

**HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2024 – 2031**

Consultation Statement

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1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1. This Consultation Statement has been prepared in accordance with The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (SI No. 637) (as amended). Part 5 Regulation 15 (1)¹ sets out that *'Where a qualifying body submits a plan proposal or a modification proposal to the local planning authority, it must include ... (b) a consultation statement.'*

A 'consultation statement' is defined in Regulation 15 (2): 'In this regulation "consultation statement" means a document which

(a) contains details of the persons and bodies who were consulted about the proposed neighbourhood development plan or neighbourhood development plan as proposed to be modified;

(b) explains how they were consulted;

(c) summarises the main issues and concerns raised by the persons consulted; and

(d) describes how these issues and concerns have been considered and, where relevant, addressed in the proposed neighbourhood development plan or neighbourhood development plan as proposed to be modified.'

- 1.2. National Planning Practice Guidance² provides further advice:

'What is the role of the wider community in neighbourhood planning?

A qualifying body should be inclusive and open in the preparation of its neighbourhood plan or Order and ensure that the wider community:

- is kept fully informed of what is being proposed*
- is able to make their views known throughout the process*
- has opportunities to be actively involved in shaping the emerging neighbourhood plan or Order*
- is made aware of how their views have informed the draft neighbourhood plan or Order.*

Paragraph: 047 Reference ID: 41-047-20140306

Revision date: 06 03 2014

- 1.3. Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council has been committed to fully engaging with local residents, landowners and stakeholders throughout the NDP process.
- 1.4. This Consultation Statement describes the various public consultation processes involved in each step in the preparation of the Halton-with Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan (HANDP). The work on the NDP has taken place over a number of years and public consultation and engagement at key stages has been key to the Plan's preparation throughout.

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2012/637/regulation/15>

² <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/neighbourhood-planning--2>

2. Designation

- 2.1. Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council applied on 6th March 2015 to designate their neighbourhood plan area. The area proposal covered the whole parish area.
- 2.2. Lancaster City Council consulted on the application for 6 weeks from 9th March 2015 to 20th April 2015 and then approved the application on 27th October 2015. The designated area is the same as the Parish boundary and is shown Figure 1 - Map of Halton-with-Aughton Designated Neighbourhood Plan Area.

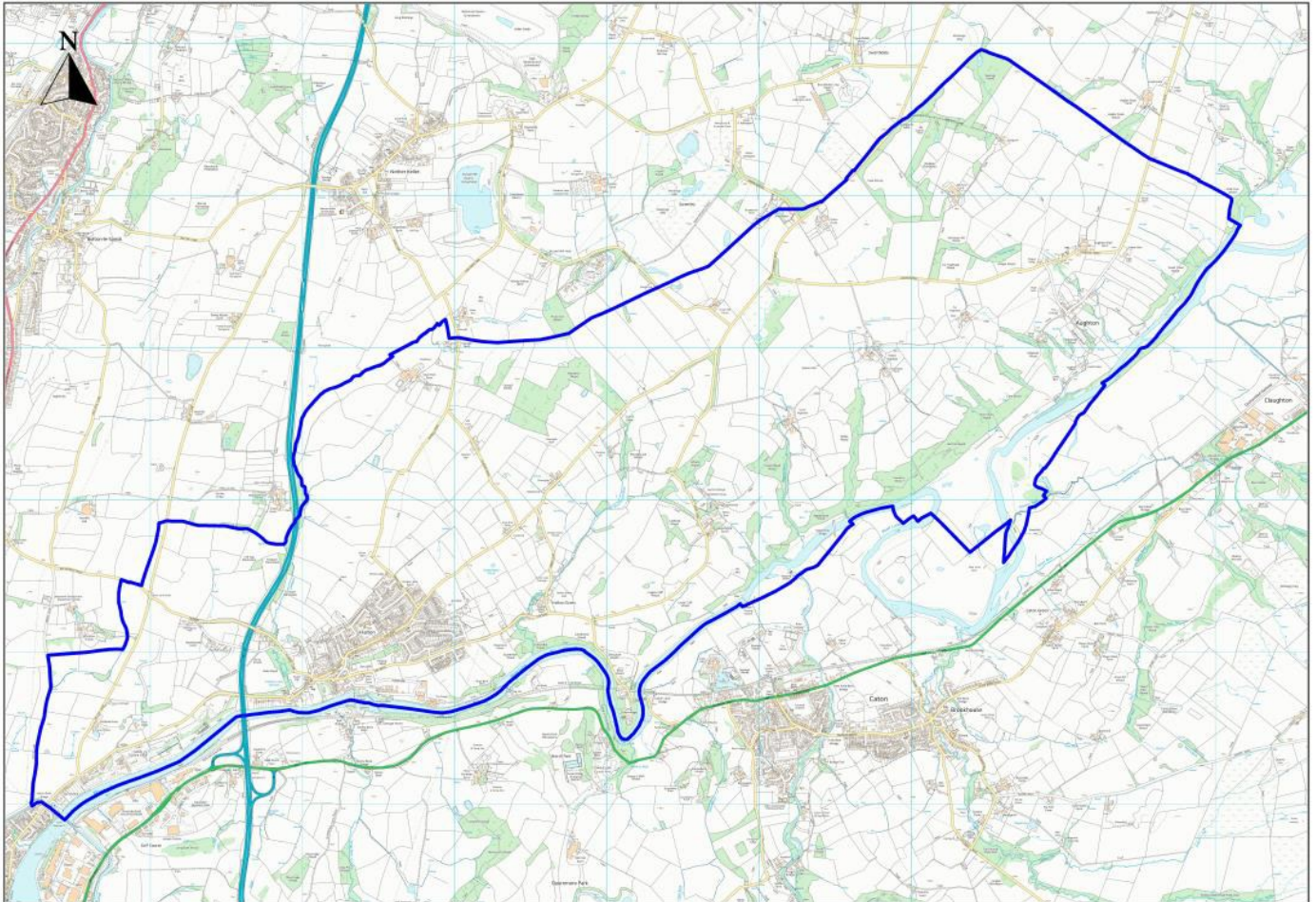
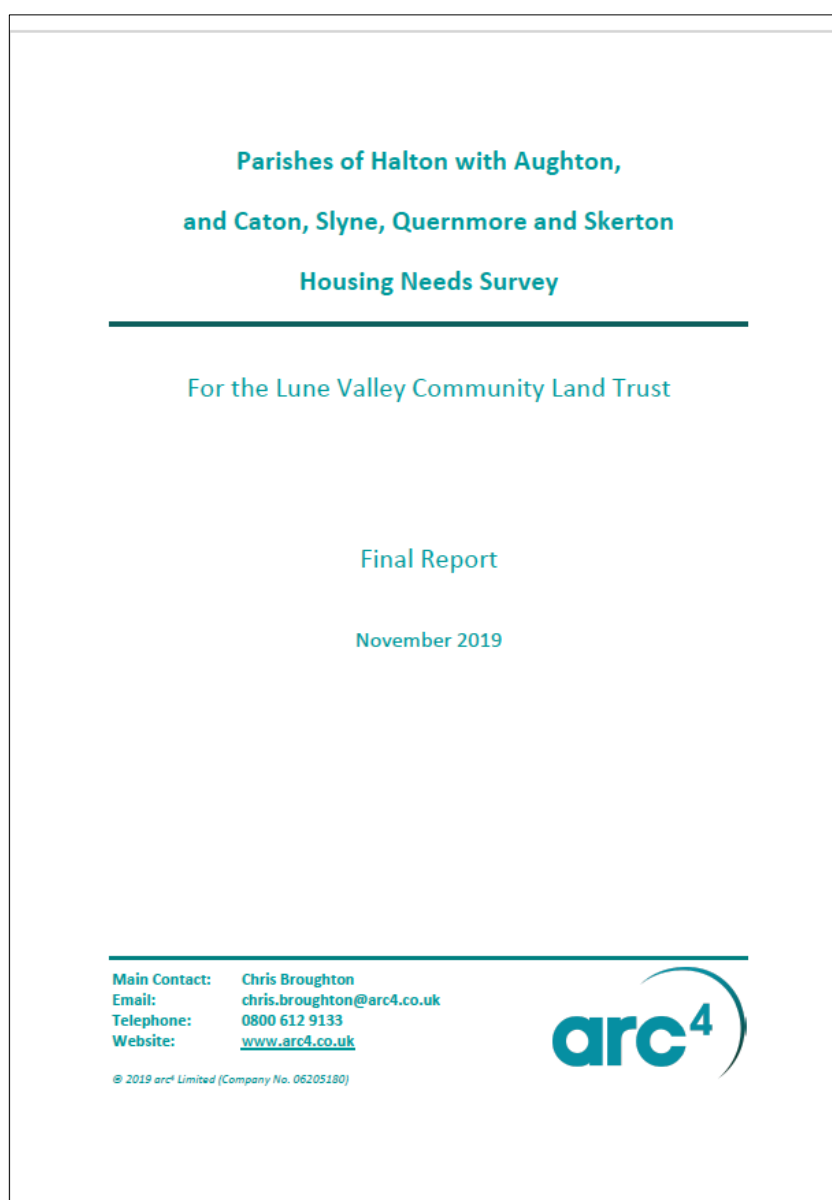


Figure 1 - Map of Halton-with-Aughton Designated Neighbourhood Plan Area

3. Housing Needs Survey, 2019

- 3.1. Lune Valley Community Land Trust (CLT) commissioned Arc4 to undertake a housing needs survey for the Parishes of Halton with Aughton, and Caton, Slyne, Quernmore and Skerton in 2019. The geography of the study was based on areas local to and surrounding the CLT's target parish of Halton.
- 3.2. A household survey was conducted in May to June 2019. A questionnaire was sent to every household in the study area and 665 responses were received. 4,108 were dispatched, so there was a 17% response rate and therefore a $\pm 3.4\%$ sampling error overall.
- 3.3. The report '*Parishes of Halton with Aughton, and Caton, Slyne, Quernmore and Skerton, Housing Needs Survey for the Lune Valley Community Land Trust, Final Report, November 2019*' is published under Key Documents on the NDP page of the Parish Council website and the findings were used to inform housing policies in the NDP.



4. Preparation of First Draft Plan and Informal Consultation, October to November 2019

- 4.1. In late 2017 the Parish Council made the decision to start work on the initial draft neighbourhood plan. A grant from the Community Rights Programme in February 2018 enabled the Parish Council Steering Group to obtain professional support and advice, which allowed the group to produce a first working draft plan for informal public consultation. All NDP documents were published on the web page of the parish council website – see <https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>.
- 4.2. The [first draft plan](#) was based on the information provided by residents during the update of the Parish Plan in 2013. The document noted that the identified issues could have changed over time and the consultation aimed to ensure that the issues addressed in the Neighbourhood Plan would be relevant and up to date. The first draft plan also included ‘parish planning guidance’ from the 2013 Parish Plan, modified to reflect recent developments.
- 4.3. The first draft plan identified the following as primary concerns for the future of the Parish. These were:
 - The boundary of the built area of the village
 - Village infrastructure
 - A bus route serving Low Road area
 - The shopping facilities in the village
 - Local school capacity
 - The mix of housing being built – the lack of affordable and older generation housing
 - The connectivity of local footpaths
 - The management of public green spaces
- 4.4. The first draft plan was published for informal consultation from 5th October 2019 to 16th November 2019.
- 4.5. Copies of the publicity documents are provided in Appendix 1 – Publicity for Consultation on First Draft Plan 2019.
- 4.6. Apart from the Parish Council meeting minutes, the two main communication methods used to inform the public about the work and consultation on the Draft Plan were the local newsletter “The Prattle” and the local Facebook group for Halton:
 - The Prattle is delivered to all households on a bi-monthly basis.
 - The local Facebook group has been running for many years with over 3,000 members
- 4.7. The NDP work was mentioned in Prattle issues: 100, 102, 105, 106 and 108. Issue 111 (Oct/Nov 19) promoted the six-week informal public consultation starting on 16th Nov 2019 and the public drop-in sessions. Issue 112 provided a summary of the feedback received. See Appendix 1 – Publicity for Consultation on First Draft Plan 2019 for copies of notices in The Prattle and Facebook posts.
- 4.8. There were two public drop-in events at The Centre @ Halton on Saturday 2nd November 2019 9am-12pm and on Thursday 7th November 2019 5pm-8pm. The draft plan and accompanying response form were published on the Parish Council website. Printed copies of the draft plan were provided at The Centre @ Halton, St Wilfrid’s Church, the United Reform Church and in the chip shop, and on request from the Clerk to the Parish Council.

4.9. Respondents provided comments in the form of post it notes at the public events and by completing and submitting response forms. Responses also were invited by email or post to the Parish Clerk.

4.10. A copy of the detailed comments is provided in Appendix 2 – Responses to Informal Public Consultation 2019. The comments were published on the NDP pages of the Parish Council website – see ‘Informal Public Consultation Comments on NDP from 2019’. Figure 2 - Responses to the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, 2019 summarises the key points from the comments submitted by residents during the consultation process.

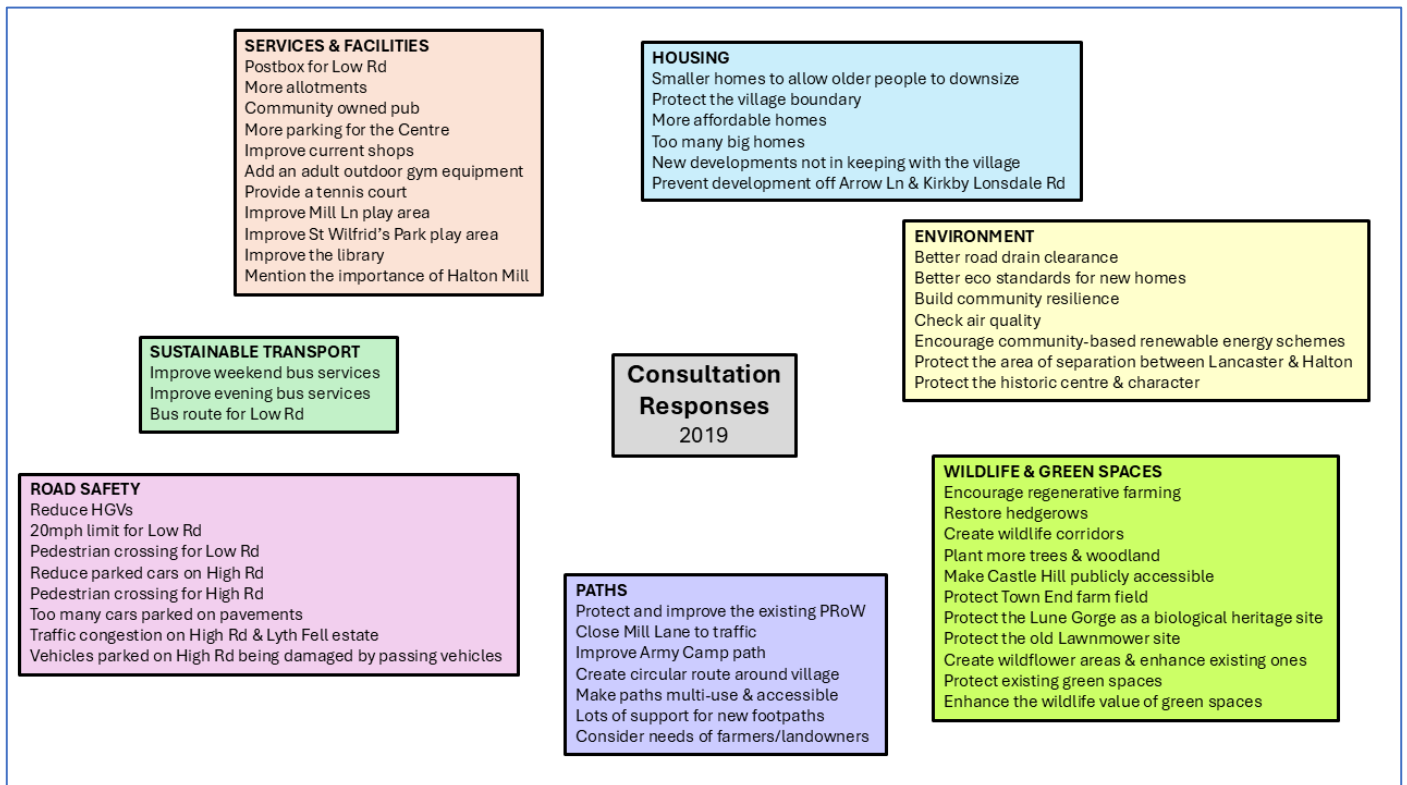


Figure 2 - Responses to the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, 2019

4.11. Progress on the draft plan stalled from the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. Consultation on Area of Separation, October 2022

- 5.1. An area within the Parish is identified as an Area of Separation in Lancaster Local Plan Part One Policy EN6: Areas of Separation. This area lies to the west of the M6 corridor and is in close proximity to the built-up area of the City of Lancaster. It is subject to significant development pressure.
- 5.2. In October 2022 the Parish Council organised an informal local consultation on the Area of Separation in response to a development proposal on the site. The consultation included an online and paper questionnaire, with public meetings held on 1st and 4th October 2022. Copies of the publicity are provided in Appendix 3 – Informal Public Consultation on Area of Separation.
- 5.3. Out of the 107 responses:
 - 99 responded “YES” to retaining the Area of Separation
 - 3 responded “NO”
 - 5 responded “MAYBE”
- 5.4. Over 90% of respondents wanted to maintain the Area of Separation to protect the village of Halton’s identity and character. Following this consultation, the Parish Council decided to commence work again on the Draft Plan and to include a policy to help maintain the Area of Separation.

Questionnaire

Proposed Industrial Development off Halton Road

A local developer has asked whether the Parish Council would support the development of a business park on the edge of the village. A planning application may be made in the next few months. Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council would like to hear the opinions of local residents before considering a response.

Do you think it is important to retain an area of separation "green space" between Lancaster and Halton?

* Yes

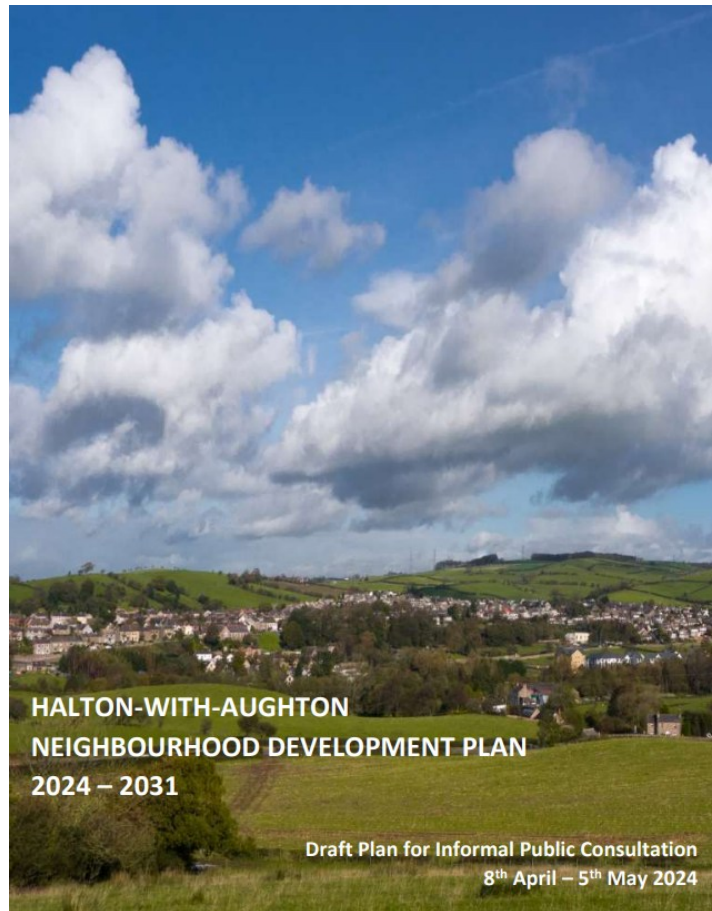
* No

* Other (comment below)

6. Consultation on Emerging Draft Plan (2022 - 2024)

- 6.1. The Parish Council agreed to resume work on the emerging Draft Plan in October 2022 and decided to use the services of Kirkwells to assist the process. The Steering Group began meeting regularly and revising the emerging Draft Plan in response to informal comments and advice provided by Lancaster City Council and Kirkwells.
- 6.2. A significant period of time had elapsed since the informal consultation on the first draft plan in 2019. The Part One and Part Two Local Plans for Lancaster District had been adopted by Lancaster City Council in July 2020 and the strategic sites in Halton village had been or were in the process of being developed. This meant that there were changes to the planning context of the Parish and that there were a large number of new residents who had moved into the village of Halton who had not been involved in shaping the first draft plan's vision, objectives, key themes and planning policies and proposals. In addition, there had been revisions to planning policy at a national level with updated versions of the NPPF published in the intervening period.
- 6.3. Most of the identified planning themes and guidance in the first draft plan from 2019 together with the written responses to the consultation were carried forward and used to help shape the draft planning policies, justification and supporting text in the emerging second Draft Plan. Lancaster City Council provided further informal comments on the draft documents and the document was refreshed and updated.
- 6.4. The Steering Group and Parish Council continued to communicate with the public in a similar fashion to the previous work in 2019, including use of the Prattle and Facebook. Details of the various communications can be found in Communications with the Public – see **Appendix 4 – Consultation on the Emerging Draft Plan 2022-24**.
- 6.5. In February 2024 The emerging Draft Plan was passed to Lancaster City Council for a SEA & HRA screening opinion in February 2024; then subsequently to the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England for a SEA & HRA screening consultation in April 2024. See **Appendix 5 – Screening**.
- 6.6. All four organisations (Lancaster City Council, Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England) concluded that the draft plan was unlikely to have any significant environmental effect and therefore a full Environment Assessment was not required.

6.7. The updated emerging Draft Plan was published for informal consultation from 8th April 2024 to 5th May 2024.



- 6.8. Paper copies of the Draft Plan and Local Green Space Assessment Report were available for reading at the following locations, along with feedback forms:
- The Centre@Halton, Low Road
 - Halton Mill, Mill Lane
 - Aughton Village Hall Recreation Room, Aughton Road
- 6.9. Online versions of the documents were published on the NDP page of the Parish Council website <https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/> (see screenshots in **Appendix 4 – Consultation on the Emerging Draft Plan 2022-24**).
- 6.10. Public drop-in sessions were held on the following dates and locations:
- The Centre Thursday 25th April 3pm to 7pm
 - Aughton Village Hall Friday 26th April 7pm to 10pm
 - The Centre Saturday 27th April 10am to 1pm

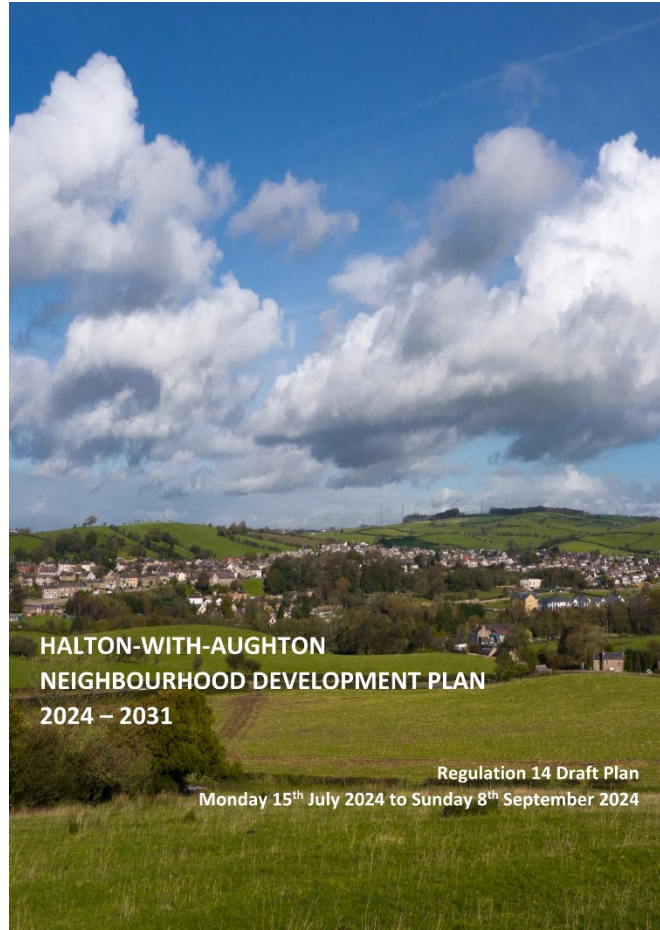


Photos from The Centre@Halton event, Saturday 27th April

- 6.11. The Local Planning Authority (Lancaster City Council) and Local Lead Flood Authority (Lancashire County Council) were invited to comment.
- 6.12. At the same time as the consultation on the emerging draft plan, landowners of sites identified as potential Local Green Spaces were contacted by letter or email – see Letter to Landowners of Local Green Spaces for a copy of the letter.
- 6.13. A total of 26 responses were received through a combination of online survey, paper survey and direct response, e.g. emails. Figure 3 - General Responses from Informal Consultation summarises the feedback from the online survey and paper survey.
- 21 responses were from individuals, local groups or landowners (including businesses)
 - 16 individuals
 - 4 were from landowners
 - 1 was a group of individuals from Aughton
 - 5 responses were from official organisations
- 6.14. The various responses were combined into a single document for consideration by the Steering Group – see **Appendix 7 – Responses to Informal Public Consultation 2024**. Amendments were consequently made to the Draft Plan including the Vision, Objectives and policies on landscape character and flooding. The number of proposed local green spaces were reduced following consideration of comments from Lancaster City Council and landowners. Further suggestions were added to the community aspirations section of the Plan. The review of these comments and resulting changes to the Draft Plan are listed in **Appendix 8 – Review of Informal Public Consultation**.
- 6.15. The Draft Plan was finalised for formal, Regulation 14 Consultation with approval by the Parish Council at the meeting of 12th June 2024.

7. Formal Consultation: Regulation 14 (July to September 2024)

7.1. The Draft Plan was published for Formal Regulation 14 Consultation from 15th July 2024 to 8th September 2024 (8 weeks).



7.2. The consultation was publicised via posters around the village, Facebook and The Prattle. See **Publicity**.

7.3. A display was setup in the café area of The Centre for the whole period.

7.4. Paper copies of the Draft Plan, Local Green Space Assessment Report and Feedback forms were made available at:

- The Centre@Halton, Low Road
- Halton Mill, Mill Lane
- Halton Library, Penny Stone Road
- Aughton Village Hall Recreation Room, Aughton Road

7.5. Additional paper copies were available from the Parish Clerk upon request. Online versions of the documents were listed on the Parish Council website.

7.6. Public drop-in sessions were held at the following dates:

- The Centre@Halton, Low Road: 24th July 2 – 4pm
- The Centre@Halton, Low Road: 21st August 2 – 4pm
- The Centre@Halton, Low Road: 5th Sep 6 – 8pm

- 7.7. The public was encouraged to respond in the following ways:
- Completing the **Online Feedback Form** (QR codes were provided to make this as easy as possible)
 - Completing the **Paper Feedback Form** available from the advertised locations
 - Emailing the Parish Clerk with comments
 - Attending one of the public drop-in sessions and completing a paper form
- 7.8. The organisations that were invited to comment on the Draft Plan are listed in **Consultees** along with the **Consultee Letter** that was sent to them.
- 7.9. Registered landowners of land identified as potential Local Green Spaces were contacted by letter or email. See **Letter to Landowners of Local Green Spaces** for a copy of the letter used.
- 7.10. Registered landowners of land which might be impacted by Policy HA-5 Flooding were contacted by letter or email. See **Letter to Landowners of land referenced in Policy HA-5 Flooding** for a copy of the letter used.
- 7.11. A total of 29 responses were received through a combination of online survey, paper survey and direct response, e.g. emails. **Figure 4 - General Responses from Formal Consultation** summarises the feedback from the online survey and paper survey.
- 18 responses were from individuals, local groups or landowners (including businesses)
 - 16 individuals
 - 2 were from landowners
 - 2 were on behalf of an organisation
 - 11 responses were from official organisations
- 7.12. The various responses were combined into a single document for consideration by the Steering Group – see **Appendix 10 – Responses to Formal Reg. 14 Consultation**. Amendments were consequently made to the Draft Plan, including changes suggested by the Local Lead Flood Authority during the Informal Consultation that had been accidentally missed. The changes are listed in **Appendix 11 – Review of Formal Reg. 14** .
- 7.13. On the 11th December 2024 the Parish Council approved the plan and agreed that it should be submitted to the Local Planning Authority. It was passed to Lancaster City Council for a final SEA & HRA screening opinion and to the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England for a SEA & HRA screening consultation. These were completed by 27th January 2025; see **Appendix 12 – Screening 2025**.

8. Conclusion

- 8.1. This Consultation Statement for the Halton-with-Aughton NDP sets out the various informal and formal consultation processes which have been undertaken throughout the preparation of the NDP.
- 8.2. It demonstrates that the Parish Council has been inclusive and open in the preparation of its Neighbourhood Plan and that the wider community has been kept fully informed of what has been proposed, has been able to make their views known throughout the process, has had opportunities to be actively involved in shaping the emerging Neighbourhood Plan and has been made aware of how their views have informed the draft Neighbourhood Plan.
- 8.3. The Halton-with-Aughton NDP has given the local community the power to develop a shared vision for their area. It provides a local planning framework which has been community led, and which should help to protect and enhance those assets which are highly valued by residents, whilst supporting appropriate sensitive and sustainable development in the future.

Appendix 1 – Publicity for Consultation on First Draft Plan 2019

The Prattle is the village newsletter produced bi-monthly and delivered to all households in the parish by a team of volunteers. It is the most reliable method for publicising and providing information to the whole community, especially those who do not use Facebook. The following issues included information on the progress of the plan and ways in which the public could be involved. In addition, the local Facebook group for Halton was used.

December 2017 The Prattle (Issue 100)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

Please welcome Cllr Anne Lamb as a new Parish Councillor who was unanimously co-opted onto the Parish Council at the meeting on 8th November. There is now one remaining vacancy on the Parish Council, so if you would be willing to volunteer then please contact the Parish Clerk or one of the existing Councillors.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Cllr Kevin Frea is planning to restart the process of producing a revised Neighbourhood Plan for our Parish. A grant is available that will cover some of the costs of professional advice and assistance, but help from the public would be invaluable, so if you would like to be involved then please contact Cllr Frea (kevin.frea@gmail.com).

ARSON AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Two sheds were burnt down on Saturday 14th October. The first arson occurred around 4pm and the fire brigade attended, though not before most of the shed and contents were destroyed. The second fire occurred later in the evening, but this incident was not reported or noticed, so everything was destroyed, including a new lawnmower. Naturally the allotment holders are very upset, since they have lost both time and money. Most of the other shed owners have now removed anything of value. There have also been incidents of objects being thrown at house windows

and more seriously, moving cars. The Parish Council will continue to engage with the Police to both identify the culprits and explore ways to reduce these ongoing issues.

It is worth noting that statistics from Lancashire Police indicate a common increase in anti-social behaviour, burglary, criminal damage & arson, vehicle crime, other theft, violence & sexual offences across all local areas, e.g. Carnforth, Bolton-le-Sands, the Kelleys, Cation, Slyne.

