

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE FROM WHITTINGHAM, CALLALY AND ALNHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

**28 March 2025**

Following feedback provided from the Parish Council Meeting on the 24 September 2024, from Sarah Brannigan, Interim Planning Manager on the Neighbourhood Planning Team she advised the Parish Council that she did not feel that the WCA Neighbourhood Plan was in an adequate place to engage a consultant. She felt it lacked detail and essentially asked the consultant to do everything which may not be feasible given the funding constraints. She recommended that some of the work must be done by the Parish Council and/or the Steering Group. See E Mail below.

Over the last few months and after various discussions, motions and votes it was decided that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group should be disbanded and a new one put in place.

For further information and details of the full response by NCC please see <https://northumberlandparishes.uk/whittingham>

At the Meeting on the 18 March 2025 the Parish Council voted and appointed the following:

Andrew Whincup  
Elidh Gardiner  
David Bateson

In view of the above it was decided that this committee would be made up of new members and the new team are looking for like minded and diverse volunteers across the Whittingham, Callaly and Alnham Parishes.

Whilst this will also be advertised within the next few weeks if you are interested please contact our Clerk, Sarah Trushell at [whittinghampc29@gmail.com](mailto:whittinghampc29@gmail.com)

B N Wood  
Chairman

**Subject:** WC&A Neighbourhood Plan: Follow up to Meeting

Hi Brian

Following the Parish meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September, I have had time to review the consultant's brief (attached). As written, I do not think it is an adequate basis to engage a consultant. It lacks detail and essentially, asks the consultant to 'do everything', which may not be feasible given the funding constraints. Some of the work should and must be done by the Parish Council and / or the steering group.

Therefore, I have drafted an 'options paper' for the plan. This sets out the potential 'scope' of a neighbourhood plan for the Parish, drawing on the results of the community engagement exercise and shows how this can be reflected in planning policies.

Brian, please could you share this document with the other councillors?

Jonathan, please share with steering group members.

You don't have to use this document, but I think it is a good basis on which to progress the Plan.

I am happy to facilitate a meeting with Parish Councillors and the steering group to discuss this document but ultimately, the decisions about the neighbourhood plan lie with the Parish Council.

Please let me know if you would like to have a meeting.

Best wishes  
Sarah

**Sarah Brannigan MA (Hons) MSc**  
**Interim Planning Manager**

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