

Ref 57 Thakeham Parish Council

Dear HDC Neighbourhood Planning colleagues
cc. Clerk, Ashington PC

Please find below the further feedback agreed by Thakeham Parish Council with regard to this consultation.

Best wishes

[Redacted]
Thakeham Parish Clerk

[Redacted]
www.thakehamparish.co.uk

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FAO Ashington Neighbourhood Plan authors

THAKEHAM PARISH RESPONSE TO ASHINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN REGULATION 16 CONSULTATION

Thakeham Parish Council welcomes the key features of the draft Ashington Neighbourhood Plan, including and particularly:

- a) the retention of the 225-unit maximum housing allocation (and not the significantly larger numbers that were floated in the early 2020 HDC Draft Local Plan consultation); and
- b) the fact that the updated plan has re-drawn the prospective built-up-area boundary to exclude the areas of sites that are due to be retained as open land.

The only suggestions that Thakeham PC would offer as areas for further improvement are:

* An explicit commitment to seek opportunities for green energy generation (e.g. solar panels, mini-wind generator) particularly in relation to the proposed new community buildings). The suggestion is in part 'tactical': if the Plan specifically states such an intention it may strengthen the prospects for securing this kind of community benefit via future S106 agreements connected to the housing proposals - allowing the PC to deploy CIL funding for other community infrastructure priorities.

and,

* Stating more explicit expectations around the environmental performance of the houses and community facilities to be built (e.g. in terms of thermal performance and electric vehicle charging points as standard) - possibly linking this to relevant chapters/policies within the emerging updated Horsham District Local Plan.

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