The Police strongly advise anyone directly affected by anti-social behaviour or vandalism to report this by via 101, at the enquiry desks at both Lancaster and Morecambe police stations, or online via this link:

<https://doitonline.lancashire.police.uk/IncidentReports>

WAR MEMORIAL RESTORATION

APPEAL

The Parish Council is pleased to inform you that £1,350 in donations for the restoration work has been received so far. The restoration work is due to start in the spring. Further donations would be most appreciated and help show our ongoing gratitude to those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our current freedoms. The Appeal target is £2,000.

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk

m: 07980 000 682

e: parish-clerk@hotmail.co.uk



NEWS FROM YOUR CITY COUNCILLOR

I'm now a couple of months into being your local Lancaster City Councillor and there's a lot to get my head around, not just to do with Halton-with-Aughton. One of the most urgent things to get on with is developing a Neighbourhood Plan so that we have more control over what happens in the Parish. Not having a Plan made it harder for residents to successfully object to the new housing developments that have been agreed in the village.

Every Parish should publish a Neighbourhood Plan which can determine "the allocation of land for development". I've been advised that we don't have to make any allocations of land for further housing development if the community feels that sufficient levels of housing have been provided through recent planning applications, though this could be subject to challenge by landowners at a later date.

The Plan can address a number of issues as well as housing, including: landscape and environment; transport and communications; local facilities; the local economy; employment and skills; heritage and tourism; healthy living and community.

We need a group of residents representative of the whole community to get involved in developing the Plan. A number of you have already shown an interest but we would welcome more, especially parents and young people. It should be a really interesting process. I'd also welcome residents contacting me with ideas of what should be in it - anything that comes up the list of topics.

Once the group has developed a draft Neighbourhood Plan, it will be put to a referendum of all registered voters in the Parish before it is adopted.

The City Council has said it will publish a draft Lancaster District Local Plan in December 2017 and, if we weren't working

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 Ipads, Tablets

01524 733970

on a Neighbourhood Plan, they would decide for it what should be in it for Halton with Aughton. But if we can show that we are working on a Plan they will take it into account when they publish a final version in December 2018. So we have a year to get a good Neighbourhood Plan developed and adopted. I've already attended two City Council meetings and the big decision that is imminent is to do with the Canal Corridor Development in Lancaster, which involves a new arts centre, shops and restaurants, and a new multi story car park, between the canal, Moor Lane and St. Leonard's Gate. There is information on Lancaster City Council website, and I'm very happy to talk to people and give more information or hear your views. The Council will be voting on it early in 2018.

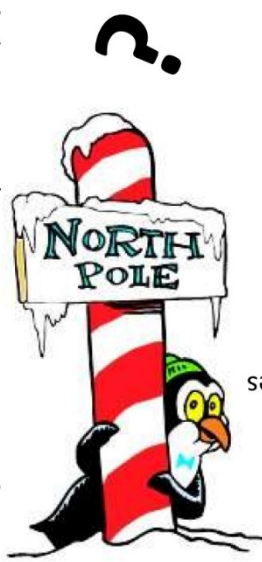
I'm holding monthly drop in surgeries from 5:45 to 6:45 on the fourth Monday in the coffee bar area at Halton Community Centre starting in January. Or you can contact me by email kfrea@lancaster.gov.uk, or ring me on 07716 246 672.

Cllr. Kevin Frea



Bed & Breakfast
in Halton
Telephone Anne on 811863

PRATTLE QUIZ ANSWERS



20. Champagne
19. Marshal Tito
18. 1964
17. Frank De Boer
16. 2007
15. Stonehenge
14. Laughing Gas
13. Prince of Wales
12. Tove Jansson
11. Ovine
10. Countryfile
9. The Usual Suspects
8. James Anderson
7. Doctor Doctor
6. Bestival
5. Beef and bacon (or beef and pancetta)
4. Monserrat Caballe
3. Antigua
2. Irma
1. B2

April 2018 –The Prattle (Issue 102)

NOTES FROM YOUR LOCAL CITY COUNCILLOR

Two local initiatives have started, to help us take more control of what happens in Halton-with-Aughton.

The first is the **Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan**. This can give us more control over future developments (including housing) in the Parish, and help us to steer things in ways that we, not just developers, decide.

The Parish Council is committed to developing it and volunteers are already contributing to it. We have received grant money to employ a community consultant to help us prepare a draft, based on updating the last 'Parish Plan' (from 2013).

The Neighbourhood Plan will include ways to help manage flood risk, and to activate the village Emergency Plan, as well as dealing with our landscape and natural environment, improving local infrastructure, supporting a sustainable local economy and improving local community facilities and services (including recreation).

The next step is to consult with everyone on the draft plan, so that residents can have their say on what matters to them.

We will do this soon, through publishing the draft and seeking responses via email, and also with open meeting[s] at the Community Centre. Look out for information, on notice boards, newspapers and the 'Halton on Lune' Facebook group.

We need more volunteers, to help us organise the consultation, to deal with the responses, and to finalise the Plan. If you can help, please contact me at kfrea@lancaster.gov.uk

The second initiative is: **Lune Valley Community Land Trust**. The Lune Valley Community Land Trust (LV CLT) has been set up by local residents, to gain more direct control of the type of housing built and of public access land in the Parish. This includes ensuring that we get the kind of affordable homes that local people and young families can rent or buy. For more

COMPLETE HOMEOPATHY DAWN KEYSE RSHom

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Registered Member of
The Society of Homeopaths

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www.completehomeopathy.biz

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(digital) with hot health tips and mini case histories.

Simply drop me your email. It will be good to hear from you.



October 2018 –The Prattle (Issue 105)

equipment. There are many bins around the field, so can all dog walkers please ensure that the area is left clear of dog mess.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The draft Neighbourhood Plan is available for comments at:

www.haltonwithaughtonpc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan

The dates for an open drop-in event will be posted on the website. Come and get involved in neighbourhood planning and help us to develop a shared vision for Halton-with-Aughton and shape the development and growth of our local area.

FAIRWAY.PHYSIO CLINIC AT THE CENTRE @ HALTON

Don't let your aches and pains get in the way of what you want to achieve in 2018.

**Contact Rob Barker (MCSP) to book a Saturday appointment.
Tel: 07493 301 568**

**Email: info@fairway.physio
www.fairway.physio**

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk,
m: 07980 000 682

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk



**The Rotary Club of Carnforth proudly presents
A CHOIR CONCERT
With the Kay Shoes Male Voice Choir
and
Ladies of Note**

This will be part of the many events to commemorate the end of the First World War, with our hopes and prayers that we can all look to a safer and more secure future.

Profits will go to HELP THE HEROES to help commemorate those who gave so much in the most practical way possible.

The Kay Shoes Male Voice Choir is well known by many and just two weeks before our concert will be performing at the Royal Albert Hall.

Also performing with them will be the wonderful **Ladies of Note** and all those who attended the previous concert featuring these two wonderful choirs will remember the joy and exhilaration of the performance they gave.

The concert is being held at St Oswald's Church, Warton on Sat 27th Oct and will start at 7 pm.

Admission by program - available on the door, £10; seniors, £8.

December 2018 –The Prattle (Issue 106)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Thank you to everyone involved in supporting Remembrance Day, even if the weather was not particularly supportive. The response to the commemorative art work produced by Lancaster and Morecambe College students has been overwhelmingly positive.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The draft Neighbourhood Plan is available on the website:

www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan

The team are still considering how best to both publicise the plan and gather your responses, so keep an eye out for further information.

ALLOTMENT RULES & BURIAL GROUND RULES

The Parish Council have been reviewing the Allotment Rules and Burial Ground Rules.

A new version of the Allotment Rules has been agreed and will be sent to all plot holders in December.

Once agreed, the new Burial Ground Rules will be placed on the noticeboard in the burial ground.

Luke Mills,

Parish Clerk

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

m: 07980 000 682



DOGS HOLIDAY HOME

Small dogs only

For more information contact:

JUNE

01524 811692 or 07763 212092

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Carol M Sedgwick
BSc (Hons), HCPC, SCP

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April 2019 –The Prattle (Issue 108)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The small team managing the Neighbourhood Plan are considering the best ways of gathering feedback from the village on the draft plan, including the possibility of a questionnaire to every house. It may be prohibitively expensive to provide a draft plan for every single household, so instead they are likely to be made available at various places in the village, such as the Centre, as well as online. You can then provide feedback via questionnaires, either on paper or online.

The plan will help shape and protect the village, so please make the effort to respond so that it includes as many views as possible.

DOG MESS ON THE PLAYING FIELDS

There are regular complaints about dog mess all around the area. It is frustrating that a small minority of dog owners have so little concern for everyone else.

The Parish Council have received complaints about dog mess on the playing fields, which is particularly disgusting, given that children play on there regularly. There are now bins and signs at both entrances to the field, so hopefully those dog owners will take the hint.

BURIAL GROUND

There are only three plots left in the Church of England section of the Burial Ground, which was built in 1967, therefore the Parish Council has been working on plans for adding new plots. Luckily, there is space to expand, so another 80 plots should become available before long. Interestingly, only a bishop can consecrate the new area.

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk,
m: 07980 000 682

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October 2019 –The Prattle (Issue 111)

VILLAGE PROBLEM

Our tongue in cheek photo on the front page of our last issue prompted one of our readers to send in a sign she bought in the south of France.



Thanks, Patricia!

HAFFNER ORCHESTRA CONCERT

Haffner Orchestra starts their concert season on Saturday 2nd November, 7:30pm at the Great Hall, Lancaster University. The orchestra will perform Offenbach's overture La Belle Helene and Sibelius Symphony no. 1. Violinist Leland Chen will be playing the solo in Bruch's Scottish Fantasy. Full details on www.haffnerorchestra.org. Tickets available online or at Lancaster or Morecambe Visitor Information Centres. Under 18s free.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Do you have any ideas to improve the village?

The Parish Council has been working on a Neighbourhood Plan for Halton & Aughton and would like to get your views and ideas on ways that the village might develop in the next few years. A Neighbourhood Plan is an official planning document that, when adopted, can help local people to control what developments get approved in the Parish.

A small group of Parish Councillors and other villagers formed a working group last year and have drafted a plan, using the previous Parish Plans as a starting point. The next stage is to get feedback from the people who live and work in the



S ARMISTEAD

Hard landscaping - Driveways, Patios, Drainage, Decking etc

Hedges and trees pruned and any other building/garden work considered...

28 Schoolhouse Lane, Halton
07773140901 / 01524 811278

area on what they think of the draft plan and any new ideas they might have.

The working group has identified a number of primary concerns regarding the future of the Parish and would particularly welcome any thoughts you may have about them.

PRIMARY CONCERNS

- The boundary of the built area of the village
- Village infrastructure
- A bus route serving Low Road area
- The shopping facilities in the village
- Local school capacity
- The mix of housing being built – the lack of affordable and older generation housing
- The connectivity of local footpaths
- The management of public green spaces

For six weeks ending on the 16th of November the Parish working group would like to hear from you with your thoughts about the future of your village.

The full plan is available online at: www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan

Or you can see printed copies of the draft plan at The Centre, St Wilfrid's Church, the United Reformed Church and in Black's Chippy.

You can write or email the Parish Clerk (details below) with your views. There will also be a couple of opportunities to find out more about the plan and ask any questions you might have at two open house drop-in sessions at The Centre on Saturday 2nd of November 9am – 12noon and Thursday 7th November 5pm – 8pm.

Parish Cllr Chris Coates

Parish Clerk Luke Mills

clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk
28 Forgebank Walk, Halton, LA2 6FD



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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

For six weeks ending on the 16th of November the Neighbourhood Plan working group would like to hear from you with your thoughts about the future of your village.

The current draft plan is available online at www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan, or you can see printed copies of the draft plan at The Centre, St Wilfrid's Church, the United Reformed Church and in Black's Chippy. You can write or email the Parish Clerk with your views. There will also be a couple of opportunities to find out more about the plan and ask any questions you might have at two drop-in sessions at the Community Centre on Sat 2nd November 9am–12noon and Thurs 7th November 5pm–8pm.

NEW PLAY EQUIPMENT AT ST WILFRID'S PARK

The Parish Council is gradually replacing or refurbishing the play equipment at St Wilfrid's Park. The climbing frame is likely to be the next item replaced. If residents have ideas for new equipment that their children would enjoy, then please contact the Parish Clerk. The Parish Council will take these preferences into account when selecting the replacement.

PARISH COUNCILLORS NEEDED

The Parish Council still has 2-3 vacancies for anyone who may be interested in becoming a Councillor. The work is on a voluntary basis, so you can do as much or as little as you wish. You can find out

more about being a Parish Councillor on the Parish Council website, from an existing Councillor or the Clerk.

USEFUL LINKS

Report a non-emergency crime or incident to the Police:

doitonline.lancashire.police.uk

Report a road/path issue:

www.lancashire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-travel/report-it

Report fly-tipping:

www.lancaster.gov.uk/environmental-problems/report-fly-tipping

Parish Council website:

www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

Luke Mills,

Parish Clerk

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk,
m: 07980 000 682



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07759680943

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Low Bentham

015242

62038

No job too small, reasonable rates, estimates given.

October 2019 – Facebook posts

 **Luke Mills**
7 October 2019 · 🌐

HALTON –WITH-AUGHTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Have Your Say

Do you have any ideas to improve the village?

Do we need more footpaths?

Are there enough shops?

What about the bus services?

Are the right sort of houses being



 **Halton with Aughton Parish Council**
Published by Luke Mills
7 October 2019 · 🌐

The Parish Council has been working on a Neighbourhood Plan and would like to get your views and ideas on ways that the village might develop in the next few years. We have identified a number of primary concerns regarding the future of the Parish and would particularly welcome any thoughts you may have about them.

The plan is available online at <http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>, or you can see printed versions at the Centre, St.Wilfrid's Church, the United Reformed Church and in Blacks Chippy.

We will be holding public drop-in sessions at the Centre on Saturday 2nd November 9am - 12pm and Thursday 7th November 5pm - 8pm. You will be able to view the plans, ask questions and provide feedback.

Please respond by November 16th, either via email (clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk) or via post (Parish Clerk, 28 Forgebank Walk, Halton, LA2 6FD).

Thanks in advance.

👍 5

👍 Like 💬 Comment 📧 Send



Chris Coates

27 October 2019 · 🌐



Neighbourhood Plan Open Meetings

Sat 2nd Nov & 9am - 12pm and Thur 7th Nov 5pm - 8pm

The Parish Council has been working on a Neighbourhood Plan and would like to get your views and ideas on ways that the village might develop in the next few years. We have identified a number of primary concerns regarding the future of the Parish and would particularly welcome any thoughts you may have about them. The plan is available online at: <http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>.

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HALTON –WITH-AUGHTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Have Your Say

Do you have any ideas to improve the village?

Do we need more footpaths?

Are there enough shops?

Are the right sort of houses being

What about the bus services?

👍 2

 **Chris Coates**
31 October 2019 · 🌐

HALTON –WITH-AUGHTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Have Your Say

Do you have any ideas to improve the village?

Do we need more footpaths?

Are there enough shops?

What about the bus services?

Are the right sort of houses being



 **Chris Coates**
27 October 2019 · 🌐

Neighbourhood Plan Open Meetings
Sat 2nd Nov & 9am - 12pm and Thur 7th Nov 5pm - 8pm
The Parish Council has been working on a Neighbourhood Plan and would like ... [See more](#)

👍 1

👍 Like 💬 Comment 📧 Send

 Comment as Halton with Aughton Parish Council 🗣️ 😊 📷 📺 📹

November 2019 – Facebook posts

 **Chris Coates**
25 November 2019 · 🌐

If you still have anything to add to the Parish Neighbourhood Plan there is still time to send your comments / ideas to the Parsh Clerk - while the official consultation ended on Nov 16th the Parish Council has agreed to keep the consultation open until we meet to dicuss the comments in early December.

The plan is available online at: [<http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>] (<http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood.../...>),

HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Have Your Say

Do you have any ideas to
improve the village?





 3 3 comments

 Like  Comment  Send

December 2019 –The Prattle (Issue 112)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Two public drop-in sessions were held in the Centre during November, which generated a large number of comments from those that attended. The Parish Council would still like to gather as much feedback as possible, so **the deadline for commenting will be extended until mid-December**. There is a comment box in the Centre or email the Parish Clerk (email address below).

A brief summary of the feedback so far:

- Lots of support for new and improved paths, and where possible making them multi-use.
- Lots of support for green spaces, including protecting the old lawnmower site, horse paddock and opening Castle Hill. Support for the creation of wildflower areas.
- Lots of calls for better bus services, especially during evenings and along Low Road.
- Lots of concern over speeding traffic and HGVs travelling through the village and ideas for making it safer for pedestrians.
- A variety of views on the new housing and any future housing. Suggestions for more affordable homes and homes suitable for older people.
- Mixed views on shops, but support for longer opening times for the Post Office, library and GP surgery.
- Ideas for building better community resilience to cope with future climate change.

ROAD AND GULLY CLEANING

The annual leaf-fall has probably blocked some road drains. Residents are best placed to know which drains are blocked, so we would **encourage you to report any blocked gullies (drains) directly to Lancashire Highways**. There is a link to the online form from the Parish Council website (<http://www.haltonwithaughtonpc.gov.uk/report-it/>).

BURIAL GROUND EXPANSION

Halton Burial Ground located on Foundry Lane was built towards the end of the 60's, but the number of remaining Church of England plots has gradually become smaller. Therefore, the Church of England section will be expanded through a consecration ceremony held by Rev. Susan Seed and the Bishop of Lancaster. This will ensure that there are enough spaces for the foreseeable future.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IN THE BEAUMONT AREA

Taylor-Wimpey have raised a scoping request for a development on the far western edge of the parish (Green Lane to Kellet Lane), primarily filling in the area bounded by Kellet Lane, the Bay Gateway and the A6, with a smaller area on the other side of the A6 too. The proposed uses include:

- Residential – up to 500 dwellings comprising a mix of housing types

February 2020 –The Prattle (Issue 113)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

We are pleased to announce that Naomi Turner has joined the Parish Council and has also just started work in the Centre too.

This means that the council now has 6 out of 8 posts filled, so there are still 2 vacancies. The Parish Council is friendly and non-political, open to those who live or work in the parish. If you would like to become more involved with local affairs and help improve the area, then feel free to contact any of the current councillors or the Parish Clerk.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The next stage of the plan is to consider all the comments received from the consultation and produce a plan for formal review by various organisations including Lancaster City Council. We have had a couple of offers of help from residents, but we would welcome any other further offers.

BUS ROUTE ALONG LOW ROAD

There have been many calls for a bus route along Low Road, especially from the Neighbourhood Plan consultation. Two new bus stops with raised pavements have been installed as part of the footpath construction outside the Centre/Story Homes development, so this seems an appropriate time to ask Stagecoach to run a regular bus service along Low Road.

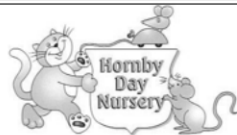
RECYCLING POINT

The residential recycling point has been removed from the Greyhound car park, so the Parish Council are liaising with The Centre and Lancaster City Council to see whether some of these recycling bins can be re-sited at the Centre.

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

m: 07980 000 682



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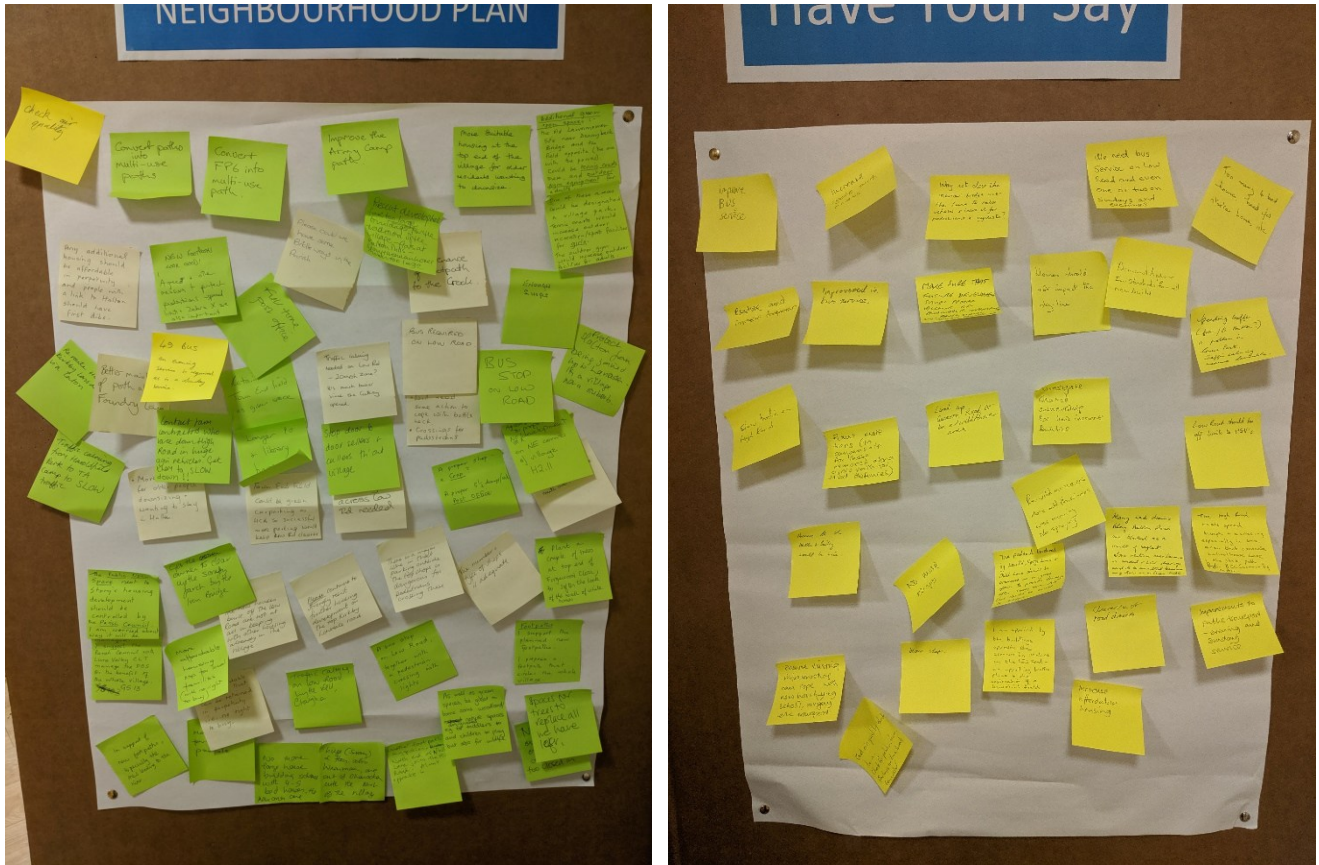
- Qualified staff who positively enjoy working with children
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Looking for childcare?

Call Danielle Brown to discuss your individual requirements or to arrange a visit.

Appendix 2 – Responses to Informal Public Consultation 2019

The following responses are copied from post-it notes or A5 pages written by residents during the public drop-in events at The Centre @ Halton held on Saturday 2nd November 2019 9am-12pm and on Thursday 7th November 2019.



POST-IT NOTES

Roads & Traffic

1. Traffic Calming on High Road – recent accidents
2. Speeding traffic (from/to Halton?) a problem in Carus Park. Traffic calming measures desirable
3. Traffic calming on Low Rd – 20mph zone? It's much busier since the Gateway opened
4. The High Road needs speed bumps & a crossing especially in the area that connect Schoolhouse Lane & the Link path from the HCC Community Centre
5. Low Road should be off-limits to HGVs
6. Clearance of road drains
7. Slow traffic on High Road
8. Crossing on Low Road
9. We shouldn't be encouraging multi-car ownership by all homes having parking space for two cars. This is also increasing flood risk in the village. One should suffice.

10. Zebra crossing on Low Road just to the east of Forge Lane junction for access to the Centre & school – I have seen a near miss involving 2 children.
11. Zebra crossing – yes.
12. Cut down on cars parking by top shops on main road
13. Reduce speed on Low Road
14. Reduce speed on Low Road to 20 mph. Introduce traffic calming measures being speed humps or speed cameras.
15. Pedestrian crossing on Low Road to access community centre
16. Zebra crossing on Low Road by Forge Lane to the Centre
17. Re-route HGV from Kirkby Lonsdale via Caton
18. Traffic calming from Harrowfield Park to TA Camp to slow traffic
19. Contact farm contractors who race down High Road in huge agr-vehicles. Get them to slow down!
20. Zebra crossing across Low Road needed
21. Low Road: Will need some action to cope with the bottleneck, crossings for pedestrians
22. There is a major issue in that parking outside the top shops is dangerous for pedestrians crossing there
23. Many road drains along Halton Road are blocked as a result of neglect Some routine maintenance is needed & LCC drawings need to be consulted because many drains are no longer visible
24. Traffic calming on Low Road by Lythe Fell, Clougha

Paths

25. New footpaths look good.
26. Convert paths into multi-use paths
27. Convert FP6 into a multi-use path
28. Improve the Army Camp path
29. Please could we have some bridleways in the Parish
30. New footpaths look good! I agree to other measures to protect pedestrians – speed limits & zebra crossing are also important
31. Restore and improve footpaths
32. Footpaths to be accessible to all, e.g. riverside path to Hydro
33. Like the proposed new footpaths making better linkages and walking routes
34. More footpaths – yes please
35. Suggestion for another footpath. From High Road to the trig point on the highest point in the neighbourhood (for the view). North end of Halton Park Lane. Across the Hight Road. A gate in the wall. Trig point can just be seen.
36. Very good idea to have more footpaths – especially from the village across to the river and along the river
37. Need another footpath to west of FP37 that connects the Centre & path to High Road with FB Walk & Mill Lane houses, OR a link from the corner of Forge Lane to FP37
38. Proposed new footpaths very significant. Will improve existing access, provide important links

39. Better maintenance of footpath to the Crook
40. More footpaths needed – can they be multi-user?
41. In support of new footpaths, especially the ones leading to the river
42. Very pleased with all new proposed footpaths & designated green spaces. Also need direct footpath between community centre & Forge Lane/Mill Lane
43. Another footpath suggestion. North end of Halton Park Lane joins the High Road. Almost opposite.
44. Footpaths: I support the planned new footpaths. I propose a footpath that circles the whole village
45. Footpath from Halton Green to Crook
46. Better maintenance of path along Foundry Lane
47. Why not close the 'narrow' bridge over the Lune to motor vehicles and leave it for pedestrians and cyclists?
48. Increase cycle path access

Green Spaces

49. Retain field opposite allotments – one of our remaining green spaces
50. Retain large tress and green space in the village
51. Protect trees and hedgerows
52. Green space GS12 extend along to Denny Beck Bridge with benches
53. Plant more tress (to compensate for those removed along cycle path for flood defences)
54. Get the owner to clear up the scruffy area(?) by the Iron Bridge
55. Land up Quarry Road to be a wildflower area
56. Access to the motte & bailey would be nice
57. Manage all green spaces to support pollinators
58. Stop strimming riverbank. It will lead to erosion & collapse of the river terrace.
59. Wildflower verges along Low Road & elsewhere. Zero carbon homes with environmental benefit. Tree planting. Lift share scheme in the village
60. Protect the riverbank from erosion using natural methods
61. Keep area tidy, hedges weeds on footpaths reduced to increase footpath area to walk on
62. Green space by Denny Beck bridge – old lawnmower site. Ideal for rewilding
63. Stop tree felling – Mill Lane Mews along river
64. GS13 – yes please don't build here
65. Good community management of our green spaces & woodlands a priority
66. Additional Green Open space: The old lawnmower site near Denny Beck bridge and the field opposite (the one with the ponies). Could be tennis courts there and outdoor gym equipment for adults. One of the areas could be designated a village park. Tennis courts would increase outdoor recreation/sports facilities for girls. The outdoor gym would increase outdoor facilities for adults.
67. Rewild more areas. More wildflower areas. Less mowing. No spraying.
68. Retain Town End field as green space
69. The Public Open Space next to Story's housing development should be controlled by the Parish Council. I am worried about way it will be

70. Plant a couple of trees at top end of Forgewood Close, to soften the look of the wall of white homes
71. Spaces for trees to replace all we have lost
72. No development on paddock opposite allotments – too closed in
73. As well as green spaces, be great to have some woodland/designated nature spaces, .e.g for toddlers and children to play but also for wildlife
74. I suggest the Parish Council with Lune Valley CLT manage the public open space for the benefit of the whole village GS13
75. The paddock bordered by Low Road, Forge Lane & Mill Lane should be preserved as green space to provide drainage after heavy rain. Mill Lane should be closed to traffic.

Housing

76. Too many 4 bed houses. Need for starter homes, etc
77. Houses should not impact the skyline
78. Happy to see the development boundary.
79. Investigate shared ownership for low income families
80. Please continue to strongly resist further housing development on the top Kirkby Lonsdale Road
81. Any additional housing should be affordable in perpetuity and people with a link to Halton should have first dibs
82. I am appalled by the buildings opposite the community centre on the Low Road – an appalling traffic place & the destruction of the beautiful field
83. Protect the boundary of the village – keep it a village
84. More housing for older people downsizing & wanting to stay in Halton
85. Increase affordable housing
86. Arrow Lane development (pending) lies outside proposed development boundary
87. Recent developments far too large buildings for the tradition of the village – flats at Halton Mills, Story & Wrenman Homes much too large
88. More suitable housing at the top end of the village for older residents wanting to downsize
89. Town End field could be green car parking as HCA is so successful. More parking would keep Low Road clearer.
90. Ensure existing infrastructure can cope with new housing, e.g. school, surgery, etc. transport
91. Agree to no proposed development on NE corner of village H2.11
92. More affordable housing esp. for local families (with no right to buy)
93. Protect Halton from being joined to Lancaster. It's a village not a suburb
94. The new houses built off the Low Road are not at all in keeping with the other housing already in the village
95. More affordable housing, that can be retained in perpetuity, ie. no right to buy
96. More homes for older people
97. No more large house building schemes with 4-5 bed houses, the new ones are huge (Story). Also Wrenman are out of character with the rest of the village.

