

EAST AYTON PARISH COUNCIL



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Via Email

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Dear Local Plan Department

NYC Local Plan - Priorities and Issues for the Parish of East Ayton

I am writing on behalf of East Ayton Parish Council regarding the recent Local Plan Consultation and please find our findings below:-

HOUSING

- **How will the volume of housing for our Parish be calculated. How much housing is needed, where it will go, and what type/ tenure (e.g. affordable, family homes, specialist housing).**

Priorities

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- The need for ageing well housing and affordable family homes
- The importance of balancing village growth with the capacity of our infrastructure, amenities and active/sustainable transport links
- To have clear and understandable information on the maximum number of houses the village can support with the current capacity of the school and surgery (including the impact of the new care home).
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- That the local primary school has capacity for all children within our Parish

EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMY

Issues

- ◦How will employment and economic opportunities for our Parish be assessed

Priorities

- Existing retail, catering/hospitality and health & wellbeing businesses are recognised as an integral ◦part of the heart of our community and highly valued for their accessibility.
- The farming/agricultural nature of the surrounding land characterizes our community and the village is predominantly residential area. Retaining this balance is very important. The majority of employment opportunities are focused in the following areas and ensuring access to all these business areas is important
- GCHQ Scarborough
- Scarborough Town
- Eastfield (for Manor Garth, Olympian Trading Estate, McCains, Boyes etc)

- Wykeham (for Wykeham Lakes and Business Park)
- Scarborough / Seamer Station (for further afield)
- New developments will, bring more working age people to the village, all of which will likely work outside the village

INFRASTRUCTURE

Issues

- The provision for sustainable transport and active travel are poor or nonexistent, the village school site is under pressure, access issues to secondary care health services is well documented especially with 34% of residents over 65, the utilities, and digital connectivity are also seen to be inadequate.

Priorities

- Identifying or designating space for formal bus stops through the village (and at access points like GCHQ Scarborough, and businesses on this route in ways which do not impede traffic flow)
- Ensuring there is a plan for the expansion of East Ayton Primary School
- A significant number of secondary school pupils from our community travel to Pickering. This is an important parent choice. Maintaining this choice is important to our community.
- The village school and GP surgery both sit within the North York Moors National Park operating to a different Planning Policy. This must not operate as a barrier to timely improvements to these facilities and the NYC Local Plan must recognize this matter.

ENVIRONMENT

Issues

The further expansion of housing and its attendant traffic has already placed severe environmental pressures on Forge Valley National Nature Reserve and the sensitive habitat surrounding the woodlands. Protecting the surrounding habitat and improving connectivity through green corridors are key parts of the developing LNRS

The Local Plan must address this issue:

Priorities

- The geological, archeological, historical and ecological richness of our community is very important. The Local Plan must recognize these features and ensure that sensitive areas are recognized and protected.
- The eastern boundary of the Parish should be protected from development encroachment and a nature corridor/ woodland strip connecting existing woodlands, hedgerows and fallow meadows identified
- Green spaces must be accessible to all and connected to the village in all new developments, as well as healthy living spaces for children of school age with play and sports areas within a safe distance.
- Surface water flooding from extreme weather events cause problems within the village and the A170 Main Street. Inadequate surface water drainage systems must be resolved before any further capacity is added from new housing.

TRANSPORT & ACCESSABILITY

Issues

The highway infrastructure has not been invested in to support wheelchair, pushchairs users, walking, cycling or horse riding. While NYC promote and encourage active travel this is not reflected in the paths, streets and highway design including the speed of traffic in areas where walking and cycling is to be encouraged eg. to and from school, accessing green spaces, outdoor play and local shops and businesses.

Priorities

- Planning for roads, public transport, walking/cycling, infrastructure and reducing car dependency.
- Plan for increasing traffic load of A170 and how we ensure safety of our community (school crossings, village crossing, speed mitigation etc)
 - General traffic increase trends
 - Increased traffic from expanding villages (ours included)
- Protecting all road users in Forge Valley (walking, cycling, equestrian) from road dangers
- Designation as a service village and how that affects the provision of bus services
- Walking and cycling access to town
- Pedestrian access to Forge Valley
- Accessibility of the village (footpath condition, or complete lack thereof in places) which is currently poor, especially for the elderly, those with prams or those in wheelchairs

ALLOCATION OF LAND

Issues

The Local Plan provides no clarity over the measures for identifying specific sites for housing, employment, infrastructure, and protection (e.g. Green Belt, conservation areas), or how those identified sites are assessed as to the appropriateness and suitability.

Priorities

A “green corridor” that has been identified in the issues and priorities above to provide a break to continual eastward development. To provide nature corridors and accessible green space for residents.

- Potential for our community to create space for community projects, developing interpretation of our environment. For example the land to the south of the new care home site where archaeological features have been identified, crossing the site boundaries.

Yours faithfully

Dawn Naylor
East Ayton Parish Clerk