

Newick Now to 2030



NEWICK NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

SURVEY OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S VIEWS

1. INTRODUCTION

The views of young people aged 10 to 25 were not well represented at the Village Hall Open Day in November 2012, so it was decided to seek their opinions through the social website face-book and to invite them along to an open forum in April to discuss their ideas. Their views were recorded on the day using a form, a copy of which is attached to this report as Appendix 1.

Although the response on this day was positive from the younger age group, we still needed to find out the views of the 16 to 25 year olds. With this in mind we asked some of this age group of youngsters for their ideas and these have been given through a written response, again using the form shown in Appendix 1.

Newick Village Society had arranged previous debates with the Year 6 pupils at Newick Primary School and kindly arranged another debate with them, on this occasion with four Parish Councillors present, to obtain the children's views on the proposed housing and what they might like to see in the Neighbourhood Plan. Their views are summarised in Appendix 2 to this report and have been taken into account in the conclusions of Section 7.

Sections 2 to 6 of this report follow the format of the form used to collect most of the young people's views.

2. ABOUT YOU

**Which age band do you fit in
?**

10-15 years	16-21years	22-25years
10	4	1

How long have you lived in Newick?

6yrs, 10yrs, 13yrs, 16yrs, 20yrs, 24yrs - about 50% of them since birth.

What do you like about living in Newick?

Friendly, peaceful, views and countryside, the community, clean, pretty and safe, the village school, meeting up with friends in the park, it's small but has lots of different things to do, skatepark, it's small so friends live close, most things are within walking distance, has good broadband speed

Would you consider staying in the village long term and bringing up your own family here?

YES	MAYBE	NO
7	5	3

3. LEISURE

Are you a member of any village groups, sports clubs or societies?

8 were members of clubs: scouts, youth theatre, cricket, tennis, horticultural, street dance

What are your views on the leisure activities offered in Newick?

Really good and I can walk to them, lots to do, park is good, not many and poorly advertised.

Are they adequate / do you have to travel elsewhere, and would you like to see more?

ADEQUATE?	TRAVEL?	WHAT ELSE?
good and within walking distance	Lewes, Brighton Haywards Heath,	Junior Rugby, bike track, new skate park, outdoor gym equipment, trampolining, swimming pool, youth centre Sports Hall, a gym, late night bus travel on Fridays and Saturdays, fast food cafe

4. COMMUNICATION LINKS

Where do you meet and greet your friends and would you like to have something more/different?

Where do you meet?	Suit your needs?	Anything else needed?
Park, own houses, pubs, friends not in village so don't meet that often	No, have to travel to Uckfield, travel to a coffee shop to meet	internet cafe, better transport facilities, Youth Club

What are your views on the transport links to and from the village?

The younger age band thought them good or ok but the older age group made the following observations:

Poor at best, more bus stops and traffic lights, better more frequent service, buses are expensive, not enough and need them later in the evening especially Friday and Saturday as they stop going through Newick too early.

Absolutely awful, buses unreliable especially in the morning, making college students late. OK now I have a car.

Know of buses, but not really used them, unsure of timetable

How car dependent are you and your family?

Most responses were **Very dependent**.

Mum takes me to all activities, we do walk and cycle to some.

5. THE ENVIRONMENT AROUND US

How important to you is nature conservation and green space?	Do you use the countryside around the village?	How keen are you to preserve and enhance the environment?
All said VERY or quite	YES from all: for playing, the walks are nice, round the fields and woods, go running and walk the dogs	All thought it VERY important: more important for the dog walkers, if it's destroyed what will OUR children have? green space should be open to ALL even ball games.

6. YOUR VISION AND WHERE YOU THINK NEWICK NEEDS TO GO FORWARD

Are there any facilities or services that you WISH were in Newick?

50% wanted a Cafe, others were a community youth club, swimming pool library, toilets on the recreation ground, later buses.

What is the very BEST THING about Newick?

50% said the friendly community, like a large family

30% said the park

others thought: the Village School, nice and rural, lack of artificial conservation, good internet connection

If you had to change ONE thing in the Village , what would it be?

30% said Transport: later buses, more buses, train service?

15% said re-instate the pond on The Green

Single responses received for each of the following:

a sports facility for teenagers, a library/comic book shop, modernize the Community Centre it's old fashioned and not cool!

another small football pitch in the park, speed of the cars, make it suit everyone!!!

Anything else you feel is important for us to know?

100 houses too much.....maybe just flats, water fountain, fishing club, gardening club, junior rugby club, cycle path, outside gym equipment, planting flowers around the village, recycle bins for cans/bottles near park

7. CONCLUSIONS

Half of the young people who responded had lived in the village from birth and the rest for more than 6 years. Half of them would consider staying in the village long term.

They liked living in the village because it's small, friendly and safe, feels like being part of a large family. The village school and park were both seen as being important.

They enjoyed being in a rural environment, near to the countryside where they could walk, and being near their friends and even though Newick is small, there was a lot to do for lots of people.

50% belonged to local clubs, while the rest travelled out by car to leisure facilities in Uckfield, Haywards Heath, Lewes and Brighton. They wanted more activity opportunities provided by: a swimming pool, bike track, cafe, Youth Club, new skate park, gym, junior rugby, sports hall.