Transport

- 98. We need a bus service on Low Rod and even one or two on Sundays and evenings
- 99. Improvements to public transport – evening and Sunday service
- 100. A bus stop on Low Road together with a pedestrian crossing with lights
- 101. Improvement in bus service
- 102. Improve bus service
- 103. Improve buses on Low Road as well as some evening buses to/from Lancaster
- 104. We need a bus route on Low Road
- 105. Bus route should include Low Road, Town End, Forgewood
- 106. 49 bus – an evening service is required, as is a Sunday service
- 107. Bus stop on Low Road
- 108. Bus required on Low Road

Climate Change & Environment

- 109. A general objective to build community resilience in every way in face of climate change seems essential
- 110. Demand higher eco standards for all new build
- 111. Climate change – community resilience & minimal impact. Needs whole section placing community resilience in face of climate change & minimising negative impact on emissions, etc. at centre of plan. Plan should favour whatever build connection within community as connecting footpaths, social spaces
- 112. Check air quality
- 113. Get air quality checks done. Check for pollution from factories on the Lune towards Lancaster

Services & Facilities

- 114. No more shops
- 115. More shops
- 116. A post box on Low Road/Mill Lane
- 117. Advertise coffee show better from riverside walk to get more custom
- 118. Community pub run by the village
- 119. Increase parking for the Centre use of the “pony” field
- 120. More houses - we should have more shops
- 121. Reflect needs of new development by increased capacity in infrastructure esp. school, busses, post office & surgery hours,
- 122. Enough shops
- 123. Make sure that future developments take proper account of available infrastructure e.g. power, water, schools, traffic, etc.
- 124. Commitment to retain Denny Beck bridge for cycles and pedestrians & as a piece of heritage
- 125. Full time post office

- 126. Longer Post Office & library hours please
- 127. A proper shop – a Coop? A proper 5 ½ days / week post office
- 128. The number & type of shops is adequate
- 129. Allotments are great – more will be needed
- 130. Stop door to door sellers & callers throughout the village

Longer Comments

1. Written comment

I have read the NP. I live in the village and these are the current proposals in the NP which I feel are very important to me:

- 4.4 g & h: I endorse these views re. English Heritage & Street Furniture
- 5.9 & 5.11: I endorse the need for affordable housing for those on lower incomes and housing for senior citizens
- 6.2 h: Keep commercial traffic off Mill Lane, legal access should be from Low Rd to development at far end of Mill Lane, out of the woods, etc
- 6.2 e: The former lawnmower site to be a wildlife area, though not a den for teenagers to hangout
- 6.2 l: The playground and grassed area on Mill Lane to be adopted by council & maintained
- 6.2 h: I endorse
- 6.2 k: I endorse
- 6.2 n: I endorse
- 8.7: As someone who tries to use bike and feet and not car, I would endorse new footpaths being developed
- 10: I would endorse all proposals for green spaces suggested.
- 11: Local community facilities. A post-box along Mill Lane would be appreciated, the closest one is on High Rd

2. Written comment

8.1 Sustainable transport modes

The reinstatement of an evening bus service is essential. As we can't get back to the village in the evening more people have cars. My own children used the bus as teenagers whereas teenage children of my neighbours now have their own cars to enable them to socialise in the evening. As a consequence, the parking is a problem with people blocking exits and parking dangerously on junctions.

Proposal: Reinststate evening bus service

Proposal: Instate parking scheme for residents of High Road and roads of High Road.

3. Written comment

Traffic

- a) Parking on the High Road, causing congestion and poor visibility at junctions onto the road e.g. where St Wilfrid's park joins High Road. Do there need to be more double yellow lines adjacent to junctions?
- b) Increase in traffic racing(?) along the High Road since the building of the new road..do Sat Nav's take traffic to Kirkby Lonsdale this way? Should there be a size restriction on vehicles passing along the High Road, or clearer signage to direct through-traffic to Kirkby Lonsdale along more appropriate routes?
- c) Speed of traffic through the village. Is greater enforcement of the 20/30 mpt limits needed?

Public transport

- d) The price of buses to Lancaster is outrageous. This reduces use of buses. We need to campaign for subsidised transport
- e) Lack of evening buses – this means that teenagers & people who do not own cars are limited in their ability to travel – both for work & pleasure.

Development

- f) We need a moratorium on development in the village. The current infill development is ruining the rural character of the village. The developments in the upper part of the village will also overload the drainage system. Any future development plans need to have a clear sustainable drainage plan.

Village Green Spaces

- g) Perhaps the banks alongside Quarry Hill could have a less intensive cutting programme. There are a variety of wildflower species, e.g. ox-eye daisy, already in the bank. These could be allowed to grow and flower during the summer and then cut back at the end of the summer. This would also contribute to pollinator network.

Emails

12/12/19

My points are as follows:

1. Paths: I support all the proposed paths, in particular paths from the M6 to the Church, through Dale Woods and opening up Castle Hill.
2. Sustainable Transport: Encourage a new bus route along Low Road, either by changing the 49/50 to alternate between High Rd & Low Rd, or alter the 80/81 to travel via Halton rather than Denny Beck. Encourage evening and weekend buses. If feasible improving the Army Camp Path so that cycles could travel along it would be a significant safety benefit; maybe that could be an S106 idea for the Beaumont development?
3. Roads: Pedestrian crossings are needed on the High Rd (near the shops) and Low Rd (near the Centre). The traffic is only going to increase and it is crucial to try and protect children. Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) could be purchased by the Parish Council and moved around the village to encourage slower traffic.
4. Green Spaces: I support all the green spaces. In particular Castle Hill should be opened up for public access and Story Homes should be encouraged to pass management of the public open space to either the Parish Council or Community Land Trust.

5. Environment: Allow some green spaces to become wilder to provide wildlife habitats, eg. wildflowers. Use less weed spray to minimise insect damage. Consider how to encourage better village resilience.
6. Services and facilities: More adult gym equipment to keep residents healthy for free.
7. Development/housing: Protect a green belt between Lancaster & Halton, so that Halton remains village-like.

4/12/19

The path from Denny beck bridge/low road to the bus stop at war memorial is terrible for walking with a pram or anyone with a mobility aid. At a few points you have to walk in the road which doesn't feel safe and where there are paths they are very narrow, bumpy and close to cars driving fast. Also there isn't a safe place to cross the road when getting off the bus on the opposite side. Many cars park on the road and pavement at this bus stop making it difficult with prams and even more unsafe crossing the road. The path from low road to Denny beck bridge is very dark and cars and cyclists can't always see pedestrians in that area. Having an accessible access to the bus stop from low road and improved bus stop at the war memorial would greatly improve my quality of life and I can imagine those that are elderly or have disabilities.

16/11/19

In answer to your questionnaire I think the village is being inundated with new houses and as the school is bursting at the seams enough is enough Apart from the strain on the already inadequate drains, there will be more cars driving through. I came to live in the village 56 years ago and have seen many changes, not all for the good.

It is becoming like a third world country with grass and weeds encroaching on to the pavements especially those on the Low Rd going towards Caton People are being encouraged to exercise but these pavements are dangerous

As far as shops go, where would you build them?

The bus service is adequate during the day but couldn't a bus route be made so that the Infirmary could be included .It is a difficult walk from the bus stop at White Cross down to the crossings then a stiff pull up to the Centenary building and evening visiting is out of the question.

There is certainly a need for council building for the elderly but the question again, where is the land for this. Maybe naively I thought when the council sold properties to sitting tenants that that money would be used to build social housing .

I hope the council halts the decline of green space surrounding Halton as I wouldn't like it to be a suburb of Lancaster

15/11/19

Halton Gorge Lune River Environs – M6 to the Crook O'Lune

It makes no sense to just look at the environment on the north bank of the river that is within the Parish Boundary without also considering management of the southern side as well. They form a

complete distinct habitat and both sides are covered by the same Local Geodiversity site and Biological Heritage site designation. And towards the eastern end comes into the Forest of Bowland AONB. Some co-ordination with both Quernmore and Caton Parishes is needed with regards to any Neighbourhood Plan work they may be doing. And account needs to be taken of the AONB status. The area contains habitats used by a number of species listed in the Lancashire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP):

- Common Sandpiper (Locally in decline)
- Hedgehog (National Priority)
- Kestrel (Local Decline)
- Song Thrush (National Priority & Lancashire BAP Species)
- Otter ((National Priority & Lancashire BAP Species)
- Common Pipistrelle Bat (Lancashire BAP Species)
- Lapwing (National Priority, Lancashire BAP Species & International Importance)

Any management strategy for the area needs to take into account the presence of these species in particular, as well as other local species that inhabit the area.

The area is currently being affected by Ash Dieback (*Hymenoscyphus fraxineus*) and over the next 5 – 10 years we are likely to lose a significant number of mature trees because of the fungus. Management of the tree stock and potential for replanting and new planting site should be identified in co-operation with local Land owners.

Potential sites for further tree planting include:

On the North bank (Within Halton-with-Aughton Parish)

- Open land to the NE of Forge Weir
- Hermitage field at the Crook O’Lune

On the South bank

- Small strip of land between cycle track & river just east of the M6
- United Utilities Area above Forge Weir

The area is also a serious water sports location with two fishing clubs using the river and British Canoeing using the gorge rapids on a regular basis outside the fishing season.

10/11/19

Halton-with Aughton Heritage Group

Response to Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan

1. We would support the creation of an ‘Industrial history walk’ along the north bank of the river from Denny Beck bridge to the Hydro. With interpretive information boards to supplement the one near the Hydro and the one provided by Halton Mill.
2. We would like to see public access to Castle Hill. Either through the creation of a footpath through the field or alternatively creating a public open space that could be used for wider recreational use. In the medium term we would also like to see some archaeological work done on the hill and some interpretation put on the site.

5/11/19

I would like to comment to support all the proposed footpaths but in particular FP-32, FP-35, FP-37 thro to FP40 as I believe that these would enable more circular walks thus enhancing the quality of life for all recreational users.

4/11/19

I am writing to express my support for the new footpaths detailed in the The Halton & Aughton Neighbourhood Parish Plan 2019

3/11/19

Local Green Spaces are precious to our wellbeing and should be well preserved. If local housing developers provide hollow promises about their commitment to preserving the green spaces in Halton, then this responsibility should be passed to groups of local residents who are willing to do this. They are the real stake holders.

Footpaths are vital to various aspects of life locally and joining up paths seems to be an excellent policy to pursue. Developing footpaths ticks the sustainability box on many fronts. It improves people's quality of life, health. Anything that encourages walking also feeds into the sustainable transport issue.

Bus route on Low Road will add to the transport choices available. However, there are other issues to consider. A zebra crossing on Low Road near the Community Centre would help, as would a continuous pavement between the bus stops from Forge Lane to the Memorial. If this is not possible, could footpaths please be developed to avoid the road but gets people to the bus stops.

Housing need in Halton is being addressed and I would like to support the 'affordable in perpetuity' homes being developed.

Flood risk management: It is very reassuring for people who live by the river to know about this. Along the river on the north bank there are places where there is erosion. Under Riparian Rights the landowner has the right to protect his/her property from flooding and erosion. Where rights exist, it follows that there will also be responsibilities. Does the Parish Council point out these responsibilities to landowners?

2/11/19

another idea I'd like to put forward is improved access along the path to the Hydro - maybe a small/narrow smooth track which would enable users with other needs, eg wheelchairs, mobility scooters, crutches, poor balance etc, to travel safely and comfortably along the riverside path (which at the moment is not usable for many who'd like to visit)

29/10/19

I have read through the latest plan and am greatly encouraged that it has been informed by the previous two Parish Plans, whose participants worked hard to develop and review them.

I agree with all that has been written and would just like to add the following comments:

1. Unfortunately the landscape has already changed significantly for some residents and will never be restored, hence the importance of preserving our current landscape and views.
2. The river is an extremely important asset to the village and I wonder if it would be beneficial to liaise with bodies such as Lune Rivers Trust to monitor the impact of the increasing development and usage on its banks and beyond.
3. Flooding should be a primary concern.
4. The majority of services are situated off High Rd. This causes increased traffic in this area and increased traffic flow through residential areas of the village e.g.. Clougha and Lythe fell Aves. This has been particularly noticeable since the new developments off Low Rd. There is little respect for the speed limit. I don't know what can be done about this but there has been very little thought as to traffic flow in the village, access from Low Rd to High Rd and vice versus is a problem! There should be a priority flow through the "narrows".
5. Housing - I welcome the commitment to more affordable housing.
6. The Motte and Bailey should be made accessible.

25/10/19

I support all the suggestions already printed on the HYS leaflet

but here are a few thoughts to add to all the others

safety of pedestrians throughout the village - especially where there are narrow or no pavements, a 'bottleneck' , line of sight for oncoming traffic, trees, bushes and thorny foliage which protrude on to the streets

a pedestrian crossing on Low Road to serve village residents wishing to cross to and from the Community Centre

a bus route serving Low Road and surroundings

there could be an increase in motor traffic in the village, once the new houses are occupied - what is the proposed method of traffic control for the 'bottleneck' in Low Road ?

an area with outdoor benches/seating and plants in an off-road setting - Denny Beck Bridge end of Mill Lane ?

would there be some way of rescuing the Pub? this is a valuable asset for the village

8/10/19

Re Halton-With - Aughton Neighbourhood Plan.

The recent leaflet drop has prompted me to contact you - which is the the whole idea of it I suppose !

I'll save my comments on housing/school/ village infrastructure for a later date.

Green Space Management,

As you will recall earlier this year you kindly assisted with getting the council to cut back the overgrowth on the Low Road to Crook O Lune footpaths. This was a job well done and in some areas exposing up to 50% extra tarmac footpath previously lost to Mother Nature. This request was first made back in July 2016 at the PC meeting and the time it took to undertake the work resulted in it turning into a "big job". Hopefully this will continue to be maintained as it is already showing signs of growing back. Only last week I observed someone pushing a pram along this pathway, something that was impossible a year ago and they commented how much safer it was. It would be very sad to see this fall into decline once more.

Shopping Facilities In The Village,

? I am somewhat puzzled by this and recall this also being mentioned earlier this year.

If this is related to lack of facilities - how can this be ?

Previously the Low Road was mentioned, I have lived in this part of the village for 30 years (40 years total in Halton) and cannot understand suddenly the need for a shop to serve the Low Road (as was previously mentioned) .

Some local residents (without naming names) still Drive their children up to the school so they have no excuse not to use the " Top Shops" The Convenience store is a credit to the new owners supplying a wide range of produce and for once at competitive prices.

They have all made significant investments and doubt any of the businesses wish to further dilute their turnover in any way.

Where would further shops be located ? Not in the soon to be redundant Wrenman Homes " over engineered " Marketing suite building I hope ! No surprise this has been a concern of many of my fellow neighbours too.

Any new build purchaser should've been fully aware of what the village of Halton had to offer before making the move.

I also own 2 properties in Caton not far from the village Co Op store and from first hand experience the negatives far outweigh any positives with regard to Litter, Noise, out of hours deliveries, extra traffic, anti social behaviour, I could go on and on.

Perhaps Halton should look at what is already on offer . Some residents don't even know we have a dairyman delivering to the door 3 times a week. For eligible residents Lancashire County Council offer a little used " Dial - A-Ride " service (usually to Asda or Morrison's).

This is a door to door service (no waiting at a bus stop in all weathers) and costs something in the region of £2 each way. Following my early retirement I drove this bus and on some occasions only carried 1 or 2 people from the village compared to Hornby which constantly ran a full bus every week. It will sadly be a case of use it or lose it .

Myself and many others would strongly oppose any development of this nature in this part of the village and sincerely hope it is just another case of selfish greed from a developer as this usually seems to happen far too often.

Perhaps we should follow our European cousins and start a mobile bakery parking at The Centre car park every morning selling our freshly baked baguettes and pastries ?

Some villages do operate similar "not for profit " organisations, perhaps LCC are willing to offer a grant to encourage community spirit and wellbeing.

8/10/19

You may remember that we went through this painful process approx 20 years ago, it had no effect in influencing the development of the village.

The planning Dept always fall back on the excuse that they are dictated by Government policy.

7/3/19

In case it is useful, I would be keen to propose a footpath going north from the waterworks bridge, and joining with the existing public footpath at Lower Highfield / Nether Highfield. The path would roughly follow the course of the underground water pipes. The northern half is already a decent farm track. What is needed is to join this farm track down to the river, through the woods -- less than 500 m. It would give very useful flexibility to the walking landscape, where currently there is a serious lack of connecting paths between the very nice existing paths along the Lune, and the Highfields footpath.

5/1/19

Generally I support the proposals in the plan and think it is going in the right direction, and covers all the relevant areas and issues.

However section 5.3 that seeks to limit the types of works that can be done to existing buildings in zones B to E seems excessively constraining.

a) Requiring extensions to be in the same style and similar materials is too restrictive to good design.

c) Although I understand the thinking behind the suggestion to limit window design to reflect the original design this is often unrealistic when we are talking about double or triple glazing. Buildings naturally evolve over time and I don't think limiting this is realistic.

Similarly with d) requiring roof pitch and materials to be the same as the original. If buildings are within the conservation area then there will already be restrictions on design changes; for other buildings something a little more open, such as that extensions and alterations should be in keeping with and not detract from the original character of the building might be more realistic.

In the same vein I do not agree that we must restrict in-fill developments as tightly as suggested. I would argue that good modern design can work in the context of traditional buildings without slavishly following the materials and styles of the past. I suggest the emphasis should instead be on ensuring the scale of new buildings is in keeping with the village character, and that high quality of design and materials is required.

The section on the Halton Mills site says all houses must have two parking spaces but we aren't proposing two for the CLT site I don't think?

I would like to support the proposals outlined in the section on new footpaths/rights or way - making walking around the village and river easier would be excellent. Similarly the protection of retail facilities on the High Road.

In addition I strongly support any requirements and incentivisation for developers to carry out detailed flood risk assessment at an early stage as suggested.

15/10/18

I very much appreciate this plan.

I wish to make comments and additional suggestions relating to footpaths, section 8.4 p. 19/20 ('Sustainable Transport Modes').

Halton has far fewer footpaths than would be expected for its size and many do not connect with others.

I strongly support the 2013 suggestions for new paths and also the additional suggestions for new paths (2018)

I strongly agree with the suggestion of a path along Cote Beck through the wood north of the churchyard, from Foundry Lane. Care would have to be taken to protect bio-diversity. There are no existing barriers on this route except for undergrowth.

MY FURTHER SUGGESTIONS FOR NEW PATHS using Rights of Way Improvement Proposal Legislation (RoWIP) and Lancashire County Council

1) a footpath from the church to the motorway bridge through the woodland skirting the north of the Lancaster road. This would give safer and more pleasant access to two existing public Right of Way (ROW) footpaths that are under-used at present because the approach is unpleasant. These are:

a) the ROW path skirting the motorway and going north to the extension of the cemetery and Foundry Lane

b) the ROW track from the south side of the Lancaster road following the north bank of the Lune all the way to the Greyhound Bridge in Lancaster (and beyond on very quiet lanes and tracks as far as the Millenium Bridge). This attractive route gives access to the city centre. The start of this track is spoilt by litter. I wonder if it might be possible to have limited parking at the start of it. I also wonder about traffic calming at that point to make it safer to cross the road separating the two footpaths.

2) Continuation of Schoolhouse Lane Footpath to the east directly to Halton Green

The Schoolhouse Lane ROW going eastwards towards Halton Green makes a sharp turn right (to join the Low Road) at GR 5131 6525. However at that point continuing on the same contour, a double bounded track ahead appears to lead to an open field with access through a gate onto Green Lane at GR 5159 6539. If that were a ROW, safe and much more pleasant access to Halton Green would be possible.

At the moment from Halton Green hamlet it is not possible to walk anywhere except along roads.

3) A new ROW linking Halton Green with Halton Park Lane

Proposed route:

A short way up Green Lane a track leaves on the right to the right of Green Lane Cottage at GR 5166 6547. It soon follows the right-hand (east) bank of Monkley Gill Beck. Eventually it becomes a path to reach a gate into a large field at GR 51926578. So far straightforward.

A route can then be followed round the left-hand edge of the field to rejoin an obvious grassy track beyond a 'bridge' at GR 5211 6595 over a small tributary of Monkley Gill. This track leads uphill to join a stony track at GR 5215 6620 which can be followed to the right to gain Halton Park Lane at GR 5241 6618.

From there it is easy to gain the Lune Path.

This is a very pleasant and useful route. Old maps show the tracks at each end but nothing in the large middle field.

16/11/19

See below for response from Lune Valley Community Land Trust:

Lune Valley Community Land Trust - Land group Response to Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan

General

Green Spaces in the village suffer from a lack of any village wide management and overarching environmental aims and objectives. There are opportunities to enhance existing spaces and improve the overall ecology of the area. There is a need to plant more trees; to combat the effects of climate change and to mitigate the effects of flooding as well as to provide habitat for birds and wildlife. There are a number of spaces that currently have no public access that could be opened up to the public. In order to achieve this there needs to be a co-ordinated approach to management of green spaces. Would it be possible for the Parish Council to consider taking ownership or management of more of the green spaces in the village in order to bring about better more co-ordinated management? And / or look to work more closely with landowners on management strategies and consider working with the Lune Valley Community Land Trust on a co-ordinated approach to managing the various Green Spaces in the Village.

Local Green Spaces

GS2: Woodland North of Church / West of Foundry Lane. We support the creation of a public footpath through this area.

GS3: Castle Hill should have public access. Development of the area should be looked into. And depending on any restrictions due to the Ancient monument status the following ideas should be considered: Creation of a wildflower meadow, planting small trees and shrubs along the northern edge of the field to continue the potential bird and wildlife corridor formed by GS5, GS6 & GS9. Compatibility with existing grazing use should be considered.

GS6: Quarry Bank This steep grassy bank which is difficult to mow could be planted with small trees, shrubs and woodland flowers (Including shrubs with berries for wintering birds.) This would provide a valuable extension to the GS9 bird and wildlife corridor and potentially provide a link to the similar habitat at GS5.

GS7: St Wilfreds playing field. The playing field needs some new play equipment for children and the Parish could consider providing some Outdoor Gym equipment for adults – the sort of equipment to be provided should be subject to a consultation with residents living around the playing field.

GS9: Trees to North of Allotments & Playing field. This bank of trees should be managed with a view to maintaining the Rookery at the western end

GS10: Current Allotment site. It is likely that demand for local food growing space may well increase in the coming years due to the impacts of climate change. This could lead to demand outstripping the current allotment provision. Could the parish consider other sites for future expansion of allotment provision. (Such as Town End Paddock.) And consider the planting of fruit and nut bearing trees and shrubs as part of landscaping of Local Green Spaces.

GS13: Storey Homes Public Open Space. This is a significant addition to the public green space in the village and gives the opportunity for additions to the sort of spaces currently available.

- The steep northern bank, currently with a number of mid age mature oak should have a tree survey conducted on it (if one hasn't been done already) and be considered as a site for planting with

appropriate trees and shrubs to provide a bird and wildlife corridor link with the existing woodland to the East and the line of trees along the north side of Forge Lane.

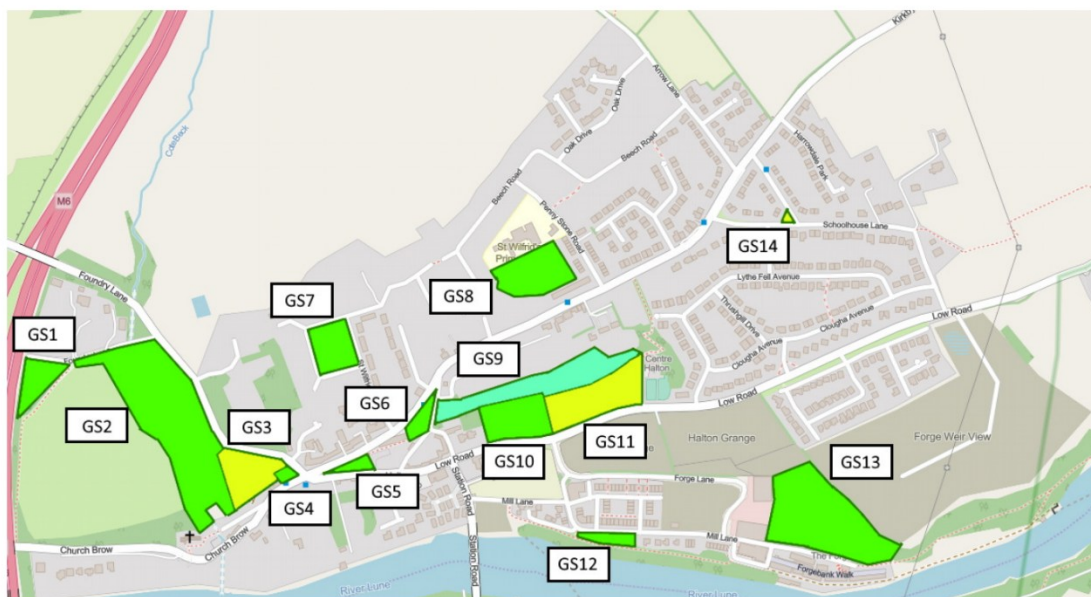
- The open grass area would be suitable for the creation of a wildflower meadow
- There is also enough space for the development of a community orchard with local varieties of fruit and nuts.
- The hedge to the south of the site should be managed for birds and wildlife and only cut back on a long rotation cycle.

Additional areas to be considered as Local Green Spaces

1. **Townend Paddock** : As this is now considered unsuitable for development for housing an alternative use could be made of it as a public open space. Some tree planting and some thought about how the space could be used to help with flood alleviation.
2. **The ‘Lawnmower repair site’** : Once the eastend end of Mill Lane is closed off this area could be landscaped and be linked to Townend field to provide access down to the riverbank and weir forming a riverside picnic area.
3. **Woodland on Northside of Church Brow running from the Church to the M6**: This area should be added to GS2. It provides a continuation of the valuable woodland habitat.

Comments on other landscape areas

- a) **Open access field at the crook of Lune.** This could be developed a wildflower meadow and is big enough to accommodate significant additional tree planting.
- b) **Land between Cote Beck & M6 North of Foundry Lane.** This area could be planted with tree to both screen the Motorway from the village and to potentially help to alleviate flooding.



20/11/19

I would like the parish council to consider the possibility of managing hedgerows for the benefit of wildlife according to best practice. The attached document reports on the outcome of trials which shows that cutting on a 3 year rotation is the best option.



Increasing the value of hedges for wildlife with relaxed cutting regimes

Photo: Jo Staley, CEH

Why is hedgerow management important?

- Hedges provide key semi-natural habitat and resources for wildlife in agricultural landscapes, and support pest control and pollination of crops.
- Most hedges are cut with a mechanical flail, often every year in early autumn.
- Cutting regimes substantially alter the condition of hedges and their value as wildlife habitats. For example, farmland birds and mammals rely on berries as a food source over winter, but most hedgerow species only flower and fruit on wood that is at least two years old.
- We tested cutting regimes (the frequency, timing and intensity of hedgerow trimming) on five farms across southern England over three years. Here are our key findings so far.

Frequency and timing of hedgerow cutting

Cutting once every 3 years compared with every year:

- 2.5 times more hawthorn and blackthorn flowers are produced.
- The increased flower abundance attracts more pollinating insects such as hoverflies, bees and butterflies.
- More hawthorn, blackthorn and black berries are provided for overwintering wildlife (e.g. farmland birds and small mammals), especially if hedges are cut in late winter.
- More butterfly and moth (Lepidoptera) caterpillars and pupae.

Cutting once every 2 years compared with every year:

- Timing of cutting is important. On hedges where there was an increase in berries from cutting every two years as opposed to every year, this was only found for cutting in late winter (and not in autumn).
- There were more butterflies and moths if hedges were cut in late winter every 2 years, but not in autumn.
- Fewer benefits than cutting once every 3 years. For example, just one species (blackthorn) consistently had more berries on hedges cut once in 2 years compared with every year.



Photos: Nigel Adams, Hedgelink

Berries on two years growth on a hawthorn hedge (left) and the same hedge after cutting in autumn (right).

enquiries@ceh.ac.uk
www.ceh.ac.uk

Intensity of hedgerow cutting

- Hedge trimming in late winter may not be possible on wet ground where access is difficult. An alternative is to reduce the intensity of trimming in early autumn.
- We tested reducing the intensity of hedge trimming by cutting around 10cm higher and wider than the previous cut. This allows hedges to grow up and out incrementally.

A reduced cutting intensity compared with cutting back to the same height and width results in:

- 2-3 times more berries for overwintering wildlife on three hedge species (hawthorn, blackthorn and bramble).
- Increased diversity of butterfly and moth species.



Incremental trimming retains some leaves and berries in autumn.

Standard cut in autumn removes foliage and berries.

Hedgerow management summary

- Our results show strong evidence of benefits for wildlife of reducing the frequency of hedgerow trimming to once every three years, compared with the standard practice of trimming every year.
- Cutting once every two years had weaker benefits for wildlife, and timing was critical, as little advantage was found for trimming once every two years in autumn.
- Relaxing the intensity of trimming to allow incremental growth also delivered substantial benefits for wildlife, and is a practical option where access to hedges is difficult in late winter.
- This evidence supports the more relaxed cutting regimes which are available under Agri-Environment Schemes in England.
- For hedges being used to meet CAP 'greening' rules, these relaxed management regimes may provide greater benefits to wildlife.



Left: The Chestnut moth and right: a Brown hairstreak butterfly (a Biodiversity Action Plan priority species), examples of the many insects who feed on hedgerows.

Appendix 3 – Informal Public Consultation on Area of Separation



Halton with Aughton Parish Council

07 September 2022

Village Consultation

Proposed Industrial Development off Halton Road

A local developer has asked whether the Parish Council would support the development of a business park on the edge of the village. A planning application may be made in the next few months.

Halton with Aughton Parish Council would like to hear the opinions of local residents before considering a response.

Two public sessions will be held at the Centre to ask questions and provide feedback:

- **Saturday 10th September 10am – 12 pm**
- **Tuesday 13th September 6pm – 8pm**

Alternatively use the QR code or visit our website (www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk) for further information and the survey.



Luke Mills, Parish Clerk
01524 881 499, clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk



Proposed Industrial Development off Halton Road

A local developer has asked whether the Parish Council would support the development of a business park on the edge of the village. A planning application may be made in the next few months.

Halton with Aughton Parish Council would like to hear the opinions of local residents before considering a response.

- **Do you think it is important to retain an area of separation "green space" between Lancaster and Halton?**
 - Yes
 - No
 - Other (comment below)

- **Your details**

Name: _____

Postcode: _____

Date: _____

Note: The dates shown on the poster were subsequently changed to the 1st & 4th October following the death of Queen Elizabeth II.

Appendix 4 – Consultation on the Emerging Draft Plan 2022-24

A combination of the local newsletter “The Prattle” and Facebook posts were used to publicise the work on the emerging Draft Plan.

December 2022 The Prattle (Issue 128)

 **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS** 

HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Cllr. Anne Lamb, Tel: 01524 811052; annelamb27@hotmail.com
Cllr. Naomi Turner, Tel: 07738 586107; naomismith1210@hotmail.com
Cllr. Claire Buntin; Cllr. Joe McAleer; Cllr. Jonathan Sewell

Parish Clerk & Financial Officer: Luke Mills, Tel 01524 881499;
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

LANCASTER CITY COUNCILLOR Cllr Kevin Frea, Tel: 07716 246 672
kfrea@lancaster.gov.uk



Proposed Industrial Development off Halton Road
In the recent survey and consultation, the Parish Council posed the question: “do you think it is important to retain an area of separation “green space” between Lancaster and Halton?” Out of the 107 responses, 99 answered “Yes” 3 “No” and 5 “Maybe”.
The Parish Council has informed the Planning Department of the ongoing local support for the area of separation between Halton and Lancaster.

Neighbourhood Plan Update
The threat of losing another green space within the parish has prompted the council to restart the previously stalled Neighbourhood Plan. Following a conversation with the Planning Department it was clear that the previous draft would not have been approved. The steering group aim to draft a revised version based upon the Aldcliffe with Stodday NP which provides a good example of a recently approved plan.

