffe Village what about the Parish or is the Village a no go only area to be preserved and sod the rest.
Housing: How are you going to achieve this as living again own the land and properties for new bungalows and affordable homes and I would think that homes were the main priority not ones for sale. Also mentioned later you say job for Aycliffe residents first will this also apply to housing. (or is that discrimination). Nature was a key point earlier now you are wanting smaller garden thus changing the habitat of certain species. Again drives and garages which will have an effect on nature and wild life. Lord Beveridge was last century please can we have someone who can look to the future and not at the past. Next encourage green energy ideas should this not be MANDATORY.
Retail: shouldn't we already have our sites on a large retail park within the Aycliffe boundaries instead of small bitty shops and as for the town centre it is a joke. Mr Wilson promised us more shops and variety. All that he has achieved is to demolish half of the town centre, businesses have left and a lovely set of brick work which does not cloth or fees people. Why do we bow to a London firm and not advance our own future.
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87	Housing proposal 4- I have seen an increase in the number of mobility scooters/electric wheelchair users in the year since I moved here (1/11/2014). Both of these need a) easy access to electricity points and b) 'walking' storage facility which has both an electric power point to recharge the batteries, lighting and security eg locks. Wheelchair users (those who are unable to walk) need easy access to their homes and electricity point at bedside. I was lucky enough I had enough money to have a 2 door shed built at the end of the garden. I can only walk that far - about 4 metres. 600m? I wish!	
88	I particularly wish to see green spaces protected/retained, wildlife must be encouraged/protected and trees retained/enhanced. I came to live here over 25 years ago. I was encouraged to move here because of the abundance of trees (woodland and green spaces).	Support the proposals
96	The town centre development is still very poor and every encouragement should be made to help start up businesses provide a more diverse range of shops. The old Holliways garage on the Business Park would also be an excellent site for a large company to take over - someone like Marks & Spencer who could benefit from all the passing trade on the business park. I think green spaces are important but trade is the lifeblood of the town.	Support the proposals
98	Its fine to plant trees but can you please initiate pruning if trees are left to grow they are unsightly obscure view from homes, cause signposts to be illegible, footpaths in this area become impassable because of overhanging branches. There are some homes in this area that cannot receive sky signals during growing seasons only during the winter months and could have an impact now on selling their properties this was dismissed by council after they asked for trees to be pruned .They leave a lot of leaves to be cleared in the autumn despite having garden waste bins these collections stop mid October we are still collecting fallen leaves with nowhere to dispose of them. The access road to the community centre is a disgrace because of the above problem. we all take a pride in our gardens so please can you help in doing something about keeping trees looking cared for	

99	<p>Have recently (Oct) relocated to NA from Scotland, so we are still discovering the area and community issues. Initial impressions are quite favourable, with modern high quality housing being an obvious feature. We are also very impressed with the wide open green spaces, and tree lined avenues around the periphery. The heath care provision within the town is also excellent.</p> <p>Less favourable impression of the retail centre which looks like a concrete wasteland reminiscent of a Soviet development. We understand that this is well understood and is being addressed through redevelopment. Attracting a mix of quality retail outlets and pleasant cafes / restaurants, should be a priority. While I understand the importance of developing a vibrant night time economy (NTE), serious consideration should also be given to the social problems associated with this and evidenced throughout the UK. This is particularly important when all Local Authority budgets are under significant pressures; in particular, policing is being forced to undergo fundamental reform, and the future availability of sufficient visible policing during the NTE cannot be guaranteed. In terms of engaging with local residents and ensuring the wider involvement of the Greater Aycliffe community, the provision of simple, concise information is key. Can I suggest the use of bright, sophisticated and interesting web media (including social networks) which would encourage young and old alike to participate in planning for the future.</p>	
105	<p>Yes stand up for local residents in planning decisions when it affects safety and quality of life instead of toing the party line and allowing inappropriate housing development of our green spaces - stand up and be counted for once. Amazing how other local town councils stand up for their local areas but doesn't happen in Newton Aycliffe. We are already handicapped with the Labour County Councillors we have who are career councillors.</p>	
111	<p>Planning should be more open and agreeable to new family facilities such as retail shops / cinema and restaurant/bars</p>	retail
112	<p>Bigger houses, all the new housing is focussed around bungalows and smaller dwellings. The bigger houses in Newton Aycliffe rarely come up for sale and all the new houses are not big enough.</p>	Early consultation showed bungalows were a high priority
122	<p>I would encourage access into Woodham through re design of the existing road eg: a roundabout at BOTH entrances and look at providing alternative access via Burn Lane or the A167</p>	
123	<p>Within the retail section I would like, instead of allowing changes to planning policy to allow change of use easily, that the town, it's people and council should develop a long term strategy to bring the town back into public ownership through the use of a cooperative.</p>	retail

127	Most of the key problems are at county level, eg too much housing development, congestion, too many obstacles to getting from A to B quickly, esp on roads.	
129	CLI should be if possible be organised / run separately from local council	
132	An increased and improved leisure provision for the evening typ economy i.e. restaurants be encouraged instead of more fast food outlets.	retail
136	Additional retail I a priority it's a ghost town, I'm new to the area	retail