

Community Projects included in Neighbourhood Plan

Public feedback is now being sought on a list of community projects drawn up by the Ponteland Neighbourhood Plan Group, these possible projects have been identified through a series of consultations over the past 3 years and cover a range of areas, including transport, environment, health and facilities which cannot be addressed by planning policies alone and local organisations would be encouraged to get involved and help deliver them. The list includes:

Environment

- To work with NCC to extend the Conservation Area boundary in Ponteland and to develop and adopt a Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Ponteland
- To support the Red Squirrel group in Ponteland to maintain and improve the populations of red squirrel locally
- To liaise with landowners and other stakeholders to safeguard land needed as flood storage areas
- To work with Northumberland County Council (NCC) to get an Article 4 designation on parts of Ponteland where it is desirable to remove permitted development rights for front boundary changes (for example in parts of Darras Hall where hedgerows are being lost)
- To work with NCC and local businesses to reduce the amount of 'A' boards on the streets

Transport and infrastructure

- Continue to work with NCC and press for a relief road for Ponteland
- Work closely with the Bus Users Group in Ponteland to improve the reliability of public transport in Ponteland, and seek to promote investment in real-time information at key bus-stops in Ponteland
- To work with local groups and NCC to identify key 'accessibility hot spots' where improvements could improve accessibility for those with mobility impairments
- To work with NCC to seek funding allocations for improvements to cycle infrastructure in Ponteland
- Work with NCC to implement a 20mph limit in some areas of Ponteland (particularly around the schools)
- Proposals under the Transport objective, to improve accessibility to public transport for the older person

Health

- To seek to secure additional GP services in Ponteland to meet the needs of local residents.
- To seek to work with service providers and others to secure better access to healthcare in Ponteland
- Seek to implement the Ageing Well in Northumberland Strategy

Facilities and events

- A Community Hub: To explore the viability of creating a 'community hub' at a central location in Ponteland. This could provide both facilities for the wider community including the youth
- Ideas such as a joint library/internet café/community space could be explored
- Community Toilet scheme to be developed in collaboration with local shops and community facilities
- Explore and promote activities with younger people and our “Youth Ambassador”