Castle Hill Update
The steering group met recently; they are gathering information for the grant application which will hopefully be ready for approval at the January Parish Council meeting. Oxford Archaeology are considering the best locations for a dig.

Parish Council Vacancy
The Parish Council has a vacancy for a volunteer Parish Councillor, which is a non-political position.
If you feel there are things that could be improved around the village, then joining the council is a good start.
Currently, there are plans to improve the playing field, play areas and work has restarted on the Neighbourhood Plan all of which need active support

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February 2023 The Prattle (Issue 129)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

CHAIR: Cllr. Carol Slinger, Tel: 07810 356929; carol.slinger@hotmail.co.uk

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Parish Clerk & Financial Officer: Luke Mills, Tel 01524 881499;
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

LANCASTER CITY COUNCILLOR Cllr Kevin Frea, Tel: 07716 246 672
kfrea@lancaster.gov.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Neighbourhood Plans define the vision and objectives of a parish, along with a set of underlying policies. These need to fit within the Lancaster District Local Plan. Once approved by residents, the policies within the Neighbourhood Plan can defend against inappropriate or undesirable development and help steer changes in the preferred direction. The Parish Council has successfully applied for a grant to help in the production of the new Neighbourhood Plan. This has allowed us to employ the services of Kirkwells Planning & Sustainability Consultants based in Burnley, who have helped various other local parishes produce Neighbourhood Plans.

There is a small group working on reviewing and amending the initial draft produced by Kirkwells. The next meeting will be held at 2pm on 9th February 2023 at the Centre. If you

would like to get involved, feel free to attend or get in touch with the Parish Clerk. More information can be found on the Parish Council website.

CASTLE HILL UPDATE

The working group is currently in the process of applying for grants. The order and size of any successful grants will dictate the timescales and order of work, so hopefully more information will be available in the next Prattle.

HALTON VOLUNTEER NETWORK

There was discussion at the recent Parish Council meeting about how to finalise the draft Emergency Plan for the village, which remains stuck at the stage of needing volunteers to fulfil various roles; if you would be willing to help then please contact the Clerk. The Parish Council will try and organise a joint meeting with other local organisations that also rely on volunteers to discuss possible ideas and solutions.

April 2023 – The Prattle (Issue 130)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

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kfrea@lancaster.gov.uk

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group have continued to update the draft plan. Please refer to the website (<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>) for details of the latest draft and meeting information.

PLAYGROUND UPDATE

The work to upgrade the play areas at St. Wilfrid's Park and the Centre is on hold, with the hope that it will restart later in the year once the Neighbourhood Plan has been agreed by the parish.

LOCAL ELECTION

The Local Elections on the 4th May will cover the Parish Council. There are currently 7 councillors, with one vacancy. If more than 8 people apply to become a councillor, then an election will be held, otherwise it will be an uncontested election with those that have applied being automatically elected.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

There is always an opportunity at meetings for residents to raise issues or questions. The next meetings will be held upstairs in the Centre at 19:15 on the following dates:

Wed 12th April

Wed 10th May (Annual Parish Meeting)

Wed 10th May (Annual Meeting of the Parish Council)

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.

uk, t: 01524 881 499 w: [http://www.](http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk)

haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

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February 2024 The Prattle (Issue 135)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

LANCASTER CITY COUNCILLORS Sarah McGowan and James Somerville

OUTLINE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR 90 HOMES OFF LOW ROAD

The Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group both objected to this planning application, along with almost 30 other public objections. The developer has not engaged with the village or council whatsoever, so the application was very unexpected.

The consultation period is now closed, so we will await the decision. James Sommerville, one of the District Councillors, has asked that the decision is made by the Planning Committee, which will hopefully provide more scrutiny of the application.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN CONSULTATION

The Steering Group has been making steady progress over the last few months preparing the draft Neighbourhood Plan ready for consultation with residents and statutory consultees. There is a strict

legal process for the consultation which we need to carefully consider, so once we have a clearer understanding and plan, we will be publicising when and how the consultation will take place.

There is Neighbourhood Plan page on the Parish Council website which provides more information on the evolution and background:

<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES


There is always an opportunity at meetings for residents to raise issues or questions. The next meetings will be held upstairs in the Centre at 19:15 on the following dates: Wednesday 14th February & 13th March.

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk


e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk


w: <http://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>

February 2024 Facebook



Halton with Aughton Parish Council
1 February 2023 · 🌐





Halton with Aughton Parish Council
Published by Luke Mills
· 1 February 2023 · 🌐

Would anyone from the Aughton area like to join the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group?
We have a small team working on the plan at the moment who all live in Halton so it would be great to get representation from the wider area since the plan will apply to the whole parish. The group will probably meet once or twice a month to review progress on the document and any resulting actions.

You can find out more information about the Neighbourhood Plan on the Parish Council website (<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan>), or contact the Clerk (clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk).

👍 Like 💬 Comment 📧 Send

Appendix 5 – Screening 2024

The emerging Draft Plan was passed to Lancaster City Council for a SEA & HRA screening opinion in February 2024; then subsequently to the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England for a SEA & HRA screening consultation in April 2024.

Lancaster City Council Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood SEA Screening Report (February 2024)

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental (SEA) Screening Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Lancaster City Council has prepared this screening report to support Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council in determining whether the contents of the draft Halton-with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan are likely to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).
- 1.2 The requirement to undertake environmental assessment of plans and programmes was established in the EU Directive 2001/42/EC (SEA Directive), transposed into English law in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. Under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations SEA is required where a plan or programme is likely to have a significant effect on the environment. The assessment provides the main mechanism for ensuring that the environmental implications of decisions are considered before decisions are made and should be an integral part of plan preparation where potential for significant effects on the environment have been identified.
- 1.3 Under its 'duty to support' Lancaster City Council has been requested to determine whether, based on the preparation of the 2024 Draft Version of the Neighbourhood Plan, the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan requires a SEA.

2. Background

- 2.1 Neighbourhood Planning gives local communities the opportunity to prepare planning documents for their area, enabling them to shape the future of where they live and giving them greater ownership of the plans and policies that affect them. Introduced under the Localism Act in 2011 Neighbourhood Plans provide a new tier of planning policy.
- 2.2 Planning policy for the district is established in the Lancaster District Local Plan. This currently consists of policies contained in the adopted Strategic Policies and Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD), the Development Management DPD, The Arnsdale and Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) DPD and the Morecambe Area Action Plan`.
- 2.3 It should be noted that following the adoption of the Strategic Policies and Land Allocations DPD and Development Management DPD the Council commenced an immediate partial review. The aim of the review is to ensure that the climate emergency declaration made by the City Council in January 2019, is fully considered within the planning policies for the District, ensuring that climate change adaptation and mitigation is central to all new development proposals.
- 2.4 The Climate Emergency Local Plan Review (CELPR) was submitted to the Government for independent examination in March 2022 and the Hearing sessions of the Examination in Public took place in early October 2022. Following correspondence with the Inspector consultation on Main Modifications took place in October 2023. Representations were sent to the Inspector. However, given the potential relevance of the current legal challenge in respect of the Salt Cross Garden Village Area Action Plan, the issuing of the Inspector's report on the Lancaster Climate Emergency Review of the Local Plan is likely to be delayed until after the

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood SEA Screening Report (February 2024)

outcome of the Salt Cross case is known. In addition to this following the publication of the Local Energy Efficiency Standards Update Ministerial Statement (Statement UIN HCWS123) the Inspector has written to the Council seeking its view on the implications of this statement. Further modifications are planned as a result of this publication.

- 2.5 The City Council has also now committed to a full review of the Local Plan. The decision to undertake a Full Review was based on two factors. Firstly, a material change in circumstances relating to the delivery of strategic infrastructure in South Lancaster, specifically Lancashire County Council's decision to suspend work on the South Lancaster Growth Catalyst and its associated transport infrastructure projects. This has led to the City Council ceasing work on the preparation of the Lancaster South Area Action Plan DPD which was to provide the planning policy framework for growth in this area including the Bailrigg Garden Village. And, secondly, largely because of delays in advancing strategic development sites, the delivery of housing has been below that which was projected at the time of the Local Plan's preparation.
- 2.6 Both factors, when viewed in the context of the Local Plan Review Mechanism (Policy LPRM1 of the Strategic Policies and Land Allocations DPD), mean that the Council has little alternative other than to commence a full review of the Local Plan.
- 2.7 Due to delays in the publication of the Inspector's report the full review will commence in advance of the completion of the Partial Review. The timing of this is not ideal and is beyond the Council's control. The Council intend to complete the Climate Emergency Partial Review of the Local Plan and adopt the revised Plan on receipt of the Inspectors Report. The Full Review will be run alongside this process.
- 2.8 The Neighbourhood plan area for Halton-with-Aughton was formally designated on the 26th October 2015. This confirmed the Parish Council's commitment to preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and identified the proposed Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 2.9 Following this Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council commenced preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan with a Draft Neighbourhood Plan Document (2023) now available. Lancaster City Council have used this information to undertake initial SEA screening of the Neighbourhood Plan.

2 SEA Screening

- 3.1 The SEA regulations require the responsible authority to determine whether or not a plan is likely to have a significant effect and therefore whether SEA is needed. When determining whether a Neighbourhood Plan requires SEA, the SEA regulations require that the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations are considered. The City Council has undertaken this assessment for the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan.

Table 1- Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

SEA Requirement	Comments
The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to:	
(a) the degree to which the plan or programme	The Neighbourhood Plan has potential to determine the use of small areas at a local

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood SEA Screening Report (February 2024)

sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources	level, whether that is through the application of detailed criteria or the allocation of land.
b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	The Plan sits in a hierarchy and must be in conformity with strategic policies in the development plan. It is unlikely to influence other plans and programmes.
(c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to promote sustainable development. The Plan has a strong focus on the protection of the natural and built environment.
(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme	There are no environmental problems relevant to this plan.
(e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	The Neighbourhood Plan has no relevance to the implementation of Community legislation.
Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to -	
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan covers an 8 year plan period and seeks to conserve the rural setting of the parish recognising both natural and heritage assets in the Neighbourhood Plan area.</p> <p>It aims to deliver high quality development with development restricted to the settlement boundary and strong policies limiting opportunities for significant growth.</p> <p>The need to maintain the historic fabric and landscape of the Parish is given a strong focus. Very limited levels of development are promoted within the document.</p> <p>The need to protect the natural environment as well as the promotion of net gain is well recognised within the Plan.</p> <p>The Plan does not contain any development allocations.</p> <p>The strong environmental and historic focus of the Neighbourhood Plan together with policies within the District wide Local Plan make it unlikely that significant effects will occur.</p>

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	A monitoring framework is including detailing how the Neighbourhood Plan will be monitored.
(b) the cumulative nature of the effects	<p>The absence of large allocations and strong environmental focus together with protective criteria make it unlikely that negative significant environmental effects will occur either individually or cumulatively with other development and decisions. The Plan must also be in conformity with the Lancaster District Local Plan. This will ensure the protection of environmental assets.</p> <p>To ensure compliance with SEA regulations it is recommended that reference to the need to consider the cumulative impacts of potential proposals be included.</p>
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects	There are no transboundary effects. The Plan applies to the Neighbourhood Plan only.
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	The Plan poses no risk to human health.
(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	Effects are considered to be limited to the Neighbourhood Plan area only.
(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to - (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (iii) intensive land-use; and	<p>The Plan is located in close proximity to a number of environmental designations and is partially within the Forest of Bowland AONB. Whilst there is potential for impacts to these designation the wording of the policy and strong focus on protection make this unlikely. The Plan is very much focussed on ensuring that the special qualities of this area are protected.</p> <p>The plan area is also home to a number of designated and non-designated heritage assets. The plan contains specific policies for the protection of these assets including their setting. The protection of heritage assets is also continued throughout the rest of the plan.</p>
(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	The Plan is very much focussed on ensuring that the special qualities of this area are protected.

3 Screening Outcome

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood SEA Screening Report (February 2024)

- 3.3 Initial internal screening of the Neighbourhood Plan concludes that it is unlikely that the Neighbourhood Plan would result in a significant environmental effect. The strong focus of the Neighbourhood Plan on the protection of the environment, heritage assets, its AONB focus and lack of allocations make it unlikely to result in significant effects.
- 3.4 In order to ensure compliance with SEA regulations it is recommended that reference to the need to consider the cumulative impacts of potential proposals be included.
- 3.5 Subject to the above amendments the council is satisfied that the Plan is unlikely to result in significant effects.
- 3.6 The views of the three statutory bodies is requested before this can be confirmed.

Lancaster City Council Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening Report

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan HRA Report (February 2024)

Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening of Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Lancaster City Council has prepared this screening report to support Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council in determining whether or not the contents of the proposed Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan are likely to require a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA).
- 1.2 Habitats and species of international nature conservation importance have historically been protected by the European Directive (92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (The Habitats Directive). This was transposed into British law via the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Following the UK's withdrawal from Europe a number of amendments have been made to the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) to ensure that they remain operable post January 2021. Most of these changes involve transferring functions from the European Commission to the appropriate authorities in England and Wales.
- 1.3 The amended regulations continue to identify a national site network comprising protected sites previously identified as part of the EU's Natura 2000 ecological network. The national site network includes Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Ramsar sites whilst not included as part of the national site network remain protected in the same way as SACs and SPAs. Government policy statements have been issued making clear that they should be afforded the same level of protection afforded to SPAs and SACs.
- 1.4 Under the Regulations, an assessment is required where a plan or project may give rise to significant effects upon a protected site.
- 1.5 The overarching aim of HRA is to determine, in view of a site's conservation objectives and qualifying interests, whether a plan or project, either in isolation and/or in combination with other plans would have a significant adverse effect on a European site. If the screening concludes that a significant adverse effect is likely, then Appropriate Assessment must be undertaken to determine whether there will be adverse effects on site integrity.
- 1.6 While there are no designated sites within the proposed neighbourhood boundary, 9 sites are noted to be within a 15km radius of the boundary and could potentially be affected by the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan. Further information on these designations is provided below.

2. HRA process

- 2.1 The requirements of the Habitats Regulations comprises four distinct stages:

- *Stage 1: Screening.*

This is the stage which initially identifies the likely impacts upon a protected site of a project or plan, either alone or in-combination with other projects or plans, and considers whether these impacts may have a significant effect on the integrity of the site's qualifying habitats and/or species. Where a significant effect is identified the assessment moves onto stage 2.

- *Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment.*

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan HRA Report (February 2024)

This provides the detailed consideration of the impact on the integrity of the protected site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's conservation objectives and its structure and function. This is to determine whether or not there will be adverse effects on the integrity of the site. This stage also includes the development of mitigation measures to avoid or reduce any potential impacts.

- *Stage 3: Assessment of alternative solutions.*

This examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the plan or project that would avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the protected site, should avoidance or mitigation measures be unable to cancel out adverse effects.

- *Stage 4: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain.*

In such circumstances it must be demonstrated that the development is necessary for imperative reasons of overriding public interest.

3. Background

- 3.1 Neighbourhood Planning gives local communities the opportunity to prepare planning documents for their area, enabling them to shape the future of where they live and giving them greater ownership of the plans and policies that affect them. Introduced under the Localism Act in 2011 Neighbourhood Plans provide a new tier of planning policy.
- 3.2 Planning policy for the district is established in the Lancaster District Local Plan. This currently consists of policies contained in the adopted Strategic Policies and Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD), the Development Management DPD, The Arnside and Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) DPD and the Morecambe Area Action Plan`.
- 3.3 It should be noted that following the adoption of the Strategic Policies and Land Allocations DPD and Development Management DPD the Council commenced an immediate partial review. The aim of the review is to ensure that the climate emergency declaration made by the City Council in January 2019, is fully considered within the planning policies for the District, ensuring that climate change adaptation and mitigation is central to all new development proposals.
- 3.4 The Climate Emergency Local Plan Review (CELPR) was submitted to the Government for independent examination in March 2022 and the Hearing sessions of the Examination in Public took place in early October 2022. Following correspondence with the Inspector consultation on Main Modifications took place in October 2023. Representations were sent to the Inspector. However, given the potential relevance of the current legal challenge in respect of the Salt Cross Garden Village Area Action Plan, the issuing of the Inspector's report on the Lancaster Climate Emergency Review of the Local Plan is likely to be delayed until after the outcome of the Salt Cross case is known. In addition to this following the publication of the Local Energy Efficiency Standards Update Ministerial Statement (Statement UIN HCWS123) the Inspector has written to the Council seeking its view on the implications of this statement. Further modifications are planned as a result of this publication.

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan HRA Report (February 2024)

- 3.5 The City Council has also now committed to a full review of the Local Plan. The decision to undertake a Full Review was based on two factors. Firstly, a material change in circumstances relating to the delivery of strategic infrastructure in South Lancaster, specifically Lancashire County Council’s decision to suspend work on the South Lancaster Growth Catalyst and its associated transport infrastructure projects. This has led to the City Council ceasing work on the preparation of the Lancaster South Area Action Plan DPD which was to provide the planning policy framework for growth in this area including the Bailrigg Garden Village. And, secondly, largely because of delays in advancing strategic development sites, the delivery of housing has been below that which was projected at the time of the Local Plan’s preparation.
- 3.6 Both factors, when viewed in the context of the Local Plan Review Mechanism (Policy LPRM1 of the Strategic Policies and Land Allocations DPD), mean that the Council has little alternative other than to commence a full review of the Local Plan.
- 3.7 Due to delays in the publication of the Inspector’s report the full review will commence in advance of the completion of the Partial Review. The timing of this is not ideal and is beyond the Council’s control. The Council intend to complete the Climate Emergency Partial Review of the Local Plan and adopt the revised Plan on receipt of the Inspectors Report. The Full Review will be run alongside this process.
- 3.8 The Neighbourhood plan area for Halton-with-Aughton was formally designated on the 26th October 2015. This confirmed the Parish Council’s commitment to preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and identified the proposed Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 3.9 Following this Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council commenced preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan with a Draft Neighbourhood Plan Document (2024) now available. Lancaster City Council have used this information to undertake initial SEA screening of the Neighbourhood Plan.

4. Relevant Protected Sites

- 4.1 There are a number of designated sites that could potentially be affected by the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan with 9 sites located within 15km of the Neighbourhood Plan boundary. Whilst outside of the boundary these sites could potentially be affected by the Neighbourhood Plan. As a general rule of thumb best practice indicates that sites with pathways of 10-15km of the plan/project should be included within a HRA.

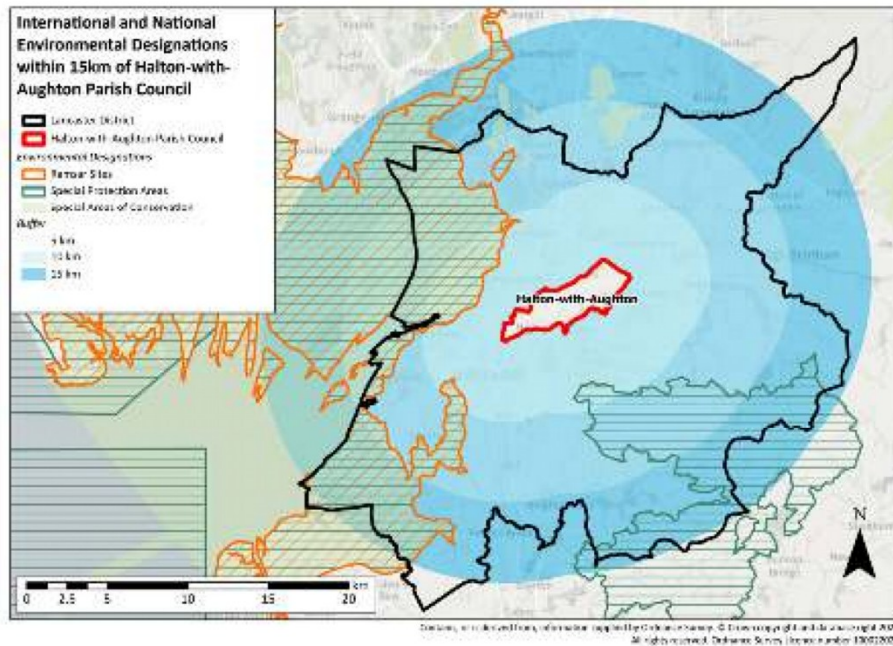
Table 1 – Summary of Designated Sites

Site Name	Identification Number	Distance from the Neighbourhood Plan Boundary (km)
Special Protection Areas		
Bowland Fells	UK9005151	3.4

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan HRA Report (February 2024)

Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary	UK9020326	2.1
Leighton Moss	UK9005091	7.4
Special Areas of Conservation		
Morecambe Bay Pavements	UK0014777	7.3
Calf Hill and Cragg Woods	UK0030106	3.2
Ingleborough Complex	UK0012782	14.6
Morecambe Bay	UK0013027	2.1
RAMSAR sites		
Leighton Moss	UK11035	7.4
Morecambe Bay	UK11045	2.1

Figure 1 – International and national environmental designations within 15km of Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Boundary



4.2 Further details on the description and character of the designated sites are provided below (appendix 1). The conservation of objections for the designations are also provided in

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan HRA Report (February 2024)

appendix 2. This information was obtained from Natural England's website and informed by the wider Local Plan HRA assessment.

5. HRA Screening

- 5.1 The proximity of designated sites within 15km indicate that there could be potential for the plan, depending on its content, to have a significant adverse effect on a designated site.
- 5.2 The draft Neighbourhood Plan has been screened for likely significant effects on designated sites. During the HRA screening stage, the likely nature, magnitude, frequency, timing, duration, location and spatial extent of changes resulting from implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan was assessed. As part of this, mechanisms through which the plan could impact upon Designated sites were considered.
- 5.3 The main impact pathways could be:
 - Physical loss of habitat/damage to habitat
 - Non-physical disturbance
 - Recreational pressure
 - Contamination
 - Biological disturbance
 - Loss of functionally linked land
 - Changes in water quality
- 5.4 The conclusions of the initial assessment are described in table 2 below.
- 5.5 Policies that were screened out were generally those that could not lead to a direct pathway to any of the identified designated sites. These were generally policies that looked to protect historic assets and landscapes and the design of new development.
- 5.6 Of the nine designated sites, one can be ruled out completely on the basis that there are not considered to be any potential impact pathways which are likely to give rise to significant effects on this site. The site is the Ingleborough Complex.

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan HRA Report (February 2024)

Designated Sites	Policies											
	HA1	HA2	HA3	HA4	HA5	HA6	HA7	HA8	HA9	HA10	HA11	HA12
Bowland Fells SPA	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
Leighton Moss SPA	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N
Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
Calf Hill and Craggs Wood SAC	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
Morecambe Bay SAC	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
Ingleborough Complex	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Morecambe Bay Ramsar	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y
Leighton Moss Ramsar	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N	N

5.7 Unlikely effects on the Bowland Fells SPA, Leighton Moss SPA, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Calf Hill and Craggs Wood SAC, Morecambe Bay SAC, Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC, Morecambe Bay Ramsar, Leighton Moss Ramsar cannot be ruled out at this stage.

5.8 Initial screening identified three policies that cannot be ruled out at this stage:

- Policy HA7
- Policy HA8

5.11 A more detailed assessed of the screened in policies is provided in table 3.

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan HRA Report (February 2024)

Table 3 – Detailed screening of policies

Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Designated Site Potentially affected	Development and Land Use Change and Potential Effects	Avoidance Potential	Recommendation/Conclusion
Policy HA7 'Meeting Local Housing Needs'	Bowland Fells SPA, Leighton Moss SPA, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Calf Hill and Crags Wood SAC, Morecambe Bay SAC, Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC, Morecambe Bay Ramsar, Leighton Moss Ramsar	Policy HA7 sets out the requirements which new housing will be expected to deliver in relation to the size and type of properties and the delivery of affordable housing. New development has the potential to impact on designated sites through increased recreational pressure and changes in water quality where there are hydrological links to the Designated Site.	The policy seeks to restrict development to local needs. Whilst there is currently no wording within this Policy relating to the protection of Designated sites or non-designated ecological assets this protection is provided under Policy HA-2 'Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity'. The Plan would also be required to be read alongside the wider Local Plan for the area.	The existence of Policy HA-2 and higher-level policies means that no likely significant effects on designated sites are predicted as a result of the implementation of this policy.
Policy HA8 Halton Urban Development	Bowland Fells SPA, Leighton Moss SPA, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Calf Hill and Crags Wood SAC, Morecambe	Policy HA8 states that development within Halton will be supported within the built up area provided that it satisfies other plans within the Development Plan. The policy goes on to state that areas of constraint identified on the Development Constraints map in the Plan should be avoided.	The policy seeks to restrict development to the existing built form of the settlement. It also identifies the use of infill sites, re-use of previously developed land, or the sensitive conversion of existing buildings as the priorities for new development.	The existence of Policy HA-2 and higher-level policies means that no likely significant effects on designated sites are predicted as a result of the implementation of this policy.

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan HRA Report (February 2024)

	Bay SAC, Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC, Morecambe Bay Ramsar, Leighton Moss Ramsar	New development has the potential to impact on designated sites through increased recreational pressure and changes in water quality where there are hydrological links to the Designated Site.	Whilst there is currently no wording within this Policy relating to the protection of Designated sites or non-designated ecological assets this protection is provided under Policy HA-2 'Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity'. The Plan would also be required to be read alongside the wider Local Plan for the area.	
--	--	---	---	--

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan HRA Report (February 2024)

6. Screening Conclusion

- 6.1 The HRA Screening Report of the Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan has considered the potential implications for designated sites near the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary.
- 6.2 The draft document places a strong emphasis on the protection of the area's natural environment. The inclusion of Policy HA-2 'Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity' is a welcomed inclusion and will ensure, together with policies within the Local Plan, that the Neighbourhood Plan would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the designated sites identified either alone, or in combination with other plans or projects.
- 6.3 The views of the three statutory bodies is required to confirm this conclusion.

SEA & HRA Screening Consultation - Environment Agency

[REDACTED] - Planning Policy
Officer
Lancaster City Council
Planning Policy
Town Hall Marine Road East
MORECAMBE
Lancashire
LA4 5AF

Our ref: NO/2012/104361/SE-13/SC1-L01

Your ref:

Date: 19 April 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

HRA/SEA Screening Reports - Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan

Thank you for consulting us on the draft HRA and SEA screening reports for the Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan. We have reviewed the SEA screening report dated February 2024 and agree with your conclusion that no further work will be required for the SEA. The conclusions drawn in the HRA are beyond our remit, and we defer to our colleagues in Natural England regarding the findings of the HRA report.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Planning Advisor

e-mail clplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk

Environment Agency
Lutra House Walton Summit, Bamber Bridge, Preston, PR5 8BX.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency
End

SEA & HRA Screening Consultation - Natural England

Date: 26 April 2024
Our ref: 472301
Your ref: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan



[REDACTED]
Lancaster City Council

Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

BY EMAIL ONLY
[REDACTED] [@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@lancaster.gov.uk)

T 0300 060 3900

Dear [REDACTED]

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan - SEA & HRA Screening Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 10 April 2024.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

It is Natural England's advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that:

- **significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely; and,**
- **significant effects on Habitats sites¹, either alone or in combination, are unlikely.**

The proposed neighbourhood plan is unlikely to significantly affect any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection areas (SPA), Ramsar wetland or sites in the process of becoming SACs or SPAs ('candidate SACs', 'possible SACs', 'potential SPAs') or a Ramsar wetland. The plan area is unlikely to have a significant effect on a National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast, and is unlikely to impact upon the purposes for which these areas are designated or defined.

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 is contained within the [Planning Practice Guidance](#). This identifies three triggers that may require the production of an SEA:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

¹ Habitats sites are those referred to in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (Annex 2 - glossary) as "any site which would be included within the definition at regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 for the purpose of those regulations, including candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and any relevant Marine Sites".

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require an SEA. Further information is included in Natural England's [standing advice](#) on protected species.

Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant an SEA. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission [standing advice](#).

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a SEA is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If a SEA is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

Please send any new consultations, or further information on this consultation to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely


Consultation Team

SEA & HRA Screening Consultation - Historic England



Historic England

[REDACTED]
Lancaster City Council
Planning and Place
PO Box 4, Town Hall
Dalton Square
Lancaster
LA1 1QR

Direct Dial: 0161 242 1445

Our ref: PL00795693

24 April 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Halton with Aughton draft Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening February 2024

We write in response to your e-mail of 10th April 2024 seeking a formal screening opinion from Historic England on the need to prepare a SEA for Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan.

Historic England has produced a document that you might find helpful in providing guidance on the effective assessment of the historic environment in Strategic Environmental Assessments. This can be found at:

<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine the advice given to the question, "Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?", in respect to our area of concern, cultural heritage.

In the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 [Annex II of SEA Directive], and on the basis of the information supplied, it is considered that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects upon the historic environment, and so Historic England concur with your conclusion that SEA is not required.

We would like to stress that this opinion is based on the information made available in the email dated 10th April 2024. To avoid any doubt, this decision does not preclude Historic England providing further advice on later stages of the SEA process, should this be required, nor objecting to specific proposals that may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan/guidance), where we consider that these would have an adverse effect upon the historic environment. We note that the views of the other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for SEA is made.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

Telephone 0161 242 1416
HistoricEngland.org.uk



Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.



Lancaster City Council and Lancashire County Council are closely involved in the development of the plan. They are best placed to advise on: local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the HER (formerly SMR); how the policies or proposals can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of historic assets.

Thank you for consulting Historic England. We request that you please send us a copy of the determination as required by Reg 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Yours sincerely,


Historic Places Adviser
 historicengland.org.uk

cc:



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

Telephone 0161 242 1416
HistoricEngland.org.uk



Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any Information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.

Appendix 6 – Informal Public Consultation 2024

Publicity

The updated emerging Draft Plan was published for informal 6-week consultation from 8th April 2024 to 5th May 2024. It was publicised on Facebook and The Prattle newsletter.

April 2024 – The Prattle (Issue 136)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

CHAIR: Cllr. Carol Slinger, Tel: 07810 356929; carol.slinger@hotmail.co.uk
Cllr. Chris Coates, Tel: 07426 701155; chris@utopia-britannica.org.uk
Cllr. Anne Lamb, Tel: 01524 811052; annelamb27@hotmail.com
Cllr. Naomi Turner, Tel: 07738 586107; naomismith1210@hotmail.com
Cllr. Claire Buntin; Cllr. Jonathan Sewell; Cllr. Darren Rigby

Parish Clerk & Financial Officer: Luke Mills, Tel 01524 881499;
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

LANCASTER CITY COUNCILLORS Sarah McGowan and James Somerville

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN - INFORMAL CONSULTATION

The plan is a set of local planning policies which help guide decisions about development in the Parish within the context of Lancaster City Council's District Local Plan. It covers aspects of planning which are important to the parish and not covered by the District Local Plan. The Neighbourhood Development Plan Steering Group has particularly focused on highlighting the importance of various green spaces around the village, so feedback on these proposals would be welcomed. It has reached the stage where we can ask for informal feedback from residents, so we are planning to make it available for review and comments for four weeks between Monday 8th April and Sunday 5th May. We will endeavour to ensure that the draft plan and response forms are available in various locations, such as:

- The Centre;
- Aughton Recreation Room;
- Halton Mill.