Transport links featured a lot and they all agreed they were inadequate, infrequent, stopped running too early, and they would like to see late night buses on Fridays and Saturdays. The lack of sufficient transport made them all car dependent.

They all thought the environment was very important and were keen to preserve it for the future. They enjoyed walking and using the green spaces and woods surrounding the village. 15% wanted to re-instate the pond on the Green.

Their Vision for Newick is to keep it as a friendly natural environment, but with better transport links and central community spaces like a Cafe and Youth Centre together with more sporting activities.

Finally, make it suit **EVERYONE**.

The views of the Year 6 pupils collected during the debate at Newick Primary School were broadly in line with those collected using the form.

Linda Farmer
Admin Support, on behalf of Newick Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group

APPENDIX 1 – Form for young people to complete



NEWICK PARISH COUNCIL

YOUNG PEOPLES MEETING 13TH APRIL, 2013

Newick Sports Pavilion, Allington Road, Newick

Name:	

What is NEWICK all about for YOU?

To help the Parish Council find out what you and your friends think about Newick and plan for Newick NOW until 2030, it would really like your comments and views on the following.....

ABOUT YOU

Which age band do you fit in? 10-15 16-21 22-25

How long have you lived in Newick?

What do you like about living in Newick?

Would you consider staying in the village long term.....bringing up your own family here perhaps?

LEISURE

Are you a member of any village groups, sports clubs or societies?

What are your views on the leisure activities offered in Newick?

Are they adequate / do you have to travel elsewhere/ would you like to see more?

COMMUNICATION LINKS

Meeting and greeting your friends, where? Does it suit your needs?
Would you like to see anything else?

What are your views on the transport links to and from the village?

How car dependent are you and your family?

THE ENVIRONMENT AROUND US

How important is nature conservation and green space to you?

Do you use the countryside around the village?

How keen are you to preserve and enhance the environment?

YOUR VISION AND WHERE YOU THINK NEWICK NEEDS TO GO FORWARD

Are there facilities or services that you wish **were** in Newick?

What is the very **BEST THING** about Newick?

If you had to change **one** thing in the village, what would it be?

Anything else you feel is important for us to know.

Thank you.....

PLEASE WRITE ANY COMMENTS WHICH YOU DID NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE AT THE MEETING

APPENDIX 2 – Notes of Meeting organised by Newick Village Society with School Children at Newick Primary School

Notes from meeting at Newick Primary School Thursday 9th May 2013.

Present: 18 Adults - (including Mrs M Mayes, Governor; Natalie Alty, Teacher. 5 members of the Parish Council –Cllr J Lucas; Cllr Mrs J Sheppard; Cllr Mrs J Smerdon ; Cllr Mrs C Wickens; Cllr Mrs M Thew) and members of the monthly Afternoon Club.

Meeting conducted by Mr P Cumberlege.

28 Children from Year 6. Aged 10 / 11yrs.

Mr Cumberlege opened the meeting asked the children questions and everyone listed to their opinions and encouraged them to discuss their views on Newick. He explained that we were looking at plans for Newick until 2030 and that the children would be directly involved, and that their opinions counted.

Cllr Mrs Wickens described to the class what a Neighbourhood plan was, and why we were asking them for their opinions.

Notes taken during the meeting in response to the questions:-

Who lives in Newick? From a show of hands, 22 children lived in Newick - 6 did not.

Who would like to live in Newick when they are grown up and why? 12 children said that they would like to live in Newick when they grew up. One was concerned that there might not be enough employment in the village.

Why do you like living in Newick?

People are friendly

Good atmosphere

Nicer in Newick than Brighton

Newick has all the essentials – bakers, chemist, parks

Like the countryside around Newick

Everything you need is here in Newick

Small sociable place – not too many outsiders

Newick is a special place

Newick is perfect now

How many children have members of their family who work at home? 12 children – and the jobs mentioned specifically included Police Force, Beautician, Accountant, IT, and Lloyds Bank.

How many children walk to school ? 16 children said that they walked to school. 1 cycled to school. The children mentioned that many of them had pet dogs, and that they walked to school with their parent and the dog. Some children come to school on their scooters. Some children said that it was too far to walk.

What would encourage you get to school on a bicycle? - It was mentioned that the main road in the village had a lot of traffic, but if there were some proper cycle paths, this might help. Lots of people park outside the school which can be dangerous too. Perhaps a “Lollipop Lady” would help.

What other things should be considered if more houses were built in Newick?

New houses could look like normal houses, but be broken into flats

Turn big houses into flats

Make the school a Junior school and build another school

Transport could be a problem – the bus service finishes early in the evening – everyone uses cars

Could the old railway line be reopened

Too many houses would make Newick like a town

Use old buildings / barns

Parking could be difficult –

More facilities would be needed

Need to have good attractions - ?swimming pool

If new houses built, they should be done a few at a time

Would there be enough water? Maybe the water could be made from seawater.

Where would be a good place to build in Newick?

Behind Cricketfield – comments made that road here is dangerous already

Headway field

More Parks and open spaces

How many children live in new houses now in Newick? Only a couple of children

How many children live on the main estate in the middle of the Village? (Oldaker) 9 or 10

Cllr M Thew

10th May 2013