Public drop-in sessions will be held in the Centre on:

- Thursday 25th April between 3pm & 7pm;
- Saturday 27th April between 10am & 1pm.

For those living in and around Aughton a public drop-in session will be held at



Aughton Recreation Room on Friday 26th April from 7pm to 10pm.

The draft plan, supporting documents and the response form can be found on the Parish Council website (<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/>) and via the QR code above.

Following this consultation, the feedback from residents and other consultees will be reviewed and amendments will be considered to the plan, prior to the formal Regulation 14 consultation stage.

Parish Council due to a new job. We would like to thank him for all his time, effort and help over the last three years.

We welcome Darren Rigby onto the Parish Council, who will notionally represent the West Ward of the parish.

Luke Mills,
Parish Clerk
e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk,
m: 01524 881 499

PARISH COUNCILLOR CHANGES

We are sad to say goodbye to Joe McAleer who has resigned from the



Places for 2-4 Year Olds


Based in Caton Primary School

To have a look around contact Claire:

07746 857904

infinitypreschools@gmail.com

April 2024 Facebook Posts



Halton with Aughton Parish Council
Published by Halton Parish
· 7 April ·

We are undertaking an informal consultation on the Draft Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan. This consultation runs from 8th April to 5th May 2024.

The Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to reflect the way in which residents of the parish wish to see their area develop until 2031.

All responses received by the consultation end date will be considered when preparing the Neighbourhood Plan for the next stage, which will be the formal consultation (Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012), when there will be another opportunity to comment.

The final stage of the process will ask local residents to vote on whether the final plan should be adopted through a local referendum.

A copy of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, feedback form and other supporting documents can be viewed online on the Parish Council website:

<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan>

A link to the survey is here: <https://forms.office.com/e/VvmBKYLJKC>


Hard copies of the plan will be available to view at:


- The Centre@Halton, Low Road
- Halton Mill, Mill Lane
- Aughton Village Hall Recreation Room, Aughton Road

You are also welcome to attend the public drop-in session that are being held at the following dates and locations:

- The Centre Thursday 25th April 3pm to 7pm
- Aughton Village Hall Friday 26th April 7pm to 10pm
- The Centre Saturday 27th April 10am to 1pm


Like Comment Send

 **Halton with Aughton Parish Council**
23 April · 🌐



**HALTON-WITH-AUGHTON
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN
2024 – 2031**


**Draft Plan for Informal Public Consultation
8th April – 5th May 2024**

 **Halton with Aughton Parish Council**
Published by Halton Parish
· 23 April · 🌐

We would welcome feedback on the draft Neighbourhood Plan via the following survey (you can say as much or as little as you wish):
<https://forms.office.com/e/VvmBKYLJKC>

The survey has a link to the Parish Council website which has a copy of the Neighbourhood Plan and Local Green Space Assessment Report.

Neighbourhood Development Plans gives the local community an increased ability to influence planning within the parish. In particular we are hoping to better protect local green spaces and areas that have important impact on flooding.

 2



Halton with Aughton Parish Council

26 April · 🌐



The last Neighbourhood Plan drop-in session will be tomorrow (Saturday) from 10am - 1pm at the Centre. Feel free to pop by, if only to find out what it is all about.



Halton with Aughton Parish Council

Published by Halton Parish



· 23 April · 🌐

We would welcome feedback on the draft Neighbourhood Plan via the following survey (you can say as much or as little as you wish):

<https://forms.office.com/e/VvmBKYLJKC>

The survey has a link to the Parish Council website which has a copy of the Neighbourhood Plan and Local Green Space Assessment Report.

Neighbourhood Development Plans gives the local community an increased ability to influence planning within the parish. In particular we are hoping to better protect local green spaces and areas that have important impact on flooding.

Screen shot of Parish Council Website



Informal Public Consultation

What is Happening?

From the 8th April to 5th May 2024, we are undertaking an informal consultation on the Draft Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan.

The Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to reflect the way in which residents of the parish wish to see their area develop until 2031. All responses received by the consultation end date will be considered when preparing the Neighbourhood Plan for the next stage, which will be the formal consultation (Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012), when there will be another opportunity to comment. The final stage of the process will ask local residents to vote on whether the final plan should be adopted through a local referendum.

Learn More

Paper copies of the Draft Plan and Local Green Space Assessment Report will be viewable at the following locations, along with feedback forms:

The Centre@Halton, Low Road

Halton Mill, Mill Lane

Aughton Village Hall Recreation Room, Aughton Road

Online versions of the documents are here:

[Draft Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan](#)

[Local Green Space Assessment Report](#)

[Feedback Form](#)

You are also welcome to attend the **public drop-in sessions** that are being held at the following dates and locations:

The Centre Thursday 25th April 3pm to 7pm

Aughton Village Hall Friday 26th April 7pm to 10pm

The Centre Saturday 27th April 10am to 1pm

Comment

You can provide your feedback in the following ways:

1. Complete the [Online Survey](#)

2. Get a paper copy of the Feedback Form from the above locations or print one, complete it by hand and return to:
Neighbourhood Plan, The Centre, Low Road, Halton, LA2 6NB

3. Attend one of the **public drop-in sessions** and complete a form there

Supporting Information and Documents

The documents listed below have all played a part in creating and supporting the Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

Key Documents

- [Draft Local Green Space Assessment Report](#)
- [Draft Neighbourhood Plan](#)
- [Feedback Form](#)

- [A Landscape Strategy Lancashire 2000](#)
- [Halton Conservation Appraisal](#)
- [Jacobs Flood Risk Management Study](#)
- [Landscape Character Assessment for Halton](#)
- [Lune Valley C L T Housing Needs Survey](#)

Previous Drafts

- [Draft Neighbourhood Plan 2019](#)
- [Draft Plan v1 Jan 2023](#)
- [Draft Plan v2 Feb 2023](#)
- [Draft Plan v3 Mar 2023](#)
- [Draft Plan v4 March 2023](#)
- [Draft Plan v6 May 2023](#)
- [Draft Plan v7 August 2023](#)
- [Draft Plan v8 January 2024](#)
- [Draft Plan v9 January 2024](#)
- [Halton Parish Plan 2003](#)
- [Halton Parish Plan 2013](#)
- [Local Green Space Report v1](#)

Public Engagement and Meetings

- [Communications with the public](#)
- [Informal Public Consultation Comments on N D P from 2019](#)

- [Agenda 2023 01 27](#)
- [Agenda 2023 02 09](#)
- [Agenda 2023 03 10](#)
- [Agenda 2023 03 31](#)
- [Agenda 2023 07 19](#)
- [Agenda 2023 11 24](#)
- [Agenda 2024 01 08](#)
- [Agenda 2024 01 24](#)
- [Minutes meeting 23 01 12](#)
- [Minutes meeting 23 01 27](#)
- [Minutes meeting 23 02 09](#)
- [Minutes meeting 23 03 10](#)
- [Minutes meeting 23 03 31](#)
- [Minutes meeting 23 07 19](#)
- [Minutes meeting 23 08 16](#)
- [Minutes meeting 23 11 24](#)
- [Minutes meeting 24 01 08 draft](#)

Privacy

clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

01524 881 499

Feedback Form

Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Informal Public Consultation



We are undertaking an informal consultation on the Draft Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan. This consultation runs from **8th April** to **5th May 2024**.

The Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to reflect the way in which residents of the parish wish to see their area develop until 2031.

All responses received by the consultation end date will be considered when preparing the Neighbourhood Plan for the next stage, which will be the formal consultation (Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012), when there will be another opportunity to comment.

The final stage of the process will ask local residents to vote on whether the final plan should be adopted through a local referendum.

A copy of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, summary leaflet and other supporting documents can be viewed online on the Parish Council website:

<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan>

Hard copies of the plan are also available to view at:

- **The Centre@Halton, Low Road**
- **Halton Mill, Mill Lane**
- **Aughton Village Hall Recreation Room, Aughton Road**

You are also welcome to attend the public drop-in session that are being held at the following dates and locations:

- **The Centre** **Thursday 25th April 3pm to 7pm**
- **Aughton Village Hall** **Friday 26th April 7pm to 10pm**
- **The Centre** **Saturday 27th April 10am to 1pm**

Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Informal Public Consultation

Please return all comments on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan by **5th May 2024**.

You can email your comments to clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk or post to:

Neighbourhood Plan, The Centre, Low Road, Halton, LA2 6NB

We have prepared a Comments Form overleaf to assist with returning your responses. You can also complete an **online** version of the form which is available here:

<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan>

Comments can be made on any aspect of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and other supporting documents.

** Please note that you do not need to respond to every question on this survey

Any other personal and contact details will not be shared publicly but will be stored in accordance with Halton with Aughton Parish Council's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Privacy Notice which can be viewed here: <https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/privacy>

Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Informal Public Consultation

Your Details

Your details	
Name	
Organisation (if applicable)	
Job title (if applicable)	
Address (optional)	
Email (optional)	






What is your interest in the Neighbourhood Plan? Please tick all that apply	
I live in Halton with Aughton	
I work in Halton with Aughton	
I am a landowner	
I am an agent	
I am a statutory consultee	
Other (please specify)	

Consent		
We need to store your personal information to receive your comments. Please confirm whether you agree to the following:		
I consent to Halton with Aughton Parish Council storing my personal data	YES	NO
I consent to my name being published alongside my comments in the Consultation Statement prepared for submission and examination of the Neighbourhood Plan	YES	NO
I consent to my contact details being passed to Lancaster City Council so that they can keep me informed about the next stages in the NDP process.	YES	NO






Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Informal Public Consultation

General Response

Please rate how you feel about each of the **Sections** of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, by ticking the boxes below.

		Rating				
		Disagree ← → Agree				
SECTION	Title					
1	Introduction and Background					
2	A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish					
3	Vision and Objectives					
4	Landscape and Natural Environment					
5	Conserving our Built Heritage					
6	Housing Need					
7	High Quality and Sustainable Design					
8	Transport					
9	Local Community Facilities					
10	Community Aspirations					
11	Next Steps					

Please rate how you feel about each of the **Policies** of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, by ticking the boxes below.

		Rating				
		Disagree ← → Agree				
POLICY	Title					
HA-1	Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character					
HA-2	Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity					
HA-3	Area of Separation					
HA-4	Local Green Spaces					
HA-5	Flooding					
HA-6	Protecting Historic Character					
HA-7	Meeting Local Housing Needs					
HA-8	Halton Urban Development					
HA-9	High Quality Design					
HA-10	Active Travel					
HA-11	Community Facilities					

**Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan
Informal Public Consultation
Draft Plan Comments**

Section	Your comments
1 Introduction and Background	
2 A Description of Halton with Aughton Parish	
3 Vision and Objectives	
4 Landscape and Natural Environment	
5 Conserving our Built Heritage	
6 Housing Need	

**Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan
Informal Public Consultation**

Draft Plan Comments

Section	Your comments
7 High Quality and Sustainable Design	
8 Transport	
9 Local Community Facilities	
10 Community Aspirations	
11 Next Steps	
Other comments Please indicate the relevant page or paragraph number(s)	

**Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan
Informal Public Consultation**

Policy Comments

Policy	Your comments
Policy HA-1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character	
Policy HA-2 Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	
Policy HA-3 Area of Separation	
Policy HA-4 Local Green Spaces	
Policy HA-5 Flooding	
Policy HA-6 Protecting Historic Character	

**Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan
Informal Public Consultation**

Policy Comments

Policy	Your comments
Policy HA-7 Meeting Local Housing Needs	
Policy HA-8 Halton Urban Development	
Policy HA-9 High Quality Design	
Policy HA-10 Active Travel	
Policy HA-11 Community Facilities	

**Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan
Informal Public Consultation**

Supporting Document Comments

Supporting Document and Section(s)	Your comments
Halton with Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan Local Green Space Assessment Report (April 2024)	
Landscape Character Assessment for Halton (EPD, May 2023)	
Other document (please specify):	

Thank you for your help and support in the preparation of the Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan

Letter to Landowners of Local Green Spaces

Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council
c/o Parish Clerk
28 Forgebank Walk
Halton
Lancaster
LA2 6FD

Email: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

Dear Landowner

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan - Local Green Spaces

As you may be aware, Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). The Plan will be a statutory planning document and, once made (adopted), will be used in the determination of planning applications within the Parish by Lancaster City Council alongside the policies in the Local Plan for Lancaster District. The emerging Draft Neighbourhood Plan has a strong focus on protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment of the Parish.

Work on the Draft Plan has been progressing and is being led by a steering group of Parish Councillors and local residents. The steering group have undertaken an assessment of open spaces in the Parish and has identified a number of green spaces in the Parish which are of significant local value.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) December 2023 allows local communities to protect from development important small scale open spaces which have a particular significance. These are called 'Local Green Spaces'.

In order to qualify for such protection, Local Green Spaces have to comply with a set of criteria set out in the NPPF. Paragraph 106 of the NPPF explains the criteria which have to be met:

'The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:

- a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
- b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*
- c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.'*

Paragraph 107 goes on to say *'Policies for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with those for Green Belts.'*

The steering group has assessed each of the identified candidate spaces against these criteria and those that are considered to meet the NPPF criteria are:

- LGS-A: St Wilfrid's Park Play Area
- LGS-B: Dale Wood
- LGS-C: Lune Riverbank – Halton Bridge to Halton Mill
- LGS-D: Wooded Bank above Recreation Area
- LGS-E: Town End Farm Field
- LGS-F: Forge Wood
- LGS-G: Land North of the Lune between Halton Lune Hydro and Green Beck

The Assessment Table can be found at: <https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>

As a landowner of one or more of these areas, the Parish Council is inviting you to respond with any comments, before the list is finalised in the Draft Plan.

Following a short period of informal consultation, it is intended to publish the Draft Plan for formal, regulation 14 public consultation in Spring 2024.

I would be grateful if you would respond by Sunday 5th May 2024

Yours



Appendix 7 – Responses to Informal Public Consultation 2024

Figure 3 - General Responses from Informal Consultation

General Responses to Draft Plan SECTIONS	Section 1: Introduction and Background	Section 2: A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish	Section 3: Vision and Objectives	Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment	Section 5: Conserving our Built Heritage	Section 6: Housing Need	Section 7: High Quality and Sustainable Design	Section 8: Transport	Section 9: Local Community Facilities	Section 10: Community Aspirations	Section 11: Next Steps
Agree Strongly	8	8	11	10	10	9	10	8	8	8	10
Agree	5	7	5	5	5	6	5	6	7	6	5
Neutral	3	1	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	2	1
Disagree	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disagree Strongly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Responses	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16

General Responses to Draft Plan POLICIES	HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	HA-3: Area of Separation	HA-4: Local Green Spaces	HA-5: Flooding	HA-6: Protecting Historic Character	HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	HA-8: Halton Urban Development	HA-9: High Quality Design	HA-10: Active Travel	HA-11: Community Facilities
Agree Strongly	10	9	13	14	11	10	11	7	9	8	10
Agree	7	8	4	2	6	7	6	8	7	7	6
Neutral	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	1
Disagree	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disagree Strongly	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Responses	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17

Responses from Individuals

Response reference: 1

Section 6: Housing Need

There is a need for affordable housing but not for any more large executive type homes, also some small bungalows for elderly possibly

Section 8: Transport

Late evening buses returned would be good.

Section 9: Local Community Facilities

Not enough to provide for any more increase in population, especially the school.

HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character

Green spaces within the village should be conserved and also green field open views should remain

HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity

This fits in with my answer above

HA-5: Flooding

Any more strain on the current drainage system and top water flooding would be very bad for all the flood zones in the village if there was any more development

HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs

Affordable housing only to be considered now

HA-10: Active Travel

Walking around the village has become much more difficult in recent years due to the number of cars parked on the pavement. Reinstate the late evening buses.

Response reference: 2

Section 6: Housing Need

Surely there is enough housing in Halton for the foreseeable future,, people would like to keep it a village surrounded by greenery, maybe we could focus on more amenities for all the houses we now have.

Section 8: Transport

I think there is more than enough buses coming into the village alot of these buses arrive and leave empty or with one or two people on, I think stage coach buses could be cut down considerably especially as it seems to be only them that do any damage to parked cars, Kirby Lonsdale buses haven't done any as far as I am aware, Where as Stagecoach have badly damaged four cars in six months that I know of, two being written off.

Section 9: Local Community Facilities

St Wilfreds field doesn't get any money put into it! There isn't much children's equipment and people have been asking for some benches on there for years now. All money goes to the centres play area but there are lots of children that play on St Wilfreds field.

HA-4: Local Green Spaces

Keep as many as possible with no more planning for new houses like we were promised, otherwise we are going to become one with Lancaster and Caton.

Response reference: 5

Section 9: Local Community Facilities

I think our community facilities are shrinking and the plan needs to be more ambitious and robust

Response reference: 6

HA-9: High Quality Design

It would be ideal if any such developments were built in excess of current standards, potentially up to the Passive House standard.

Response reference: 8

Section 3: Vision and Objectives

I like the visions statement, but in addition to protecting green spaces, I would also want to include an ambition to have more wildlife-rich green spaces within the parish (reflecting Objective 3)

Objective 3 – p14. I would like to more about enhancing biodiversity, as well as protecting existing places of biological importance as follows:

To protect and enhance existing sites of biological importance including the remnants of ancient woodlands, to improve the wildlife value of other green spaces within the Parish, and to ensure opportunities are taken to link and extend green corridors through the villages and along the river

Objective 8 – p15

Remove the word important, as this can be open to interpretation, and also include an ambition to enhance the wildlife value of green spaces: “To protect green spaces, and take opportunities to enhance their wildlife value”

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment

Policy HA-1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character

Care needs to be taken with the use of the phrase ‘where feasible’ in drafting this policy, as it can be used as a get-out clause by developers. It is important to avoid using it for something you definitely don’t want to see eg building on ridge-lines and hill tops (2c)

Section 5: Conserving our Built Heritage

On Map 8 - Townscape maps – an important view and vista missing. The view from the top of the Quarry Hill bank from the bus stop and wall of the Old School carpark.

Section 6: Housing Need

Policy HA7 – Meeting local housing needs

I very much support this policy. However, I think that the final sentence should continue to make clear that development should be in appropriate locations. eg “In particular, the provision of affordable, smaller dwellings of up to 3 bedrooms in appropriate locations will be supported.

HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character

Policy HA-1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character

Careful with the use of ‘where feasible’ as it can be used as a get-out clause by developers. Avoid having it as a caveat for something you definitely don’t want to see eg building on ridge-lines and hill tops (2c)

HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs

Policy HA7 – Meeting local housing needs

Support this policy, but development meeting these local needs also needs to be in appropriate locations. Therefore, the final sentence should read “In particular, the provision of affordable, smaller dwellings of up to 3 bedrooms in appropriate locations will be supported.

Halton with Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan Local Green Space Assessment Report (April 2024)

I am surprised that Hermitage Field Community Meadow by Crook of Lune was not included as one of the sites listed within the Local Green Space Assessment Report, (particularly as it is pictured on the front of the report!) It is an important recreational area within the Parish, owned by Lancaster City Council, and managed by a group of Trustees as a wildflower-rich meadow (see website <https://hermitagefieldcommunitymeadow.com>). It also has a good walking route with disabled access. Perhaps it is already included under SC3, but it is not shown on the map of these sites in the Green Space Assessment report. I understand why it has not been put forward for the further eligibility audit, because of the existing protection, but it would be good to see it listed somewhere within the DNP as a wildlife-rich Green Space, important to local people and managed by an active community group,

Response reference: 9

HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character

We should resist incremental urban sprawl encroaching into the surrounding areas of open countryside

HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity

Not enough emphasis is placed on the Lune Gorge/River Biological heritage site status when considering local developments

HA-3: Area of Separation

This is important to maintain. The identify of the village as a separate place from Lancaster

HA-4: Local Green Spaces

LGS-B, LGS-C, LGS-D, LGS-F are the most important spaces to include. They are significant landscape features in the village.

HA-6: Protecting Historic Character

I support the inclusion of the proposed non-designated heritage assets especially Denny Beck Bridge.

HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs

I support the conclusions of the 2019 Housing Needs Survey. Any future development in the village should contribute to meeting the local needs.

HA-10: Active Travel

Traffic congestion on parts of High Rd and though the Lyth Fell estate need to be addressed.

HA-11: Community Facilities

The library needs substantial work to improve it, otherwise we could lose it

Halton with Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan Local Green Space Assessment Report (April 2024)

Very comprehensive

Landscape Character Assessment for Halton (EPD, May 2023)

The setting of Carus House in the wider landscape needs to be preserved. I would like to see the Greenbelt extended to cover this area.

Response reference: 10

HA-4: Local Green Spaces

There should not be any special circumstances

Response reference: 12

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment

More footpaths needed. More wildlife corridors

Section 6: Housing Need

Already far too many large expensive new houses. Affordable housing is a priority.

Section 8: Transport

Better bus services in the evenings and weekend needed before more houses built.

HA-4: Local Green Spaces

Essential to protect green spaces.

HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs

Already too many large expensive houses in Halton. Affordable housing is a priority.

HA-10: Active Travel

More and better bus services evenings and weekends needed. More footpaths needed.

Response reference: 14

Section 9: Local Community Facilities

I am concerned that the library is not getting enough maintenance. Can any more pressure be exerted?

HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character

Especially like: 1b & c, 2c, 3b & c

HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity

Generally good. I would like to see more control over new housing estates putting in "wild-flower meadows" without sufficient planning control over a) establishment guidelines and b) maintenance. I am in favour of successful wild-flower meadows.

HA-3: Area of Separation

Could you require developers to follow advice given by a wild-flower meadows expert?

HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs

Very important for older people to be able to remain where they know other people. If there were smaller homes locally so they could move, then their larger homes would be available for families

HA-11: Community Facilities

I like points a) & b). Can anything be added to ensure buildings are properly maintained?

Response reference: 15

Section 2: A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish

There is no mention of the Mill re: leisure/social/employments opportunities which I would have expected to have been referenced

Section 3: Vision and Objectives

Suggest adding to vision and objectives re: protecting historical core of the village.

HA-3: Area of Separation

This is important to preserve the village.

HA-6: Protecting Historic Character

There has been significant development over last few years. Plan is coming late in the day but can it be reflected that future development kept tight and with village not drifting, .e.g. concerns re: further development up Arrow Lane, etc.

HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs

Suggestion to look at stronger wording "Proposals for new development should not be permitted unless they demonstrate...

HA-9: High Quality Design

Concern that recent new developments do not respect the traditional local character

HA-11: Community Facilities

What about commercial facilities - there appears to be nothing to ensure protection of existing commercial facilities, shops, pubs, café, etc.

Response reference: 16

HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character

With the buildings already encroaching on the visual impacts of the local landscape, essential to prevent further damage to the landscape

HA-3: Area of Separation

Very important to retain village independence

HA-4: Local Green Spaces

These areas are important to the residents

HA-5: Flooding

Measures need to be taken to minimise all risk of flooding especially after Storm Desmond when the village was virtually inaccessible for a number of days

HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs

Any future housing must be based on the housing needs survey of smaller affordable housing to address the needs of the residents. There are not longer any smaller properties to downsize to.

HA-11: Community Facilities

These facilities are vital to village life and must be protected.

Halton with Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan Local Green Space Assessment Report (April 2024)

Fantastic report.

Response reference: 17

Section 2: A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish

Mainly agree. I use facilities/activities at the Mill, a facility in the village that needs highlighting.

HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character

Crucial when considering any further development

HA-3: Area of Separation

Essential if the village is to retain its independent identity.

HA-6: Protecting Historic Character

Much of the recent development doesn't appear to have taken this into account. Needs to be a strong criteria for any future development.

HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs


Affordable housing only to be considered now

HA-10: Active Travel

Walking around the village has become much more difficult in recent years due to the number of cars parked on the pavement. Reinstate the late evening buses

Responses from Landowners

Response reference: 18


 Outlook

Urgent: Erroneous information re Dale Wood in Aughton with Halton Neighbourhood plan ref LGS/B

From 
Date Thu 25/04/24 10:14
To Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>

Sir,
We wish to bring to the urgent attention of the Parish Council an entry of erroneous factual misinformation in relation to Dale Wood (refs LGS/ B) in the proposed neighbourhood plan in respect of green spaces.

The areas of Dale Wood are private land with no rights for public access.

The land at Dale Wood, to the west of Cote Beck, and to the rear of St Wilfrid's Church is owned by ourselves  We own the deeds and rights to this land. Our land does not have public access. The plan incorrectly states that our land is available to be used by walkers. This is an assumption, and we formally inform the parish council that public access to this land is not permitted, and there is no legal nor public right of way here, either currently or in the past.

We would be grateful for the erroneous implication that our land is a public and usable space to be rectified as a matter of urgency.

We look forward to hearing from the Parish Council with their amendments and publishing of factually correct information.

Yours faithfully



Response reference: 19

Re: Halton Mills

[Redacted]

Thu 02/05/24 15:12

To: Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>

Hi Luke,

Yes our only concern is the old lawnmower site

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

On Thursday, 2 May 2024 at 14:26:14 BST, Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk> wrote:

[Redacted]

Thanks for raising your concerns. It would be helpful if you could clarify the precise location that you are referring to. Is it the old lawnmower site?

Luke

[Redacted]

Sent: 02 May 2024 12:26

To: Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>

Subject: Halton Mills

Hi Luke,

I have received your letter dated 12th April 2024.

With reference to the 'LGS-C: Lune Riverbank - Halton Bridge to Halton Mill'. We are currently in negotiations with United Utilities regarding the plot near Halton Bridge and if that negotiation fails we have another interested party for the site so we would strongly object to any restriction on this plot. However we have no objections to the land on the river bank.

Please keep me informed

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Response reference: 20

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan - Local Green Spaces

[REDACTED]
Fri 03/05/24 15:01

To: Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>
[REDACTED]

Hello Luke

We are in receipt of your letter informing us that, in your draft Neighbourhood Plan, you are seeking protection from development status for two local green spaces owned by Lancaster Cohousing, namely Forge Wood (LGS-F) and Lune river bank between Halton Mill and Denny Beck Bridge (*LGS-C).

Lancaster Cohousing supports the Parish Council in seeking protection for these two green spaces. Both places are crucial parts of the network of green and riparian corridors so essential in maintaining biodiversity in the village. We therefore welcome their inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]
for Lancaster Cohousing

*Please note that Lancaster Cohousing owns only part of the river bank included in LGS-C.

Response reference: 7

Section 8: Transport

Halton Park Estate have considered the proposed community aspirations for more public access. The proposals do not adequately reflect the practicalities of using proposed routes for transport, and the impact that an increased use of these routes would have on biodiversity and farming. We would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you.

Section 10: Community Aspirations

Halton Park Estate have considered the proposed community aspirations for more public access. The proposals do not adequately reflect the practicalities of using proposed routes for transport, and the impact that an increased use of these routes would have on biodiversity and farming. We would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you and are surprised at not being directly consulted given the proposal has potentially major impacts on the operation of our business.

HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity

The community aspiration proposed (particularly public access) would directly interfere and detract from current (ongoing, long-standing) conservation projects in the proposed wildlife corridors. We do not believe this has been understood properly and would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you directly.

HA-5: Flooding

The current infrastructure is capable of managing a significant volume of rainwater only if it is maintained. This is particularly important in the case of roadside gullies. We support the initiative of making future infrastructure more 'resilient' but only on the condition that it and the current infrastructure is properly maintained.

Responses from Official Bodies

See below for the responses from:

- Natural England (ref. 21)
- Historic England (ref. 22)
- Environment Agency (ref. 23)
- Local Lead Flood Authority - Lancashire County Council (ref. 24)
- Local Planning Authority - Lancaster City Council (ref. 25)

Response reference: 21

Date: 26 April 2024
Our ref: 472301
Your ref: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan



[REDACTED]
Lancaster City Council

Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

[REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@lancaster.gov.uk)

Dear [REDACTED]

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan - SEA & HRA Screening Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 10 April 2024.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

It is Natural England's advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that:

- **significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely; and,**
- **significant effects on Habitats sites¹, either alone or in combination, are unlikely.**

The proposed neighbourhood plan is unlikely to significantly affect any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection areas (SPA), Ramsar wetland or sites in the process of becoming SACs or SPAs ('candidate SACs', 'possible SACs', 'potential SPAs') or a Ramsar wetland. The plan area is unlikely to have a significant effect on a National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast, and is unlikely to impact upon the purposes for which these areas are designated or defined.

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 is contained within the [Planning Practice Guidance](#). This identifies three triggers that may require the production of an SEA:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

¹ Habitats sites are those referred to in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (Annex 2 - glossary) as "any site which would be included within the definition at regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 for the purpose of those regulations, including candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and any relevant Marine Sites".

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require an SEA. Further information is included in Natural England's [standing advice](#) on protected species.

Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant an SEA. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission [standing advice](#).

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a SEA is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If a SEA is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

Please send any new consultations, or further information on this consultation to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely



Consultations Team

Response reference: 22



Historic England

[REDACTED]
Lancaster City Council
Planning and Place
PO Box 4, Town Hall
Dalton Square
Lancaster
LA1 1QR

Direct Dial: 0161 242 1445

Our ref: PL00795693

24 April 2024

Dear [REDACTED]

Halton with Aughton draft Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening February 2024

We write in response to your e-mail of 10th April 2024 seeking a formal screening opinion from Historic England on the need to prepare a SEA for Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan.

Historic England has produced a document that you might find helpful in providing guidance on the effective assessment of the historic environment in Strategic Environmental Assessments. This can be found at:

<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine the advice given to the question, "Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?", in respect to our area of concern, cultural heritage.

In the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 [Annex II of SEA Directive], and on the basis of the information supplied, it is considered that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects upon the historic environment, and so Historic England concur with your conclusion that SEA is not required.

We would like to stress that this opinion is based on the information made available in the email dated 10th April 2024. To avoid any doubt, this decision does not preclude Historic England providing further advice on later stages of the SEA process, should this be required, nor objecting to specific proposals that may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan/guidance), where we consider that these would have an adverse effect upon the historic environment. We note that the views of the other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for SEA is made.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

Telephone 0161 242 1416
HistoricEngland.org.uk



Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any Information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.



Historic England

Lancaster City Council and Lancashire County Council are closely involved in the development of the plan. They are best placed to advise on: local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the HER (formerly SMR); how the policies or proposals can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of historic assets.

Thank you for consulting Historic England. We request that you please send us a copy of the determination as required by Reg 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]

Historic Places Adviser

[Redacted]

historicengland.org.uk

cc:



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

Telephone 0161 242 1416
HistoricEngland.org.uk



Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any Information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.

Response reference: 23

██████████ - Planning Policy
Officer
Lancaster City Council
Planning Policy
Town Hall Marine Road East
MORECAMBE
Lancashire
LA4 5AF

Our ref: NO/2012/104361/SE-13/SC1-L01

Your ref:

Date: 19 April 2024

Dear ██████████

HRA/SEA Screening Reports - Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan

Thank you for consulting us on the draft HRA and SEA screening reports for the Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan. We have reviewed the SEA screening report dated February 2024 and agree with your conclusion that no further work will be required for the SEA. The conclusions drawn in the HRA are beyond our remit, and we defer to our colleagues in Natural England regarding the findings of the HRA report.

Yours sincerely

██████████
Planning Advisor

e-mail clplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk

Environment Agency
Lutra House Walton Summit, Bamber Bridge, Preston, PR5 8BX.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency
End

Response reference: 24



Contact: suds@lancashire.gov.uk

Date: 30 April 2024

Dear Halton with Aughton Parish Council,

Thank you for inviting the Lead Local Flood Authority to comment on the below consultation.

Draft Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan - Informal Public Consultation

Lancashire County Council is the Lead Local Flood Authority for the county council's administrative area. The Flood and Water Management Act sets out the requirement for the Lead Local Flood Authority to manage 'local' flood risk (flooding from surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses) within its area. In the planning process, the Lead Local Flood Authority is a statutory consultee for major developments with surface water drainage, under the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

Comments provided in this representation are advisory and it is the decision of the parish council whether any such recommendations are acted upon. The comments given have been composed based on the extent of the knowledge of the Lead Local Flood Authority and information provided at the time of this response.

The Lead Local Flood Authority has reviewed the consultation details and has the following comments to make:

Policy HA-5 Flooding

The Lead Local Flood Authority generally support the principles contained within the policy to manage specific flooding issues in the neighbourhood plan area, which go beyond the adopted policies within Lancaster City Council's Local Plan. However, we would urge the parish council to consider the following amendments to make the policy more robust and unlock some of the opportunities presented by new development in the neighbourhood to deliver the measures contained within the Halton Initial Assessment Flood Risk Management Study¹ (B2327FF1-JUK-ZZ-HA-RP-Z-1201, P02, February 2020, Jacobs) (hereafter referred to as the 'flood risk management study').

- a) The parish council should consider splitting the policy into two sections; policies which apply to the whole of the neighbourhood plan area, and policies which apply

¹ Halton Initial Assessment Flood Risk Management Study <https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/NP/Supporting/Jacobs%20Flood%20Risk%20Management%20Study.pdf>

Lancashire County Council
PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD



lancashire.gov.uk

specifically to the Halton study area, as identified in Figure 1-1 of the flood risk management study, or that drain into this study area. This area may need to be defined on a map within the neighbourhood plan. Without sufficient justification and evidence, it is not appropriate to apply policies which are specific to the flood risk management study area to the whole neighbourhood plan area.

Alternatively, the parish council may consider policies DM33 and DM34 of the adopted Lancaster Local Plan (July 2020)² (or of the emerging Climate Emergency Local Plan Review) sufficient for the whole neighbourhood plan area, in which case, it should be made clear that policy HA-5 is only applicable to the Halton study area due to the specific known issues identified in the flood risk management study.

- b) Point 1 of Policy HA-5 – This states that development proposals will be expected to "avoid areas at risk of flooding from all sources". This needs clearly defining, as all areas are at risk of flooding to some degree, even if this is very low. It is recommended this is clarified to apply only to areas at risk of flooding in the design flood event. This is defined by paragraph 002 of the Planning Practice Guidance³ and includes an appropriate allowance for climate change.
- c) Point 2 of Policy HA-5 - While we support the principle of safeguarding land for current or future flood risk management, in line with paragraph 167b of the National Planning Policy Framework, we would urge the parish council to consider if this is a reasonable approach. The parish council should account for the fact that the options identified would currently not attract 100% funding through national Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant-in-Aid⁴, which is available to the flood risk management authorities to take the options forward, and that the options identified within the flood risk management study are only indicative, not a commitment to pursue any action requiring the land identified.

The parish council is urged to consider opportunities to deliver these options through the neighbourhood plan. Alternative funding mechanisms may be available by using opportunities provided by new development and improvements in green and other infrastructure to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding, (making as much use as possible of natural flood management techniques as part of an integrated approach to flood risk management). For example, the parish council may encourage new development in areas identified to privately fund and deliver, or contribute towards, the 'do-something' options identified, in line with paragraph 167c of the National Planning Policy Framework, where the parish council consider this appropriate, reasonable and justified. These areas may need to be identified on a map within the neighbourhood plan. It should be made clear that any such opportunities must be considered in addition to the incorporation of sustainable drainage systems³ to manage the runoff generated by new development, in line with paragraph 173c of the National Planning Policy Framework.

² <https://www.lancaster.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/development-management-dpd>

³ Planning Practice Guidance - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-and-coastal-change>

⁴ Refer to section 2.10 of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for more information - <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/928565/lancashire-flood-risk-management-strategy-2021-2027-final-v2.pdf>



- d) Point 3 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council may wish to expand on this to identify such opportunities for flood risk mitigation measures, for example, the use of natural flood management measures⁵ in addition to the inclusion of sustainable drainage systems to manage the runoff generated by new development.
- e) Point 4 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council should clarify the areas meant by the "existing overloaded network of surface water drains and culverts" and the basis on which this has been identified. For example, the drawing contained within Appendix E of the flood risk management study (Halton drainage network capacity during 1.3% AEP event)? This may need to be included as a map within the neighbourhood plan.

This point should also be changed to "...avoiding discharging any *additional* flows...". In some instances, it may not be reasonably practicable for new development to avoid discharging any flows into the network identified, for example, to comply with the hierarchy of drainage options set out in the Planning Practice Guidance³ and Policy DM34 of the adopted Lancaster Local Plan², where the alternative options are less sustainable (e.g., combined sewer). There is a risk with the proposed wording that new development will instead be encouraged to discharge flows into other systems which did not previously receive it, potentially generating new and unknown issues.

In these cases, the parish council may wish to expand on point 4, insofar that where a discharge into the "existing overloaded network of surface water drains and culverts" cannot be avoided, development discharging into this network must take measures to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding, such as through over-attenuation and restricted discharge rates below the minimum standards set out in the Defra Technical Standards for SuDS. Further examples of such measures are included within paragraph 063 of the National Planning Practice Guidance.

- f) Point 5 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council should amend the language 'excess flows' to 'exceedance flows' for consistency with The SuDS Manual (C753)⁶ and the national Defra Technical Standards for SuDS⁷ (standard S9). This point should also be changed to "...will not cause *increased* off-site flooding..." in line with paragraph 173 of the National Planning Policy Framework.
- g) Point 6 of Policy HA-5 – We fully support the inclusion of interception and source control SuDS components to minimise runoff from sites during everyday rainfall events (e.g., permeable paving, water butts and blue roofs) on new development.

The parish council should be aware that the Lead Local Flood Authority does not consider source control components towards the overall attenuation volume on proposed developments required to manage the design flood (1% annual exceedance probability + climate change, as defined by the Planning Practice Guidance³), as there is no guarantee that such components will remain in place

⁵ Further information on Natural Flood Management is available at <https://thefloodhub.co.uk/nfm/>

⁶ https://www.ciria.org/CIRIA/CIRIA/Item_Detail.aspx?iProductCode=C753F

⁷ Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainable-drainage-systems-non-statutory-technical-standards>



over the lifetime of the development where they could be removed or replaced by private property owners, and such components are frequently saturated during extreme rainfall events.

Other

- a) Policy HA-2 Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity – We support point 5c of this policy which aims to re-naturalise culverted watercourses. This is consistent with the county council's ordinary watercourse regulation policy OWC2⁸ and will enable the development of improved blue-green corridors within the neighbourhood.
- b) In every instance, the parish council must minimise the risk of individual people (particularly private landowners) being identifiable through reference to the flood risk management study, in order to comply with the obligations of the county council and the parish council set out in the Data Protection Act 2018.

I trust that you find these comments valuable. Should you wish for further information or clarification on the contents of this letter please contact us at the email address provided.

Yours faithfully,



Lead Local Flood Authority

⁸ Ordinary Watercourse Regulation - Consenting and enforcement of ordinary watercourses in Lancashire
<https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/950248/ordinary-watercourse-regulation-policies-adopted-1-march-2024.pdf>



Response reference: 25**Informal Comments on Halton – with - Aughton draft Neighbourhood Plan**

These comments provide the informal opinions of officers and are intended as general guidance on the draft neighbourhood plan (NP) so far. They do not represent the formal views of the council which will be provided at Reg14 and Reg16 stages. It is hoped they will be found useful prior to the Reg 14 stage.

These comments should be read in conjunction with those made on the previous version of the plan.

Chapter 2: Introduction and Background**Parish Council Actions and Community Aspirations**

It would be worth adding a couple of paragraphs about the outcome of other consultation. Do the responses continue to validate these concerns and aspirations.

Chapter 3: Vision and Objectives

This section could do with updating to show that the vision/objectives reflect subsequent engagement and feedback.

Chapter 5: Landscape and Natural Environment**HA-1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character**

There isn't reference to a map showing the policy areas either within the supporting text or the policy. The 3 policies areas in HA-1 should be included on the policies map so that the relevant criteria can be identified for each site coming forward.

HA-2 Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity

Criteria 2 of Policy HA-2 has been amended to refer directly to policy DM44 of the Local Plan. However, this may change in the future. It would be worth adding a caveat such as, 'or any future policy'.

HA-3 Areas of Separation

The concerns raised previously about the duplication of the local plan policy and lack of evidence to support an additional designation remain. If you decide to proceed, the Council is unlikely to object to the policy but if the Inspector specifically asks our opinion, we will need to advise of these concerns.

HA-4 Local Green Spaces

Thank you for sending through an updated Local Green Space Assessment Report to support the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan. The Council recognises that our advice in terms of providing further information and explanation for the detailed analysis section has been taken on board, but we still have some concerns in relation to how the assessment conclusions have been reached. The National Planning Practice Guidance sets out that 'different types of designations are intended to achieve different purposes. If land is already protected by designation, then consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space'. As acknowledged within your report, there are a number of sites which are

already designated via other policies within the Local Plan, such as policy SC3 Open Space, Recreation and Leisure, and from the assessments the additional local benefit that a Local Green Space designation would provide is not clear. Additionally, there are a number of sites where the extent to which they satisfy the criteria set out in paragraph 106 of the NPPF is not clear.

Here are comments in relation to each of the sites put forward for Local Green Space designation, we hope you find these useful.

Site	Council Comments
LGS A – St Wilfrid’s Park Play Area	Site is already designated under policy SC3 – protected open space. It’s not clear how this site is demonstrably special in comparison to other play areas across the District to warrant Local Green Space designation. Assessment conclusion suggests reason for designation relates more to concerns around land ownership. It is recommended that this site is removed from the policy.
LGS B – Dale Wood	Site is already designated under policy SC3 and also policy EN7 as protected Ancient Woodland. It also covers quite an extensive tract of land. It is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space.
LGS C – Lune Riverbank	The assessment demonstrates how the site fulfils the Local Green designation. The heritage value could perhaps be emphasised more. However, it is not clear how parcel 27a meets the criteria as it is not all area is green space.
LGS D – Wooded Bank above Recreation Area	The site is already designated under policy SC3 – protected open space. From the assessment the site provides more of a green corridor function, rather than fulfilling demonstrably special criteria of a Local Green Space designation. So the Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space. It is recommended that this site is removed from the policy.
LGS E – Town End Farm Field	Whilst the heritage value of this site is recognised, the NPPF is clear that a Local Green Space needs to be demonstrably special to the community it serves and hold a particular local significance. Whilst not disputing the value of this field the Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space for historic significance.
LGS F – Forge Wood	Having been out to visit this site it did feel more like a green corridor, and with unclear/ hard to see boundaries, an extensive tract of land. The Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space.
LGS G – Land North of the Lune between Halton Lune Hydro and Green Beck	Having been out to visit this site, it felt quite far away and separate from the local community, and so not local in character. The site also covers quite an extensive tract of land, again providing more of a green corridor function. The Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space.

Policy HA-5 Flooding

The areas to be protected by the policy should be clearly shown on the policies map.

General

We have not had sight of the policies map so have been unable to comment on this.

An issue that keeps arising is the impact that the frequent changes to the NPPF are having on paragraph numbers and references in the plan. It isn’t necessary, but you may wish to remove reference to paragraph numbers or perhaps put them in footnotes with a caveat that they are the paragraph numbers at the time of writing.

30 April 2024

Response from a Local Group

Response reference: 26

**Aughton Recreation Room Committee Response to
Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan 2024-2031
Draft Plan for Informal Public Consultation 8th April – 5th May 2024
After Public Consultation Meeting 26th April 2024**

General Observations:

In many respects the draft plan is a very detailed document which is complementary to, and integrated with, other local and sub-regional planning and policy documents. As such it is quite difficult in places to extract key messages from the detail of the document. A one-page Executive Summary would provide focus and would highlight the important objectives contained in the plan.

Without a specialised knowledge and understanding of the overall documentary context it is not altogether clear what the respective limits and constraints on the plan might be. For example, while there is some coverage of planning and transport issues in relation to home-working and minimising the use of private cars, there is no wider analysis of the development of the locality as a place where working within its boundaries might be encouraged and developed, building on the development and accessibility of transport links (road and rail), modern communication technologies and the ready availability of high quality educational facilities. Much is made of the importance of geomorphological features which lie outside the boundary of Halton with Aughton, but no mention is made of the world class university on its doorstep.

Responding to the climate emergency

In January 2020 the Director of Policy for the Town and Country Planning Association wrote:

‘Climate change is the single biggest threat to the future of our society and dealing with its implications has to be at the heart of all Neighbourhood plans. The growing and severe impacts of climate change mean that any plan made now that does not consider radical reductions in carbon and help build our resilience to things like flooding will simply not be fit for purpose

Neighbourhood plans will be in force for 15-20 years. If they are to successfully help communities deal with the future we will actually experience, they must move away from the narrow focus on accommodating housing that has blighted local planning in general, and move to an approach that plans for resilient, sustainable communities.’

The context

- Globally, atmospheric CO₂ exceeded 400 parts per million in 2016, the highest in human history.
- Human activities are estimated to have caused approximately 1.0°C of global warming above pre-industrial levels and it is predicted that on the current trajectory, warming will likely increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels between 2030 and 2052.
- Extreme weather events have been seen around the world.
- The UK's winter floods of 2013-14 and the European summer heatwaves have been made more likely by climate change.
- The 2018 summer in the UK was the joint hottest on record.

The UK Met Office predicts that in a business-as-usual (high emission) scenario, Britain could experience summers as much as 5°C hotter by 2070, with a 50% chance that by 2050 they will be as consistently hot as the 2018 one. Winters could be up to 4.2°C warmer, and sea levels would rise by up to 1.15 metres by 2100, leaving the UK coastline unrecognizable. Average summer rainfall could decrease by up to 47% by 2070, while there could be up to 35% more precipitation in winter.

Relevance for The Neighbourhood Development Plan

In the future it is likely that rural communities will experience to the full many of the negative consequences which will flow from the changes to our climate as the result of global warming. The natural world, in which our community is embedded, is already under significant pressure from the changes to our climate. Many of those who rely on the land for their livelihoods will need progressively to adapt as the toll of the damage to our environment advances. It is the responsibility of everyone in our society to play their part in mitigating the impact of climate change. The Neighbourhood Development Plan provides a welcome opportunity for the community to declare its commitment to implementing the plan in ways which promote resilience and sustainability, and which minimise carbon emissions. Halton-with-Aughton has some particular challenges to face in this context, such as a heavy reliance on neighbouring urban communities for employment opportunities, leisure activities and retail shopping facilities. These challenges, in turn, promote heavy reliance on travel by motor car. Consequently, the NDP embraces an over-arching commitment to making the village as attractive as possible to pedestrians and cyclists, including through remodelling the centre of Halton to attract additional retail outlets to the village. Great efforts need to be made to improve and develop public transport, and other, links to both Halton and Aughton. Public footpaths will be improved and promoted, cycle links will be developed and extended, and wildlife corridors will be created and promoted whenever the opportunity to do so arises.

It is an integral part of the vision for the Neighbourhood Development Plan that wherever possible the plan will be interpreted in such a way as to have, at its core, sustainability and resilience in the face of climate change.

Incorporating Aughton into the Neighbourhood Plan.

We suggest the addition of the following paragraphs that focus on issues of particular relevance to Aughton.

Section 2, Introduction:

Paragraph 2.1 – delete final sentence and add a new paragraph as follows:

Aughton forms a separate township within the parish of Halton with Aughton. It consists of some 55 residences of which 29 form a loose grouping around the church and recreation room, with the remainder dispersed around the township, including a hamlet of 10 dwellings at Middle Highfield. The core of the village retains much of its 17th century character and apart from a small number of barn conversions there has been no significant development for at least the last two decades.

Paragraph 2.7 – delete and replace as follows:

Aughton Recreation Room was built by local farming families in 1923 to provide a social and community space within the historic township of Aughton and has been run as a registered charity since 2009. The trustees hire out the premises for private functions to create an income to subsidise community events and recreational activities at what has become known as ‘Aughton Village Hall’. The Hall is closely associated with the Vale of Lune Young Farmers Club.

Paragraph 2.10 – delete and replace as follows:

The nearest train stations are at Carnforth and Lancaster. There are buses that run through Halton to Carnforth, Lancaster and via Caton through the Lune Valley, however, the eastern two-thirds of the parish is completely devoid of any public transport, leaving those residents of Aughton with no access to a private motor vehicle effectively trapped within the village.

Paragraph 2.11 – delete and replace as follows:

There are several public rights of way within the Parish [see Map 11 on page 76] including a renowned circular route included in many published Guidebooks from the Crook of Lune to Aughton via the Highfields and returning via the banks of the Lune. Both the National Route 69 of the National Cycle Network and Lancashire Cycleway Northern Loop [90] pass through the Parish.

Section 3, Vision and Objectives:

Whilst it is difficult to disagree with anything contained in the statement of Vision set out at p.14 of the document, the statement as written lacks vitality and does not capture any sense that the NDP is a plan for the future. Rather it comes over as something very static, giving the impression that the vision of the parish is simply to try and ensure that everything stays exactly as it is. There is no sense, for example, of a parish which wants to exploit all the natural advantages it enjoys (location, environment, history etc ...) as a tremendous location for people to live, work or spend their leisure time. It may be, of course, that the constraints of this particular planning process militate against the injection of sparks of vitality into the document.

The current Vision Statement reads:

In 2031 local people will value and conserve their rural setting with its beauty and tranquillity. The broad views across and along the Lune Valley of fells, woodland and open fields are protected. The green undulating hills continue to provide a strong feeling of living in a rural landscape, whilst the motte and bailey on Castle Hill and the surrounding Conservation Area are a focus for appreciation of the history of the parish. Halton-with-Aughton has a strong sense of community, and parishioners enjoy a range of venues for social activities.

A more focused and engaging version might read:

In 2031 local people will value the place where they live as a place where they want to bring up their families and take advantage of the many opportunities the locality affords. Halton with Aughton will have vibrant and engaged communities, enjoying to the full the advantages of its rural location. Its history, country landscapes and tranquillity will provide the backdrop to the best of rural life.

We suggest adding the following Aughton-focused paragraphs at the relevant sections of the plan.

Sections 4 to 8:

HA 1: Enhancing landscape.

These factors are especially important in Aughton where preservation of its rural character, including dark skies, is essential. Aughton is situated in the Forest of Bowland AONB (now known as National Landscapes) and its only services are water, electricity and B4RN internet connections. There is no mains drainage, gas supply or public transport. All these factors severely restrict development potential.

HA 2: Natural environment.

Although the surrounding landscape quality is high, with excellent views from Aughton across the Lune valley and beyond, much of the land within the township is of poor quality and would benefit from proactive policies for improvement. Roads are mostly narrow and verges poorly drained. This means that large farm vehicles are frequently forced on to the verges creating large ruts and destroying habitat. This frustrates attempts to create environmentally rich verges and hedgerows. Many of the verge and hedgerow trees are ash, with most now dead or dying. These need to be removed and replaced with disease-resistant native trees. Surrounding farmland is heavily grazed with sheep and cattle and thus lacks biodiversity. The Parish should encourage and (if possible) help farmers to utilise grant schemes to plant more woodland, restore hedgerows and move towards more sustainable regenerative farming practices.

HA 4: Green spaces.

As most of the land around Aughton is in private ownership and is actively farmed there is limited scope for developing designated public green spaces. The small village green at the centre of the village is a possible candidate.

The Local Green Space Assessment Report April 2024 is noted and commended. It is important that in the larger village of Halton, where the majority of the parishioners reside, there should be protection of those green spaces identified.

HA 5: Flooding.

The lack of funding and action in response to the Flood Risk Management Study, Halton Initial Assessment 2020 is noted with disappointment and concern, given the identified flood risk and potential for mitigation via 'Do-something' options which it identified.

Surface water flooding is also a potential problem in Aughton due mainly to very poor maintenance of the drains and culverts that exist. A particular concern is the extent to which flood water accumulates in the dip on the road between Halton and Aughton, adjacent to Pikethorn Wood and Monkley Gill Wood. After heavy rain this can become almost impassable.

These problems across both villages will only become more urgent as intense rainfall events become more common.

HA 6: Housing and development.

While recognizing the need for affordable rural housing, the distinctive rural and historic nature of Aughton, together with its location within the AONB and its lack of main services mean that there is very limited scope for any future housing development.

HA 10, Active travel

The countryside around Aughton offers many opportunities for active leisure travel, including travel on foot, by bike and on horseback. Moreover, the lack of public transport means that, in some instances, cycling or walking may also be used for utility travel. However, there are several factors that inhibit the use of local roads and footpaths for active travel. The narrow roads mean that pedestrians are often forced on to verges by large farm vehicles but, as noted above, these are in very poor condition due to poor drainage and traffic encroaching on verges. Off-road footpaths are also in extremely poor condition. Maintenance of footpaths has been neglected for many years so that conditions underfoot are very poor, stiles are unsafe and in some instances the stiles are completely missing. These factors all act as disincentives to active travel on local roads and footpaths. Any policy to increase active travel must address these issues.

The situation in relation to traffic passing through Halton needs to be made very much safer - not quicker - for all road users. If the aspirational statements contained in the NDP about encouraging uptake in walking and cycling are to mean anything, then there needs to be radical, and not fragmentary, change to traffic management in the larger village. Recent traffic calming measures seem to be almost completely ineffective and much bolder steps need to be taken to make any progress on the aspirations of reducing private car use in, and through the village. An approach to traffic management, which prioritises the needs of pedestrians, rather than motorists, would completely change the nature of the centre of Halton and would make it a much more pleasant place for residents.

A particular concern in Aughton relates to the speed with which some traffic comes along Kirkby Lonsdale Road and Aughton Road. Only lower speed limits on rural roads and effective enforcement will solve this problem.

We also have real concerns about the lack of effective winter gritting on rural roads, especially down the steep hills in and out of Aughton. In icy or snowy conditions these become very unsafe, there have been several (so far) minor accidents, and some services (for instance taxis) have refused to come to Aughton in winter weather because of the state of the roads.

Halton is an unsafe place to be a cyclist and may also be unsafe, at least on some parts of the High Road, to be a pedestrian. The needs of cyclists and pedestrians within the parish are of widespread significance - yet, surprisingly, little more attention is given to them in the NDP than is given to the needs of horse riders. The NDP would be strengthened - and made much more forward-looking - by greater attention to this issue.

The plan should contain much stronger statements about the complete lack of any accessibility to public transport in the Eastern part of the Halton with Aughton parish. The NDP needs to set out an unequivocal position in relation to the availability of some public transport, however limited, to the further flung reaches of the parish. Young people, as well as those who are older, need access to public transport and young families are discouraged from living in places like Aughton if there is simply no public transport at all. More generally, we have an ageing population as a nation, but especially in rural areas and villages. The availability of public transport to all is important and its need should be advocated in the NDP.

10. Community Aspirations

Footpaths [Paragraph 10.16 and Appendix 8]

The aspirational new paths are a good idea, however, insufficient emphasis is given within the NDP to consideration of what action needs to be taken in order to protect the Public Rights of Way which do exist. Most footpaths accessed from Aughton are in poor condition and stiles are broken or in some cases missing. It is essential that existing and new footpaths are maintained.

Para 10.11 Community Facilities

The trustees of Aughton Recreation Room have an active programme of improvements to the hall using a mixture of grant funding, own funds and volunteer assistance.

Sustainable energy

Although not mentioned at all in the draft plan, there is considerable potential for the generation of renewable energy from wind and solar within the Aughton township. Although there is need to be aware of the landscape impact of such schemes, we would encourage consideration of a community-based renewable energy scheme in Aughton.

There is also a need to provide public access electric car charging points throughout the Parish.

Response collated by the ARR Committee

30th April 2024

Appendix 8 – Review of Informal Public Consultation

Ref. No.	Section / Vision / Objective / Policy No.	Comments Received	Steering Group Consideration	Draft Plan Amendments
1	Section 6: Housing Need	There is a need for affordable housing but not for any more large executive type homes, also some small bungalows for elderly possibly	Noted. Policy HA-7 Meeting Local Housing Needs is underpinned by a recent parish housing needs assessment. This noted the housing needs of older residents.	No change.
1	Section 8: Transport	Late evening buses returned would be good.	Accepted as a Community Aspiration.	Paragraph 10.9 amended: 'Campaign to improve public transport services including more off peak / evening use services'
1	Section 9: Local Community Facilities	Not enough to provide for any more increase in population, especially the school	Noted. Lancashire CC is the local education authority with a responsibility to provide sufficient school places for the population. The community aspirations section includes proposals for improved local facilities, but these will need to be funded and delivered.	No change.
1	HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	Green spaces within the village should be conserved and also green field open views should remain	Noted. The NDP includes policies and proposals to protect green spaces and refers to the rural landscape character and key views.	No change.
1	HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	This fits in with my answer above	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.

1	HA-5: Flooding	Any more strain on the current drainage system and top water flooding would be very bad for all the flood zones in the village if there was any more development	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
1	HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	Affordable housing only to be considered now	Noted. The NDP cannot be used to stop market housing development but housing policies support more affordable homes in the area, in accordance with the parish housing needs survey.	No change.
1	HA-10: Active Travel	Walking around the village has become much more difficult in recent years due to the number of cars parked on the pavement. Reinstate the late evening buses.	Noted. The Plan includes the need to address traffic and parking the community aspirations section. Expand existing comment on parking.	Paragraph 10.7 amended.
2	Section 6: Housing Need	Surely there is enough housing in Halton for the foreseeable future,, people would like to keep it a village surrounded by greenery, maybe we could focus on more amenities for all the houses we now have.	Noted. The NDP notes the significant amount of housing development in the parish in recent years	No change.
2	Section 8: Transport	I think there is more than enough buses coming into the village a lot of these buses arrive and leave empty or with one or two people on, I think stage coach buses could be cut down considerably especially as it seems to be only them that do any damage to parked cars, Kirby Lonsdale buses haven't done any as far as I am aware, Where as Stagecoach have badly damaged four cars in six months that I know of, two being written off.	Noted. Complaints about bus services should be forwarded to LCC and the bus companies.	No change.
2	Section 9: Local Community Facilities	St Wilfrid's field doesn't get any money put into it! There isn't much children's equipment and people have been asking for some benches on there for years now. All money goes to the centres play area but there are lots of children that play on St Wilfrid's field.	Noted. Proposals to improve this area are included in the community aspirations section.	No change.
2	HA-4: Local Green Spaces	Keep as many as possible with no more planning for new houses like we were promised, otherwise we are going to become one with Lancaster and Caton.	Noted. Refer to objections by Lancaster City Council. Further consideration will be given to the LGS.	No change.
5	Section 9: Local Community Facilities	I think our community facilities are shrinking and the plan needs to be more ambitious and robust	Noted. This a planning policy document. Used for determining planning applications not an action plan. The PC would welcome more volunteers to help make the parish a better place to live in.	No change.

6	HA-9: High Quality Design	It would be ideal if any such developments were built in excess of current standards, potentially up to the Passive House standard.	Noted. Refer to the CELPR and new Local Plan for up-to-date policies on sustainability.	No change.
7	Section 8: Transport	Halton Park Estate have considered the proposed community aspirations for more public access. The proposals do not adequately reflect the practicalities of using proposed routes for transport, and the impact that an increased use of these routes would have on biodiversity and farming. We would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you.	Noted. Agreed to remove map of proposed footpaths since this may mislead the public into thinking that the paths exist. Clarify that proposed footpaths are aspirational routes that would need significant work and support to create them.	Appendix 8 moved to Ch. 10. Clarification added to the text and the maps removed.
7	Section 10: Community Aspirations	Halton Park Estate have considered the proposed community aspirations for more public access. The proposals do not adequately reflect the practicalities of using proposed routes for transport, and the impact that an increased use of these routes would have on biodiversity and farming. We would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you and are surprised at not being directly consulted given the proposal has potentially major impacts on the operation of our business.	Noted. Agreed to remove map of proposed footpaths since this may mislead the public into thinking that the paths exist. Clarify that proposed footpaths are aspirational routes that would need significant work and support to create them.	Appendix 8 moved to Ch. 10. Clarification added to the text and the maps removed.
7	HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	The community aspiration proposed (particularly public access) would directly interfere and detract from current (ongoing, long-standing) conservation projects in the proposed wildlife corridors. We do not believe this has been understood properly and would welcome an opportunity to discuss with you directly.	Noted. Agreed to remove map of proposed footpaths since this may mislead the public into thinking that the paths exist. Clarify that proposed footpaths are aspirational routes that would need significant work and support to create them.	Appendix 8 moved to Ch. 10. Clarification added to the text and the maps removed.
7	HA-5: Flooding	The current infrastructure is capable of managing a significant volume of rainwater only if it is maintained. This is particularly important in the case of roadside gullies. We support the initiative of making future infrastructure more 'resilient' but only on the condition that it and the current infrastructure is properly maintained.	Noted. Maintenance is not the responsibility of the PC, but it is worth mentioning the poor state.	Appendix 5, Paragraph 11 amended.
8	Section 3: Vision and Objectives, 14	"I like the visions statement, but in addition to protecting green spaces, I would also want to include an ambition to have more wildlife-rich green spaces within the parish (reflecting Objective 3) Objective 3 – p14. I would like to more about enhancing biodiversity, as well as protecting existing places of biological importance as follows:	Accepted. Agreed to add a reference to wildlife in the vision.	Paragraph 3.3, Objective 3 amended: Add 'Green spaces will support opportunities to enriched biodiversity wildlife in the parish' to the Vision (or similar).

		“To protect and enhance existing sites of biological importance including the remnants of ancient woodlands, to improve the wildlife value of other green spaces within the Parish, and to ensure opportunities are taken to link and extend green corridors through the villages and along the river		Replace Obj 3 with the wording suggested.
8	Section 3: Vision and Objectives, 14	Objective 8 – p15 Remove the word important, as this can be open to interpretation, and also include an ambition to enhance the wildlife value of green spaces: “To protect green spaces, and take opportunities to enhance their wildlife value”	Accepted.	Paragraph 3.3, Objective 8 amended as suggested.
8	Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment HA-1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character	Care needs to be taken with the use of the phrase ‘where feasible’ in drafting this policy, as it can be used as a get-out clause by developers. It is important to avoid using it for something you definitely don’t want to see eg building on ridge-lines and hill tops (2c)	Not accepted. It is not always feasible to deliver these proposals as it will depend on the type and scale of the development proposal. This wording adds flexibility.	No change.
8	Section 5: Conserving our Built Heritage	On Map 8 - Townscape maps – an important view and vista missing. The view from the top of the Quarry Hill bank from the bus stop and wall of the Old School carpark.	Noted. This map is reproduced from the CAA so cannot be edited. As and when the CAA is reviewed there may be an opportunity for changes such as this.	No change.
8	Section 6: Housing Need HA7 – Meeting local housing needs	I very much support this policy. However, I think that the final sentence should continue to make clear that development should be in appropriate locations. eg “In particular, the provision of affordable, smaller dwellings of up to 3 bedrooms in appropriate locations will be supported.	Noted. If this wording is added the NDP would need to define what is meant by ‘appropriate locations.’ The NDP already steers development away from areas of flood risk, identifies areas of constraint and protects local green spaces. Development proposals are all considered on their own merits.	No change.

8	HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	Careful with the use of 'where feasible' as it can be used as a get-out clause by developers. Avoid having it as a caveat for something you definitely don't want to see eg building on ridge-lines and hill tops (2c)	Not accepted; It is not always feasible to deliver these proposals as it will depend on the type and scale of the development proposal. This wordings adds flexibility. No change necessary.	No change.
8	HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	Support this policy, but development meeting these local needs also needs to be in appropriate locations. Therefore, the final sentence should read "In particular, the provision of affordable, smaller dwellings of up to 3 bedrooms in appropriate locations will be supported.	Noted. If this wording is added the NDP would need to define what is meant by 'appropriate locations.' The NDP already steers development away from areas of flood risk, identifies areas of constraint and protects local green spaces. Development proposals are all considered on their own merits.	No change.
8	Local Green Space Assessment Report	I am surprised that Hermitage Field Community Meadow by Crook of Lune was not included as one of the sites listed within the Local Green Space Assessment Report, (particularly as it is pictured on the front of the report!) It is an important recreational area within the Parish, owned by Lancaster City Council, and managed by a group of Trustees as a wildflower-rich meadow (see website https://hermitagefieldcommunitymeadow.com). It also has a good walking route with disabled access. Perhaps it is already included under SC3, but it is not shown on the map of these sites in the Green Space Assessment report. I understand why it has not been put forward for the further eligibility audit, because of the existing protection, but it would be good to see it listed somewhere within the DNP as a wildlife-rich Green Space, important to local people and managed by an active community group,	Agreed: Add it to the assessment table in the green space report.	Reference 34 added to spaces assessed in the Local Green Space Assessment Report.
9	HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	We should resist incremental urban sprawl encroaching into the surrounding areas of open countryside	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
9	HA-2: Protecting	Not enough emphasis is placed on the Lune Gorge/River Biological heritage site status when considering local developments	Accepted. Agreed to provide more justification if needed.	LGS-B: Lune Riverbank, Local Green Space Assessment Report amended.

	and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity			
9	HA-3: Area of Separation	This is important to maintain. The identify of the village as a separate place from Lancaster	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
9	HA-4: Local Green Spaces	LGS-B, LGS-C, LGS-D, LGS-F are the most important spaces to include. They are significant landscape features in the village.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
9	HA-6: Protecting Historic Character	I support the inclusion of the proposed non-designated heritage assets especially Denny Beck Bridge.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
9	HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	I support the conclusions of the 2019 Housing Needs Survey. Any future development in the village should contribute to meeting the local needs.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
9	HA-10: Active Travel	Traffic congestion on parts of High Rd and though the Lyth Fell estate need to be addressed.	Agreed: Add reference to High Road and Lythe Fell in aspirations.	Paragraph 10.6 updated.
9	HA-11: Community Facilities	The library needs substantial work to improve it, otherwise we could lose it	Accepted: Add to community aspirations.	Paragraph 10.14 updated.
9	Local Green Space Assessment Report	Very comprehensive	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
9	Landscape Character Assessment for Halton (EPD, May 2023)	The setting of Carus House in the wider landscape needs to be preserved. I would like to see the Greenbelt extended to cover this area.	Noted. Green Belt is a strategic matter for the Local Plan Review.	No change.
10	HA-4: Local Green Spaces	There should not be any special circumstances	Not accepted; the wording is in-line with national policy for Green Belts. No change necessary.	No change.

12	Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment	More footpaths needed. More wildlife corridors	Noted. Refer to community aspirations section.	No change.
12	Section 6: Housing Need	Already far too many large expensive new houses. Affordable housing is a priority.	Noted. The NDP promotes more affordable and smaller houses.	No change.
12	Section 8: Transport	Better bus services in the evenings and weekend needed before more houses built.	Noted. The PC will supports the need to improve bus services including in the evenings.	No change.
12	HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	Already too many large expensive houses in Halton. Affordable housing is a priority.	Noted. The NDP promotes more affordable and smaller houses.	No change.
12	HA-10: Active Travel	More and better bus services evenings and weekends needed. More footpaths needed.	Noted. The PC will supports the need to improve bus services including in the evenings.	No change.
14	Section 9: Local Community Facilities	I am concerned that the library is not getting enough maintenance. Can any more pressure be exerted?	Accepted: Add to community aspirations.	Paragraph 10.14 updated.
14	HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	Especially like: 1b & c, 2c, 3b & c	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
14	HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	Generally good. I would like to see more control over new housing estates putting in "wild-flower meadows" without sufficient planning control over a) establishment guidelines and b) maintenance. I am in favour of successful wild-flower meadows.	Noted. Maintenance issues should be addressed through the development management process. Often volunteers can take over local management of green spaces if landowners support this.	No change.
14	HA-3: Area of Separation	Could you require developers to follow advice given by a wild-flower meadows expert?	Noted. Developers may take advice from ecologists and landscape consultants.	No change.

14	HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	Very important for older people to be able to remain where they know other people. If there were smaller homes locally so they could move, then their larger homes would be available for families	Noted. The NDP promotes more affordable and smaller houses.	No change.
14	HA-11: Community Facilities	I like points a) & b). Can anything be added to ensure buildings are properly maintained?	Noted. Maintenance is the responsibility of building owners and occupiers.	No change.
15	Section 2: A Description of Halton- with-Aughton Parish	There is no mention of the Mill re: leisure/social/employments opportunities which I would have expected to have been referenced	Agreed: Add reference in the description.	Paragraph 2.9 updated to insert additional wording about the Mill.
15	Section 3: Vision and Objectives	Suggest adding to vision and objectives re: protecting historical core of the village.	Accepted.	Vision amended to add reference to protecting the historic core to the vision.
15	HA-3: Area of Separation	This is important to preserve the village.	Agreed to no change	No change.
15	HA-6: Protecting Historic Character	There has been significant development over last few years. Plan is coming late in the day but can it be reflected that future development kept tight and with village not drifting, .e.g. concerns re: further development up Arrow Lane, etc.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
15	HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	Suggestion to look at stronger wording "Proposals for new development should not be permitted unless they demonstrate..."	Not accepted; planning policies have to be positively worded. No change necessary.	No change.
15	HA-9: High Quality Design	Concern that recent new developments do not respect the traditional local character	Noted. Hopefully the NDP will encourage higher quality design which respects the local context in the future.	No change.
15	HA-11: Community Facilities	What about commercial facilities - there appears to be nothing to ensure protection of existing commercial facilities, shops, pubs, café, etc.	Noted. The SG discussed this as a potential theme of the NDP but decided that the Local Plan policies adequately address these matters and there was little that the NDP could add.	No change.

16	HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	With the buildings already encroaching on the visual impacts of the local landscape, essential to prevent further damage to the landscape	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
16	HA-3: Area of Separation	These areas are important to the residents	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
16	HA-5: Flooding	Measures need to be taken to minimise all risk of flooding especially after Storm Desmond when the village was virtually inaccessible for a number of days	Noted. The NDP includes policies and proposals to help tackle flooding.	No change.
16	HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	Any future housing must be based on the housing needs survey of smaller affordable housing to address the needs of the residents. There are not longer any smaller properties to downsize to.	Noted. The NDP supports more smaller sized housing.	No change.
16	HA-11: Community Facilities	These facilities are vital to village life and must be protected.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
16	Local Green Space Assessment Report	Fantastic report.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
17	Section 2: A Description of Halton- with-Aughton Parish	Mainly agree. I use facilities/activities at the Mill, a facility in the village that needs highlighting.	Agreed: Add reference in the description.	Paragraph 2.9 updated to insert additional wording about the Mill.
17	HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	Crucial when considering any further development	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
17	HA-3: Area of Separation	Essential if the village is to retain it's independent identity.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.

17	HA-6: Protecting Historic Character	Much of the recent development doesn't appear to have taken this into account. Needs to be a strong criteria for any future development.	Noted. The NDP can only be used to inform decisions about development in the future, when it is adopted.	No change.
17	HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	Future proposals need to clarify specific needs being met, purpose of development of housing	Noted. Developers should refer to the policy when determining house types and sizes in development proposals.	No change.
17	HA-11: Community Facilities	Safeguarding of these facilities is the future, particularly in an extending community.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
18	HA-4: Local Green Spaces LGS-B – Dale Wood	Ref: LGS-B We wish to bring to the urgent attention of the Parish Council an entry of erroneous factual misinformation in relation to Dale Wood (refs LGS/ B) in the proposed neighbourhood plan in respect of green spaces. The areas of Dale Wood are private land with no rights for public access. The land at Dale Wood, to the west of Cote Beck, and to the rear of St Wilfrid's Church is owned by ourselves. We own the deeds and rights to this land. Our land does not have public access. The plan incorrectly states that our land is available to be used by walkers. This is an assumption, and we formally inform the parish council that public access to this land is not permitted, and there is no legal nor public right of way here, either currently or in the past. We would be grateful for the erroneous implication that our land is a public and usable space to be rectified as a matter of urgency.	Accepted. Agreed that EN7 provides sufficient protection.	Local Green Space Assessment to remove it since it has EN7 protection
19	HA-4: Local Green Spaces LGS-C – Lune Riverbank	With reference to the 'LGS-C: Lune Riverbank - Halton Bridge to Halton Mill'. We are currently in negotiations with United Utilities regarding the plot near Halton Bridge and if that negotiation fails we have another interested party for the site so we would strongly object to any restriction on this plot. However we have no objections to the land on the river bank. <After clarification> Yes our only concern is the old lawnmower site.	Accepted	Boundary of area updated to remove the old lawnmower site.

20	HA-4: Local Green Spaces	<p>We are in receipt of your letter informing us that, in your draft Neighbourhood Plan, you are seeking protection from development status for two local green spaces owned by Lancaster Cohousing, namely Forge Wood (LGS-F) and Lune river bank between Halton Mill and Denny Beck Bridge (*LGS-C). Lancaster Cohousing supports the Parish Council in seeking protection for these two green spaces. Both places are crucial parts of the network of green and riparian corridors so essential in maintaining biodiversity in the village. We therefore welcome their inclusion in the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	Noted and accepted.	<p>New paragraph 4.37:</p> <p>‘The NPWG invited landowners to comment informally on the proposed LGS as part of the informal consultation on the emerging Draft Plan in Spring 2024. The landowner of sites C and F supported their inclusion in the NDP and noted that the two areas form crucial parts of the network of green and riparian corridors so essential in maintaining biodiversity in the village.’</p>
21	Landscape and Natural Environment	<p>Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)</p> <p>It is Natural England’s advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely; and, • significant effects on Habitats sites, either alone or in combination, are unlikely. <p>The proposed neighbourhood plan is unlikely to significantly affect any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection areas (SPA), Ramsar wetland or sites in the process of becoming SACs or SPAs (‘candidate SACs’, ‘possible SACs’, ‘potential SPAs’) or a Ramsar wetland. The plan area is unlikely to have a significant effect on a National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast, and is unlikely to impact upon the purposes for which these areas are designated or defined.</p>	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
22	Conserving our Built Heritage	<p>In the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 [Annex II of SEA Directive], and on the basis of the information supplied, it is considered that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects upon the historic environment, and so Historic England concur with your conclusion that SEA is not required.</p>	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.

23	Landscape and Natural Environment	Thank you for consulting us on the draft HRA and SEA screening reports for the Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan. We have reviewed the SEA screening report dated February 2024 and agree with your conclusion that no further work will be required for the SEA.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
24	HA-5: Flooding	<p>Policy HA-5 Flooding</p> <p>The Lead Local Flood Authority generally support the principles contained within the policy to manage specific flooding issues in the neighbourhood plan area, which go beyond the adopted policies within Lancaster City Council's Local Plan. However, we would urge the parish council to consider the following amendments to make the policy more robust and unlock some of the opportunities presented by new development in the neighbourhood to deliver the measures contained within the Halton Initial Assessment Flood Risk Management Study (B2327FF1-JUK-ZZ-HA-RP-Z-1201, P02, February 2020, Jacobs) (hereafter referred to as the 'flood risk management study').</p> <p><See 24a, 24b, 24c></p> <p>The parish council is urged to consider opportunities to deliver these options through the neighbourhood plan. Alternative funding mechanisms may be available by using opportunities provided by new development and improvements in green and other infrastructure to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding, (making as much use as possible of natural flood management techniques as part of an integrated approach to flood risk management).</p> <p>For example, the parish council may encourage new development in areas identified to privately fund and deliver, or contribute towards, the 'do-something' options identified, in line with paragraph 167c of the National Planning Policy Framework, where the parish council consider this appropriate, reasonable, and justified. These areas may need to be identified on a map within the neighbourhood plan. It should be made clear that any such opportunities must be considered in addition to the incorporation of sustainable drainage systems to manage the runoff generated by new development, in line with paragraph 173c of the National Planning Policy Framework.</p>	<p>Noted:</p> <p>The PC does not intend to identify areas suitable for development in the NDP.</p> <p>However, the NDP could be strengthened by amending the Policy to encourage development proposals to take opportunities to contribute towards the 'do something' options where they are located in areas that could impact.</p>	<p>Policy HA-5 amended:</p> <p>2. Safeguard the sites of the 'Do something' Flood Risk Management Options 1 to 3 from development, to ensure they are available for future potential flood mitigation schemes identified in the Flood Risk Management Study, Halton Initial Assessment 2020, when and if funding becomes available for implementation.</p> <p>'3. Take opportunities to support the delivery of one or more of the 'Do something' options where they are located in areas which would benefit from improved flood management schemes, including those areas identified on Map X.' Such opportunities must be considered in addition to the incorporation of sustainable drainage systems to manage the runoff generated by new development</p> <p>Amend typo in former 3: 'tot' should be 'to'</p>

24a	HA-5: Flooding	<p>The parish council should consider splitting the policy into two sections; policies which apply to the whole of the neighbourhood plan area, and policies which apply Halton Initial Assessment Flood Risk Management Study specifically to the Halton study area, as identified in Figure 1-1 of the flood risk management study, or that drain into this study area. This area may need to be defined on a map within the neighbourhood plan. Without sufficient justification and evidence, it is not appropriate to apply policies which are specific to the flood risk management study area to the whole neighbourhood plan area.</p> <p>Alternatively, the parish council may consider policies DM33 and DM34 of the adopted Lancaster Local Plan (July 2020) (or of the emerging Climate Emergency Local Plan Review) sufficient for the whole neighbourhood plan area, in which case, it should be made clear that policy HA-5 is only applicable to the Halton study area due to the specific known issues identified in the flood risk management study.</p>	<p>Accepted.</p> <p>Agreed to keep: All development proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan Area should be designed to minimise flood risk and take opportunities to reduce flood risk.</p> <p>Agreed with rest of comments</p>	<p>Policy HA-5 amended:</p> <p>Given the evidence of flood risk in Halton village, development proposals 'in the area identified in Map X (reproduced from Figure 1-1: Halton study area in the Flood Risk Management Study Lancashire County Council Halton Initial Assessment, February 2020' will be expected to:</p> <p>1. Be designed to minimise flood risk and take opportunities to reduce flood risk'</p> <p>Insert Fig 1.1 from p4 of the flood report as a new map in the NDP.</p> <p>Map of Flood Study Area added.</p>
24b	HA-5: Flooding	<p>Point 1 of Policy HA-5 – This states that development proposals will be expected to avoid areas at risk of flooding from all sources. This needs clearly defining, as all areas are at risk of flooding to some degree, even if this is very low. It is recommended this is clarified to apply only to areas at risk of flooding in the design flood event. This is defined by paragraph 002 of the Planning Practice Guidance and includes an appropriate allowance for climate change.</p>		<p>Policy HA-5 amended: Amend former Part 1 Now Part 2):</p> <p>Avoid areas at risk of flooding from all sources in the design flood event;'</p>
24c	HA-5: Flooding	<p>Point 2 of Policy HA-5 - While we support the principle of safeguarding land for current or future flood risk management, in line with paragraph 167b of the National Planning Policy Framework, we would urge the parish council to consider if this is a reasonable approach. The parish council should account for the fact that the options identified would currently not attract 100% funding through national Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant-in-Aid, which is available to the flood risk management authorities to take the options forward, and that the options identified within the flood risk management study are only indicative, not a commitment to pursue any action requiring the land identified.</p>	<p>Not accepted.</p> <p>It is still important to safeguard these areas for the future.</p>	<p>No change.</p>

24d	HA-5: Flooding	Point 3 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council may wish to expand on this to identify such opportunities for flood risk mitigation measures, for example, the use of natural flood management measures ⁵ in addition to the inclusion of sustainable drainage systems to manage the runoff generated by new development.	<Accidental oversight when reviewing – see review of Formal Consultation comments>	
24e	HA-5: Flooding	Point 4 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council should clarify the areas meant by the "existing overloaded network of surface water drains and culverts" and the basis on which this has been identified. For example, the drawing contained within Appendix E of the flood risk management study (Halton drainage network capacity during 1.3% AEP event)? This may need to be included as a map within the neighbourhood plan. This point should also be changed to "...avoiding discharging any additional flows...". In some instances, it may not be reasonably practicable for new development to avoid discharging any flows into the network identified, for example, to comply with the hierarchy of drainage options set out in the Planning Practice Guidance ³ and Policy DM34 of the adopted Lancaster Local Plan ² , where the alternative options are less sustainable (e.g., combined sewer). There is a risk with the proposed wording that new development will instead be encouraged to discharge flows into other systems which did not previously receive it, potentially generating new and unknown issues. In these cases, the parish council may wish to expand on point 4, insofar that where a discharge into the "existing overloaded network of surface water drains and culverts" cannot be avoided, development discharging into this network must take measures to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding, such as through over attenuation and restricted discharge rates below the minimum standards set out in the Defra Technical Standards for SuDS. Further examples of such measures are included within paragraph 063 of the National Planning Practice Guidance.	<Accidental oversight when reviewing – see review of Formal Consultation comments>	
24f	HA-5: Flooding	Point 5 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council should amend the language 'excess flows' to 'exceedance flows' for consistency with The SuDS Manual (C753) ⁶ and the national Defra Technical Standards for SuDS ⁷ (standard S9). This point should also be changed to "...will not cause increased off-site flooding..." in line with paragraph 173 of the National Planning Policy Framework.	<Accidental oversight when reviewing – see review of Formal Consultation comments>	

24g	HA-5: Flooding	Point 6 of Policy HA-5 – We fully support the inclusion of interception and source control SuDS components to minimise runoff from sites during everyday rainfall events (e.g., permeable paving, water butts and blue roofs) on new development. The parish council should be aware that the Lead Local Flood Authority does not consider source control components towards the overall attenuation volume on proposed developments required to manage the design flood (1% annual exceedance probability + climate change, as defined by the Planning Practice Guidance ³), as there is no guarantee that such components will remain in place over the lifetime of the development where they could be removed or replaced by private property owners, and such components are frequently saturated during extreme rainfall events.	<Accidental oversight when reviewing – see review of Formal Consultation comments>	
24 Other a	HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	We support point 5c of this policy which aims to re-naturalise culverted watercourses. This is consistent with the county council's ordinary watercourse regulation policy OWC28 and will enable the development of improved blue-green corridors within the neighbourhood	<Accidental oversight when reviewing – see review of Formal Consultation comments>	
24 Other b	General	In every instance, the parish council must minimise the risk of individual people (particularly private landowners) being identifiable through reference to the flood risk management study, in order to comply with the obligations of the county council and the parish council set out in the Data Protection Act 2018.	<Accidental oversight when reviewing – see review of Formal Consultation comments>	
25		We have not had sight of the policies map so have been unable to comment on this. An issue that keeps arising is the impact that the frequent changes to the NPPF are having on paragraph numbers and references in the plan. It isn't necessary, but you may wish to remove reference to paragraph numbers or perhaps put them in footnotes with a caveat that they are the paragraph numbers at the time of writing.	Accepted. Need mapping information from Lancaster City Council for the adopted policies. Park for now. Might need a series of maps	Complete and insert Policies Map once all changes approved. Add footnote to 1.7 to say all refs to NPPF were correct at time of printing (give date) and refer to the most recent version at that time (Dec 2023),
25	Section 1: Introduction and Background	Parish Council Actions and Community Aspirations It would be worth adding a couple of paragraphs about the outcome of other consultation. Do the responses continue to validate these concerns and aspirations?	Accepted.	Paragraphs 1.29 – 1.34 amended or added. Update para 1.31. Summarise consultation process in Spring 2024 and changes to the Draft Plan arising from this. Figure 2 updated

25	Section 3: Vision and Objectives	This section could do with updating to show that the vision/objectives reflect subsequent engagement and feedback.	Accepted.	Paragraph 3.3 amended.
25	HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	There isn't reference to a map showing the policy areas either within the supporting text or the policy. The 3 policies areas in HA-1 should be included on the policies map so that the relevant criteria can be identified for each site coming forward.	Accepted.	Policies Map added. Add 3 areas to Policies Map (11 Valley Floodplains, 12 Low Coastal Drumlins and 13 Drumlin Fields)
25	HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	Criteria 2 of Policy HA-2 has been amended to refer directly to policy DM44 of the Local Plan. However, this may change in the future. It would be worth adding a caveat such as, 'or any future policy'.	Accepted.	Policy HA-2 amended: Add 'or any future policy' to end of first sentence of Part 2.
25	HA-3: Area of Separation	The concerns raised previously about the duplication of the local plan policy and lack of evidence to support an additional designation remain. If you decide to proceed, the Council is unlikely to object to the policy but If the Inspector specifically asks our opinion, we will need to advise of these concerns.	Noted. This is an important matter locally and the SG and PC would like to see the policy retained in the NDP.	No change.
25	HA-4: Local Green Spaces	<p>The Council recognises that our advice in terms of providing further information and explanation for the detailed analysis section has been taken on board, but we still have some concerns in relation to how the assessment conclusions have been reached. The National Planning Practice Guidance sets out that 'different types of designations are intended to achieve different purposes. If land is already protected by designation, then consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space'.</p> <p>As acknowledged within your report, there are a number of sites which are already designated via other policies within the Local Plan, such as policy SC3 Open Space, Recreation and Leisure, and from the assessments the additional local benefit that a Local Green Space designation would provide is not clear. Additionally, there are a number of sites where the extent to which they satisfy the criteria set out in paragraph 106 of the NPPF is not clear.</p> <p>See document 25. Official Body - LPA Comments 30.4.24 for detailed response to each Proposed Green Space.</p>	<p>Local Green Space designation provides a little more protection than SC3.</p> <p>Agreed to review and consider each proposed Local Green Space with respect to the comments from the LPA.</p>	No change.

25	HA-4: Local Green Spaces LGS A – St Wilfrid’s Park Play Area	Site is already designated under policy SC3 – protected open space. It’s not clear how this site is demonstrably special in comparison to other play areas across the District to warrant Local Green Space designation. Assessment conclusion suggests reason for designation relates more to concerns around land ownership. It is recommended that this site is removed from the policy.	Noted. Agreed to retain since it is an important green space to the village.	Local Green Space Assessment updated to add justification that it provides accessible space to houses. Heart of family housing. Looking to enhance. If re-provided elsewhere it would not provide the same benefit. List the equipment. Dog walking.
25	HA-4: Local Green Spaces LGS B – Dale Wood	Site is already designated under policy SC3 and also policy EN7 as protected Ancient Woodland. It also covers quite an extensive tract of land. It is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space.	Accepted. Agreed that EN7 provides sufficient protection.	Local Green Space Assessment to remove it since it has EN7 protection
25	HA-4: Local Green Spaces LGS C – Lune Riverbank	The assessment demonstrates how the site fulfils the Local Green designation. The heritage value could perhaps be emphasised more. However, it is not clear how parcel 27a meets the criteria as it is not all area is green space.	Accepted.	Local Green Space Assessment updated to provide further justification. Boundary of area updated to remove the old lawnmower site. Additional photos added.
25	HA-4: Local Green Spaces LGS D – Wooded Bank above Recreation Area	The site is already designated under policy SC3 – protected open space. From the assessment the site provides more of a green corridor function, rather than fulfilling demonstrably special criteria of a Local Green Space designation. So, the Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space. It is recommended that this site is removed from the policy.	Noted. Agreed to retain since it is an important green space to the village.	Local Green Space Assessment updated to highlight its function as a wildlife corridor. Additional photo added.
25	HA-4: Local Green Spaces LGS E – Town End Farm Field	Whilst the heritage value of this site is recognised, the NPPF is clear that a Local Green Space needs to be demonstrably special to the community it serves and hold a particular local significance. Whilst not disputing the value of this field the Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space for historic significance.	Noted. Agreed to retain since it is an important green space to the village and has a historical aspect.	Local Green Space Assessment updated to highlight the historical significance. Additional photo added.
25	HA-4: Local Green Spaces LGS F – Forge Wood	Having been out to visit this site it did feel more like a green corridor, and with unclear/ hard to see boundaries, an extensive tract of land. The Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space.	Noted. Agreed to retain since it is an important green space to the village. Need to emphasise the wildlife corridor.	Local Green Space Assessment updated to highlight its importance as a wildlife corridor. Additional photos added.

25	HA-4: Local Green Spaces LGS G – Land North of the Lune between Halton Lune Hydro and Green Beck	Having been out to visit this site, it felt quite far away and separate from the local community, and so not local in character. The site also covers quite an extensive tract of land, again providing more of a green corridor function. The Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space.	Accepted. Agreed to remove since half of the site is covered by the AONB and is not developable.	Local Green Space Assessment to remove it since it has partial AONB protection
25	HA-5: Flooding	The areas to be protected by the policy should be clearly shown on the policies map.	Accepted	Policies Map added.
26	Section 2, Introduction, 2.1	Paragraph 2.1 – delete final sentence and add a new paragraph as follows: Aughton forms a separate township within the parish of Halton with Aughton. It consists of some 55 residences of which 29 form a loose grouping around the church and recreation room, with the remainder dispersed around the township, including a hamlet of 10 dwellings at Middle Highfield. The core of the village retains much of its 17th century character and apart from a small number of barn conversions there has been no significant development for at least the last two decades.	Accepted	Aughton forms a separate township within the parish of Halton with Aughton. It consists of some 55 residences of which 29 form a loose grouping around the church and recreation room, with the remainder dispersed around the township, including a hamlet of 10 dwellings at Middle Highfield. The core of the village retains much of its 17th century character and apart from a small number of barn conversions there has been no significant development for at least the last two decades.

26	Section 2, Introduction, 2.7	Paragraph 2.7 – delete and replace as follows: Aughton Recreation Room was built by local farming families in 1923 to provide a social and community space within the historic township of Aughton and has been run as a registered charity since 2009. The trustees hire out the premises for private functions to create an income to subsidise community events and recreational activities at what has become known as ‘Aughton Village Hall’. The Hall is closely associated with the Vale of Lune Young Farmers Club.bd	Accepted	Paragraph 2.10 amended: Aughton Recreation Room was built by local farming families in 1923 to provide a social and community space within the historic township of Aughton and has been run as a registered charity since 2009. The trustees hire out the premises for private functions to create an income to subsidise community events and recreational activities at what has become known as ‘Aughton Village Hall’. The Hall is closely associated with the Vale of Lune Young Farmers Club
26	Section 2, Introduction, 2.10	Paragraph 2.10 – delete and replace as follows: The nearest train stations are at Carnforth and Lancaster. There are buses that run through Halton to Carnforth, Lancaster and via Caton through the Lune Valley, however, the eastern two-thirds of the parish is completely devoid of any public transport, leaving those residents of Aughton with no access to a private motor vehicle effectively trapped within the village	Accepted	Paragraph 2.11 amended: ‘The nearest train stations are at Carnforth and Lancaster. There are buses that run through Halton to Carnforth, Lancaster and via Caton through the Lune Valley, however, the eastern two-thirds of the parish has no public transport, leaving those residents of Aughton with very limited travel choices.’
26	Section 2, Introduction, 2.11	Paragraph 2.11 – delete and replace as follows: There are several public rights of way within the Parish [see Map 11 on page 76] including a renowned circular route included in many published Guidebooks from the Crook of Lune to Aughton via the Highfields and returning via the banks of the Lune. Both the National Route 69 of the National Cycle Network and Lancashire Cycleway Northen Loop [90] pass through the Parish.	Accepted	Paragraph 2.12 amended: There are several public rights of way within the Parish [see Map 11 on page 76] including a renowned circular route included in many published Guidebooks from the Crook of Lune to Aughton via the Highfields and returning via the banks of the Lune. Both the National Route 69 of the National Cycle Network and Lancashire Cycleway Northen Loop [90] pass through the Parish.

26	Section 3, Vision and Objectives	<p>Whilst it is difficult to disagree with anything contained in the statement of Vision set out at p.14 of the document, the statement as written lacks vitality and does not capture any sense that the NDP is a plan for the future. Rather it comes over as something very static, giving the impression that the vision of the parish is simply to try and ensure that everything stays exactly as it is. There is no sense, for example, of a parish which wants to exploit all the natural advantages it enjoys (location, environment, history etc ...) as a tremendous location for people to live, work or spend their leisure time. It may be, of course, that the constraints of this particular planning process militate against the injection of sparks of vitality into the document.</p> <p>The current Vision Statement reads: In 2031 local people will value and conserve their rural setting with its beauty and tranquillity. The broad views across and along the Lune Valley of fells, woodland and open fields are protected. The green undulating hills continue to provide a strong feeling of living in a rural landscape, whilst the motte and bailey on Castle Hill and the surrounding Conservation Area are a focus for appreciation of the history of the parish. Halton-with-Aughton has a strong sense of community, and parishioners enjoy a range of venues for social activities.</p> <p>A more focused and engaging version might read: In 2031 local people will value the place where they live as a place where they want to bring up their families and take advantage of the many opportunities the locality affords. Halton with Aughton will have vibrant and engaged communities, enjoying to the full the advantages of its rural location. Its history, country landscapes and tranquillity will provide the backdrop to the best of rural life.</p>	Partially accepted.	<p>Vision updated: 'In 2031 local people will value Halton-with Aughton as a place where they want to bring up their families and take advantage of the many opportunities the locality affords.</p> <p>The rural setting with its beauty and tranquillity will be conserved. The broad views across and along the Lune Valley of fells, woodland and open green fields will continue to provide a strong feeling of living in a rural landscape, whilst the motte and bailey on Castle Hill and the surrounding Conservation Area remain a focus for appreciation of the history of the parish.</p> <p>Halton-with-Aughton will have vibrant and engaged communities and parishioners will enjoy a range of venues for social activities and the best of rural life.'</p>
26	HA 1: Enhancing landscape	<p>These factors are especially important in Aughton where preservation of its rural character, including dark skies, is essential. Aughton is situated in the Forest of Bowland AONB (now known as National Landscapes) and its only services are water, electricity and B4RN internet connections. There is no mains drainage, gas supply or public transport. All these factors severely restrict development potential.</p>	Accepted	<p>Policy HA-1 amended: 'Development proposals in Aughton will be expected to avoid unnecessary light pollution and protect the area's dark skies.'</p>

26	HA 2: Natural environment	<p>Although the surrounding landscape quality is high, with excellent views from Aughton across the Lune valley and beyond, much of the land within the township is of poor quality and would benefit from proactive policies for improvement. Roads are mostly narrow and verges poorly drained. This means that large farm vehicles are frequently forced on to the verges creating large ruts and destroying habitat. This frustrates attempts to create environmentally rich verges and hedgerows. Many of the verge and hedgerow trees are ash, with most now dead or dying. These need to be removed and replaced with disease-resistant native trees. Surrounding farmland is heavily grazed with sheep and cattle and thus lacks biodiversity. The Parish should encourage and (if possible) help farmers to utilise grant schemes to plant more woodland, restore hedgerows and move towards more sustainable regenerative farming practices.</p>	<p>Noted. These are not really planning policy matters, but the issues can be added to the community aspirations section.</p>	<p>Paragraphs 10.26 & 10.27 amended: Rural Land Management</p> <p>To work with landowners and farmers to protect verges and hedgerows from large farm machinery and to encourage schemes for improved management of existing hedgerows and new hedgerow planting.</p> <p>To work with farmers and landowners to access funding for environmental improvement schemes.</p>
26	HA 4: Green spaces	<p>As most of the land around Aughton is in private ownership and is actively farmed there is limited scope for developing designated public green spaces. The small village green at the centre of the village is a possible candidate.</p> <p>The Local Green Space Assessment Report April 2024 is noted and commended. It is important that in the larger village of Halton, where the majority of the parishioners reside, there should be protection of those green spaces identified.</p>	<p>Noted. Agreed to make reference to the village green in description of Aughton.</p>	<p>Paragraph 2.2 amended</p>

26	HA 5: Flooding	<p>The lack of funding and action in response to the Flood Risk Management Study, Halton Initial Assessment 2020 is noted with disappointment and concern, given the identified flood risk and potential for mitigation via 'Do-something' options which it identified.</p> <p>Surface water flooding is also a potential problem in Aughton due mainly to very poor maintenance of the drains and culverts that exist. A particular concern is the extent to which flood water accumulates in the dip on the road between Halton and Aughton, adjacent to Pikethorn Wood and Monkley Gill Wood. After heavy rain this can become almost impassable.</p> <p>These problems across both villages will only become more urgent as intense rainfall events become more common.</p>	Noted.	<p>Appendix 5: Paragraphs 10-12 amended: 'During the informal consultation on the emerging Draft Plan in Spring 2024 flooding problems in Aughton were also noted.</p> <p>Surface water flooding is a potential problem in Aughton due mainly to very poor maintenance of the drains and culverts that exist. A particular concern is the extent to which flood water accumulates in the dip on the road between Halton and Aughton, adjacent to Pikethorn Wood and Monkley Gill Wood. After heavy rain this can become almost impassable.</p> <p>These problems across both villages will only become more urgent as intense rainfall events become more common.</p>
26	HA 6: Housing and development	While recognizing the need for affordable rural housing, the distinctive rural and historic nature of Aughton, together with its location within the AONB and its lack of main services mean that there is very limited scope for any future housing development	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.

26	HA 10, Active travel	<p>The countryside around Aughton offers many opportunities for active leisure travel, including travel on foot, by bike and on horseback. Moreover, the lack of public transport means that, in some instances, cycling or walking may also be used for utility travel. However, there are several factors that inhibit the use of local roads and footpaths for active travel. The narrow roads mean that pedestrians are often forced on to verges by large farm vehicles but, as noted above, these are in very poor condition due to poor drainage and traffic encroaching on verges. Off-road footpaths are also in extremely poor condition. Maintenance of footpaths has been neglected for many years so that conditions underfoot are very poor, stiles are unsafe and in some instances the stiles are completely missing. These factors all act as disincentives to active travel on local roads and footpaths. Any policy to increase active travel must address these issues.</p> <p>The situation in relation to traffic passing through Halton needs to be made very much safer - not quicker - for all road users. If the aspirational statements contained in the NDP about encouraging uptake in walking and cycling are to mean anything, then there needs to be radical, and not fragmentary, change to traffic management in the larger village. Recent traffic calming measures seem to be almost completely ineffective and much bolder steps need to be taken to make any progress on the aspirations of reducing private car use in, and through the village. An approach to traffic management, which prioritises the needs of pedestrians, rather than motorists, would completely change the nature of the centre of Halton and would make it a much more pleasant place for residents. A particular concern in Aughton relates to the speed with which some traffic comes along Kirkby Lonsdale Road and Aughton Road. Only lower speed limits on rural roads and effective enforcement will solve this problem.</p> <p>We also have real concerns about the lack of effective winter gritting on rural roads, especially down the steep hills in and out of Aughton. In icy or snowy conditions these become very unsafe, there have been several (so far) minor accidents, and some services (for instance taxis) have refused to come to Aughton in winter weather because of the state of the roads.</p> <p>Halton is an unsafe place to be a cyclist and may also be unsafe, at least on some parts of the High Road, to be a pedestrian. The needs of cyclists and pedestrians within the parish are of widespread significance - yet, surprisingly, little more</p>	Noted. Agreed to add to the Community Aspirations.	Paragraphs 10.9 & 10.25 amended.
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		<p>attention is given to them in the NDP than is given to the needs of horse riders. The NDP would be strengthened - and made much more forward-looking – by greater attention to this issue.</p> <p>The plan should contain much stronger statements about the complete lack of any accessibility to public transport in the Eastern part of the Halton with Aughton parish. The NDP needs to set out an unequivocal position in relation to the availability of some public transport, however limited, to the further flung reaches of the parish. Young people, as well as those who are older, need access to public transport and young families are discouraged from living in places like Aughton if there is simply no public transport at all. More generally, we have an ageing population as a nation, but especially in rural areas and villages. The availability of public transport to all is important and its need should be advocated in the NDP.</p>		
26	10. Community Aspirations 10.16	<p>Footpaths [Paragraph 10.16 and Appendix 8]</p> <p>The aspirational new paths are a good idea, however, insufficient emphasis is given within the NDP to consideration of what action needs to be taken in order to protect the Public Rights of Way which do exist. Most footpaths accessed from Aughton are in poor condition and stiles are broken or in some cases missing. It is essential that existing and new footpaths are maintained.</p>	Noted. Agreed to add to the Community Aspirations.	Paragraph 10.25 amended
26	10. Community Aspirations, 10.11	<p>Para 10.11 Community Facilities</p> <p>The trustees of Aughton Recreation Room have an active programme of improvements to the hall using a mixture of grant funding, own funds and volunteer assistance.</p>	Noted. Agreed to add to the Community Aspirations.	Paragraph 10.13 amended
26	General Comments	<p>Sustainable energy</p> <p>Although not mentioned at all in the draft plan, there is considerable potential for the generation of renewable energy from wind and solar within the Aughton township. Although there is need to be aware of the landscape impact of such schemes, we would encourage consideration of a community-based renewable energy scheme in Aughton.</p> <p>There is also a need to provide public access electric car charging points throughout the Parish.</p>	Noted. Agreed that this issue is covered by the Climate Emergency aspect of Local Plan. We have the hydro scheme.	No change.

26	General Comments	<p>General Observations</p> <p>In many respects the draft plan is a very detailed document which is complementary to, and integrated with, other local and sub-regional planning and policy documents. As such it is quite difficult in places to extract key messages from the detail of the document. A one-page Executive Summary would provide focus and would highlight the important objectives contained in the plan.</p> <p>Without a specialised knowledge and understanding of the overall documentary context it is not altogether clear what the respective limits and constraints on the plan might be. For example, while there is some coverage of planning and transport issues in relation to home-working and minimising the use of private cars, there is no wider analysis of the development of the locality as a place where working within its boundaries might be encouraged and developed, building on the development and accessibility of transport links (road and rail), modern communication technologies and the ready availability of high quality educational facilities. Much is made of the importance of geomorphological features which lie outside the boundary of Halton with Aughton, but no mention is made of the world class university on its doorstep.</p>	<p>Noted. No change necessary since the NDP sits within a higher-level planning policy framework at the Lancaster City Council level. Refer to the Local Plan. NDP policies cannot duplicate or be in conflict with these higher-level policies and NDPs can only address matters within the designated neighbourhood plan area boundary.</p>	<p>No change.</p>
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26	General Comments	<p>Responding to the climate emergency In January 2020 the Director of Policy for the Town and Country Planning Association wrote:</p> <p>‘Climate change is the single biggest threat to the future of our society and dealing with its implications has to be at the heart of all Neighbourhood plans. The growing and severe impacts of climate change mean that any plan made now that does not consider radical reductions in carbon and help build our resilience to things like flooding will simply not be fit for purpose Neighbourhood plans will be in force for 15-20 years. If they are to successfully help communities deal with the future we will actually experience, they must move away from the narrow focus on accommodating housing that has blighted local planning in general, and move to an approach that plans for resilient, sustainable communities.’</p> <p>The context Globally, atmospheric CO2 exceeded 400 parts per million in 2016, the highest in human history. Human activities are estimated to have caused approximately 1.0°C of global warming above pre- industrial levels and it is predicted that on the current trajectory, warming will likely increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels between 2030 and 2052. Extreme weather events have been seen around the world. The UK’s winter floods of 2013-14 and the European summer heatwaves have been made more likely by climate change. The 2018 summer in the UK was the joint hottest on record. The UK Met Office predicts that in a business-as-usual (high emission) scenario, Britain could experience summers as much as 5°C hotter by 2070, with a 50% chance that by 2050 they will be as consistently hot as the 2018 one. Winters could be up to 4.2C warmer, and sea levels would rise by up to 1.15 metres by 2100, leaving the UK coastline unrecognizable. Average summer rainfall could decrease by up to 47% by 2070, while there could be up to 35% more precipitation in winter.</p>	Noted. No change necessary since the CELPR and new Local Plan should provide up to date policies at a strategic level to address climate change and contribute to net zero targets.	No change.
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Appendix 9 – Formal Reg. 14 Consultation on the Draft Plan

Consultees

- Active Travel England
- Cadent Gas
- Canal & River Trust
- Coal Authority
- Electricity North West
- Environment Agency
- Forest of Bowland AONB (c/o Lancashire County Council)
- Historic England
- Homes England
- Lancaster Canal Trust
- Local Lead Flood Authority (Lancashire County Council)
- Local Planning Authority (Lancaster City Council)
- The Marine Management Organisation
- National Gas (c/o Avison Young)
- National Grid (c/o Avison Young)
- National Highways
- National Trust
- Natural England
- Network Rail
- NHS (Property Services – North)
- Northern Gas
- Office for Nuclear Regulation
- Office of Rail and Road
- Lancashire Police
- Sport England
- United Utilities
- **Local Parish Councils**
 - Caton-with-Littledale
 - Gressingham
 - Hornby
 - Nether Kellet
 - Over Kellet
 - Slyne-with-Hest
 - Quernmore

Consultee Letter



Halton with Aughton Parish Council

Luke Mills
Clerk to the Parish Council
28 Forgebank Walk
Halton
Lancaster
LA2 6FD
01524 881 499
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

12 July 2024

Dear Consultee

Notification of Formal Public Consultation on the Halton with Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) (Regulation 14 Town and Country Planning, England, Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended))

I am writing to advise you that the draft [Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan \(NDP\)](#) has been published for formal consultation by Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council.

The Draft Plan has been prepared by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on behalf of Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council. It has been informed by the responses to the informal public consultations which took place in 2018 & 2024 and is underpinned by a technical evidence base including a Landscape Character Assessment Report and a local Housing Needs Survey. The Draft Plan and all relevant supporting documents can be viewed and downloaded from the NDP pages of the [Parish Council's website](#).

The consultation period runs for 8 weeks from 15th July until midnight 8th September 2024.

Paper copies of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed in the following locations at normal opening times:

- The Centre, Low Road, Halton
- Halton Mill, Mill Lane, Halton
- Aughton Recreation Room, Aughton

The Parish Clerk can also provide paper copies upon request.

Public drop-in sessions will be held at the following dates and locations:

- The Centre@Halton, Low Road, Halton: Wednesday 24th July 2-4pm
- The Centre@Halton, Low Road, Halton: Wednesday 21st August 2-4pm
- The Centre@Halton, Low Road, Halton: Thursday 5th Sep 6-8pm

An [online Response Form](#) is provided for comments, but the Parish Council also welcomes comments (before midnight 8th September 2024) by email or in writing to:

- Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council, 28 Forgebank Walk, Halton, Lancaster, LA2 6FD
- clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk



Halton with Aughton Parish Council

Following the public consultation process on the Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan, the Plan will be amended and submitted to Lancaster City Council together with supporting documentation, including a Basic Conditions Statement demonstrating how the NDP meets the required Basic Conditions, and a Consultation Statement setting out who has been consulted, how the consultation has been undertaken and how the representations received have informed the revised Plan.

Lancaster City Council will then re-consult, before the Plan is subjected to an Examination by an independent Examiner. If the Examiner is satisfied that, subject to any recommended changes, the NDP meets the required Basic Conditions, then the amended Plan will be subjected to a local Referendum. If there is a Yes vote, then the NDP will be made (adopted) by Lancaster City Council and used to help determine planning applications in the Parish.

When we submit the plan, personal information, including your name, address and email may be shared with Lancaster City Council to enable them to discharge their legal duties in relation to publicising and consulting on the submission version of the plan and for organising the examination in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). To comply with the requirements of the recent Data Protection legislation, please confirm you have read and understood this statement and give your consent for your details to be passed on to Lancaster City Council.

If you respond using the Response Form, there is a box to tick to indicate your consent. If you respond by email or letter, please indicate that you consent for your personal details being provided to Lancaster City Council to enable them to perform their duties.

If you require any further information, please contact the Parish Clerk at the address provided above.

Yours Sincerely,



Luke Mills, Clerk to the Parish Council

Draft Plan Cover Note



Formal Public Consultation on the Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan

12 July 2024

The draft Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) has been published for formal consultation by Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council (Regulation 14, Town and Country Planning, England, Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended)).

The consultation period runs for 8 weeks from 15th July 2024 until midnight 8th September 2024.

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Hard copies of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed in the following locations at normal opening times:

- The Centre, Low Road, Halton
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- Aughton Recreation Room, Aughton

The Parish Clerk can also provide hard copies upon request (see contact details below).

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- Parish Clerk, c/o/28 Forgebank Walk, Halton, Lancaster, LA2 6FD
- clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

Following the public consultation process on the Draft NDP, the plan will be amended and submitted to Lancaster City Council together with supporting documentation.

Lancaster City Council will then re-consult, before the Plan is subjected to an Examination by an independent Examiner. If the Examiner is satisfied that, subject to any recommended changes, the NDP meets the required Basic Conditions, then the amended Plan will be subjected to a local Referendum. If there is a Yes vote, then the NDP will be made (adopted) by Lancaster City Council and used to help determine planning applications in the Parish.

When we submit the plan, personal information, including your name, address and email may be shared with Lancaster City Council to enable them to discharge their legal duties in relation to publicising and consulting on the submission version of the plan and for organising the examination in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended). To comply with the requirements of the recent Data Protection legislation, please confirm you have read and understood this statement and give your consent for your details to be passed on to Lancaster City Council.

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If you require any further information, please contact the Parish Clerk at the address provided above.

Paper Feedback Form



Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Public Consultation



Formal public consultation on the draft Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (known as Regulation 14) in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 will run between **Monday 15th July 2024 to Sunday 8th September 2024** for an 8-week period.

The Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to reflect the way in which residents of the parish wish to see their area develop until 2031. Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area.

All responses received by the consultation end date will be considered when preparing the Neighbourhood Plan for the final stage when residents will be asked to vote on whether the final plan should be adopted through a local referendum.

A copy of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, summary leaflet and other supporting documents can be viewed online on the Parish Council website (or use the QR code above):

<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan-reg14-consultation/>

Hard copies of the plan, including Local Green Space Assessment Report will be available at:

- **The Centre@Halton, Low Road**
- **Halton Mill, Mill Lane**
- **Aughton Village Hall Recreation Room, Aughton Road**

You are also welcome to attend the public drop-in session that are being held at the following dates and locations:

- **The Centre** **Wednesday 24th July 2-4pm**
- **The Centre** **Wednesday 21st August 2-4pm**
- **The Centre** **Thursday 5th Sep 6-8pm**

Please return all comments on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan before **midnight 8th Sep 2024**.

You can email your comments to clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk or post to:

Neighbourhood Plan, The Centre, Low Road, Halton, LA2 6NB

We have prepared a Comments Form overleaf to assist with returning your responses. You can also complete an **online** version of the form which is available here:

<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan>

Comments can be made on any aspect of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and other supporting documents.

**** Please note that you do not need to respond to every question on this survey ****

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Public Consultation

Your Details

Your details	
Name	
Organisation (if applicable)	
Job title (if applicable)	
Address (optional)	
Email (optional)	

What is your interest in the Neighbourhood Plan? Please tick all that apply	
I live in Halton with Aughton	
I work in Halton with Aughton	
I am a landowner	
I am an agent	
I am a statutory consultee	
Other (please specify)	






Consent		
We need to store your personal information to receive your comments. Please confirm whether you agree to the following:		
I consent to Halton with Aughton Parish Council storing my personal data	YES	NO
I consent to my name being published alongside my comments in the Consultation Statement prepared for submission and examination of the Neighbourhood Plan	YES	NO
I consent to my contact details being passed to Lancaster City Council so that they can keep me informed about the next stages in the NDP process.	YES	NO

Any other personal and contact details will not be shared publicly but will be stored in accordance with Halton with Aughton Parish Council's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Privacy Notice which can be viewed here: <https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/privacy>

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Public Consultation

General Response

Please rate how you feel about each of the **Sections** and **Policies** of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, by ticking the boxes below.

Section	Policy	Title	Rating				
			Disagree ← → Agree				
							
1		Introduction and Background					
2		A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish					
3		Vision and Objectives					
4		Landscape and Natural Environment					
	HA-1	<i>Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character</i>					
	HA-2	<i>Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and</i>					
	HA-3	<i>Area of Separation</i>					
	HA-4	<i>Local Green Spaces</i>					
	HA-5	<i>Flooding</i>					
5		Conserving our Built Heritage					
	HA-6	<i>Protecting Historic Character</i>					
6		Housing Need					
	HA-7	<i>Meeting Local Housing Needs</i>					
	HA-8	<i>Halton Urban Development</i>					
7		High Quality and Sustainable Design					
	HA-9	<i>High Quality Design</i>					
8		Transport					
	HA-10	<i>Active Travel</i>					
9		Local Community Facilities					
	HA-11	<i>Community Facilities</i>					
10		Community Aspirations					
11		Next Steps					

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Public Consultation

Comments

Please provide any comments you have on each of the **Sections** and **Policies** of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

Section	Your comments
1 Introduction and Background	
2 A Description of Halton with Aughton Parish	
3 Vision and Objectives	
4 Landscape and Natural Environment incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5	
5 Conserving our Built Heritage incl. Policies HA-6	

**Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan
Regulation 14 Public Consultation**

<p>6 Housing Need incl. Policies HA-7, HA-8</p>	
<p>7 High Quality and Sustainable Design incl. Policies HA-9</p>	
<p>8 Transport incl. Policies HA-10</p>	
<p>9 Local Community Facilities incl. Policies HA-11</p>	
<p>10 Community Aspirations</p>	
<p>11 Next Steps</p>	

**Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan
Regulation 14 Public Consultation**

Other comments

Please indicate the relevant page or paragraph number(s)

Supporting Document Comments

Supporting Document and Section(s)	Your comments
Local Green Space Assessment Report	
Other document(s) Please specify the relevant document(s)	

**Thank you for your help and support in the preparation of the
Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan**

Online Feedback Form

Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 14 Public Consultation

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- Halton Mill, Mill Lane
- Aughton Village Hall Recreation Room, Aughton Road

You are also welcome to attend the public drop-in session that are being held at the following dates and locations:

- The Centre: Wednesday 24th July 2-4pm
- The Centre: Wednesday 21st August 2-4pm
- The Centre: Thursday 5th September 6-8pm

Please return all comments on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan before midnight 8th Sep 2024

You can email your comments to clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk or post to:
Neighbourhood Plan, The Centre, Low Road, Halton, LA2 6NB

Comments can be made on any aspect of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and other supporting documents.

** Please note that you do not need to respond to every question on this survey **

* Required

Your contact details

Name *

Organisation (if applicable)

Address (optional)

Email (optional)

What is your interest in the Neighbourhood Plan?

Please select all that apply

- I live in Halton with Aughton
- I work in Halton with Aughton
- I am a landowner
- I am an agent
- I am a statutory consultee
- Other

Consent

We need to store your personal information to receive your comments. Please confirm whether you agree to the following

- I consent to Halton with Aughton Parish Council storing my personal data
- I consent to my name being published alongside my comments in the Consultation Statement prepared for submission and examination of the Neighbourhood Plan
- I consent to my contact details being passed to Lancaster City Council so that they can keep me informed about the next stages in the NDP process

General Ratings

Please rate how you feel about each of the **Sections** in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, by ticking the boxes below

	Disagree Strongly	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Agree Strongly
1: Introduction and Background	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2: A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3: Vision and Objectives	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4: Landscape and Natural Environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5: Conserving our Built Heritage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6: Housing Need	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7: High Quality and Sustainable Design	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8: Transport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9: Local Community Facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10: Community Aspirations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
11: Next Steps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please rate how you feel about each of the **Policies** in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan, by ticking the boxes below

	Disagree Strongly	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Agree Strongly
HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-3: Area of Separation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-4: Local Green Spaces	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-5: Flooding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-6: Protecting Historic Character	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-8: Halton Urban Development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-9: High Quality Design	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-10: Active Travel	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
HA-11: Community Facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

COMMENTS

Please add any comments you have for any of the Sections or Policies in the Draft Neighbourhood Plan

Section 1: Introduction and Background

Comments

Section 2: A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish

Comments

Section 3: Vision and Objectives

Comments

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

Comments

Section 5: Conserving our Built Heritage (incl. Policies HA-6)

Comments

Section 6: Housing Need (incl. Policies HA-7, HA-8)

Comments

Section 7: High Quality and Sustainable Design (incl. Policies HA-9)

Comments

Section 8: Transport (incl. Policies HA-10)

Comments

Section 9: Local Community Facilities (incl. Policies HA-11)

Comments

Section 10: Community Aspirations

Comments

Section 11: Next Steps

Comments

Supporting Document Comments

Please add any comments you have for any of the Supporting Documents of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan

Local Green Space Assessment Report

Other documents (please specify)

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Microsoft. The data you submit will be sent to the form owner.



Letter to Landowners of Local Green Spaces



Halton with Aughton Parish Council

c/o Luke Mills
28 Forgebank Walk
Halton
Lancaster
LA2 6FD
01524 881 499
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

18 July 2024

Dear Landowner,

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan - Local Green Spaces

I am writing to advise you that the [Draft Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan](#) (NDP) has been published for formal consultation by Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council. The Plan will be a statutory planning document and, once made (adopted), will be used in the determination of planning applications within the Parish by Lancaster City Council alongside the policies in the Local Plan for Lancaster District. The Draft Plan has a strong focus on protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment of the Parish.

The Draft Plan has been prepared by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group on behalf of Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council. It has been informed by the responses to the informal public consultations which took place in 2018 & 2024. The Steering Group have undertaken an assessment of open spaces in the Parish and has identified several green spaces in the Parish which they believe are of significant local value and should be granted additional protection from development.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) December 2023 allows local communities to protect from development important small scale open spaces which have a particular significance. These are called 'Local Green Spaces'.

To qualify for such protection, Local Green Spaces have to comply with a set of criteria set out in the NPPF. Paragraph 106 of the NPPF explains the criteria which must be met:

- in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
- demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and
- local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.



Halton with Aughton Parish Council

The steering group has assessed each of the identified candidate spaces against these criteria and those that are considered to meet the NPPF criteria are:

- a) St Wilfrid's Park
- b) Lune Riverbank – Halton Bridge to Halton Mill
- c) Wooded bank – Quarry Road to The Centre
- d) Town End Farm field
- e) Forge Wood

As a landowner of one or more of these areas, the Parish Council is inviting you to respond with any comments before midnight 8th September 2024.

An [online Response Form](#) is provided for comments, but the Parish Council also welcomes comments (before midnight 8th September 2024) by email or in writing to:

- Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council, 28 Forgebank Walk, Halton, Lancaster, LA2 6FD
- clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

The Draft Plan and accompanying Local Green Space Assessment Report can be viewed on the Parish Council website (www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk) and paper copies can be viewed in the following locations at normal opening times:

- The Centre, Low Road, Halton
- Halton Mill, Mill Lane, Halton
- Halton Library, Penny Stone Road, Halton
- Aughton Recreation Room, Aughton

The Parish Clerk can also provide paper copies upon request.

Public drop-in sessions will be held at the following dates and locations:

- The Centre@Halton, Low Road, Halton: Wednesday 24th July 2-4pm
- The Centre@Halton, Low Road, Halton: Wednesday 21st August 2-4pm
- The Centre@Halton, Low Road, Halton: Thursday 5th Sep 6-8pm



Luke Mills
Clerk to the Parish Council

Letter to Landowners of land referenced in Policy HA-5 Flooding



Halton with Aughton Parish Council

Parish Clerk
28 Forgebank Walk
Halton, Lancaster, LA2 6FD
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

23 July 2024

Dear Landowner,

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan

I am writing to let you know that the [Draft Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan](#) has been published for formal Regulation 14 Consultation by Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council.

The flooding in 2015 (Storm Desmond) and 2017 prompted the Local Lead Flood Authority to try and identify workable, sustainable, and justified solutions to reduce the risk of flooding. The resulting [Flood Risk Management Study](#) analysed various options and suggested some possible flood mitigation solutions on areas of land, which have been incorporated into the Flooding section in Chapter 4 of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

As a possible landowner of one or more of these areas, the Parish Council is inviting you to respond with any comments before midnight 8th September 2024.

The Draft Plan and supporting documents can be viewed on the Parish Council website (www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk) and paper copies can be viewed in the following locations at normal opening times: The Centre@Halton, Halton Mill, Halton Library, Aughton Recreation Room. The Parish Clerk can also provide paper copies upon request.

An online Response Form, accessible by the QR code below is provided for comments, alternatively the Parish Council also welcomes comments (before midnight 8th September 2024) by email or in writing using the contact details at the top of this letter.



Public drop-in sessions will be held at the following dates and locations:

- The Centre@Halton, Low Road, Halton: Wednesday 21st August 2-4pm
- The Centre@Halton, Low Road, Halton: Thursday 5th Sep 6-8pm

If the residents of the Parish vote in favour of adopting the Neighbourhood Plan then it will become a statutory document, and will be used in the determination of planning applications within the Parish by Lancaster City Council alongside the policies in the Local Plan for Lancaster District.

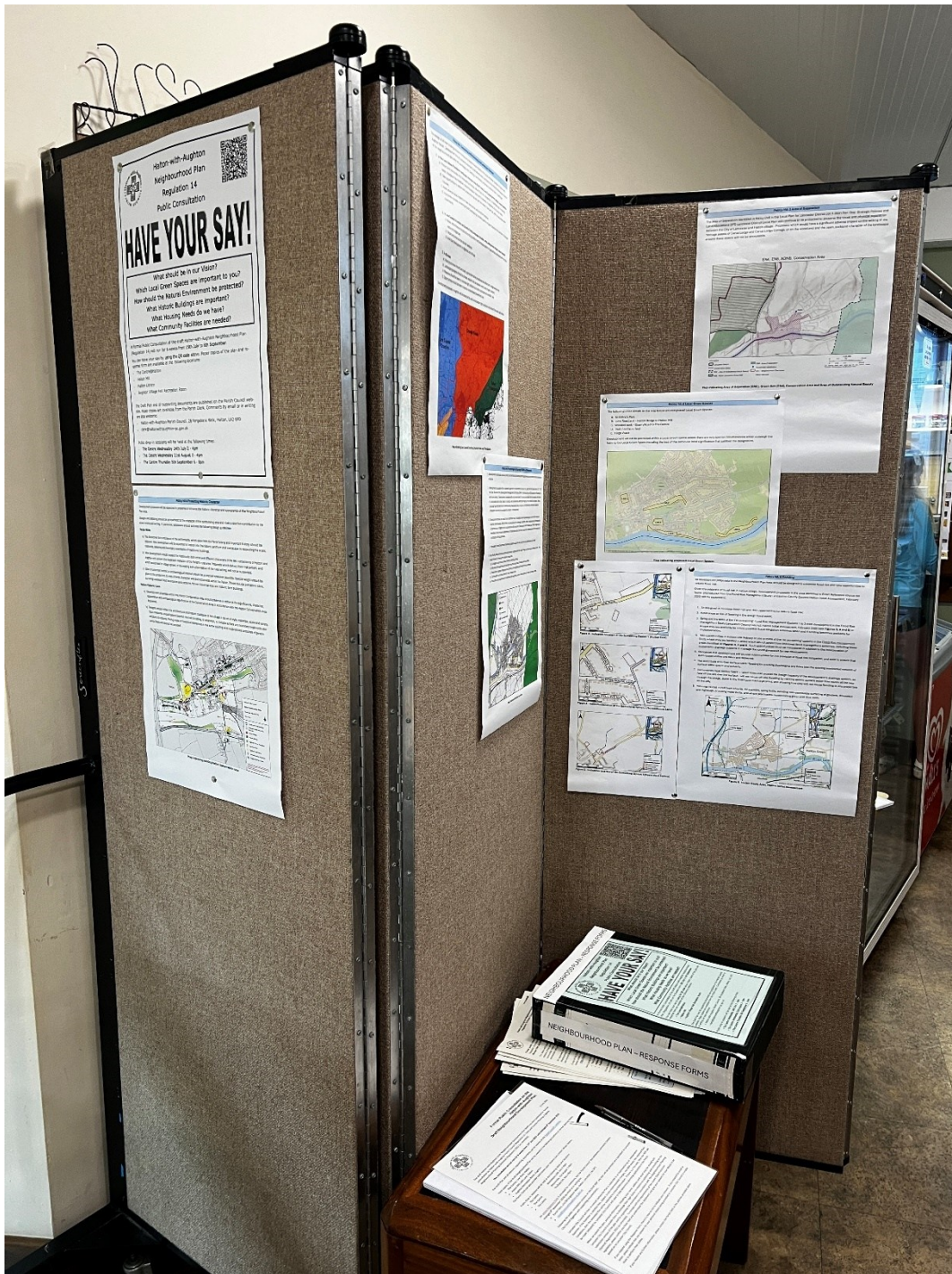
Luke Mills
Clerk to the Parish Council

Publicity

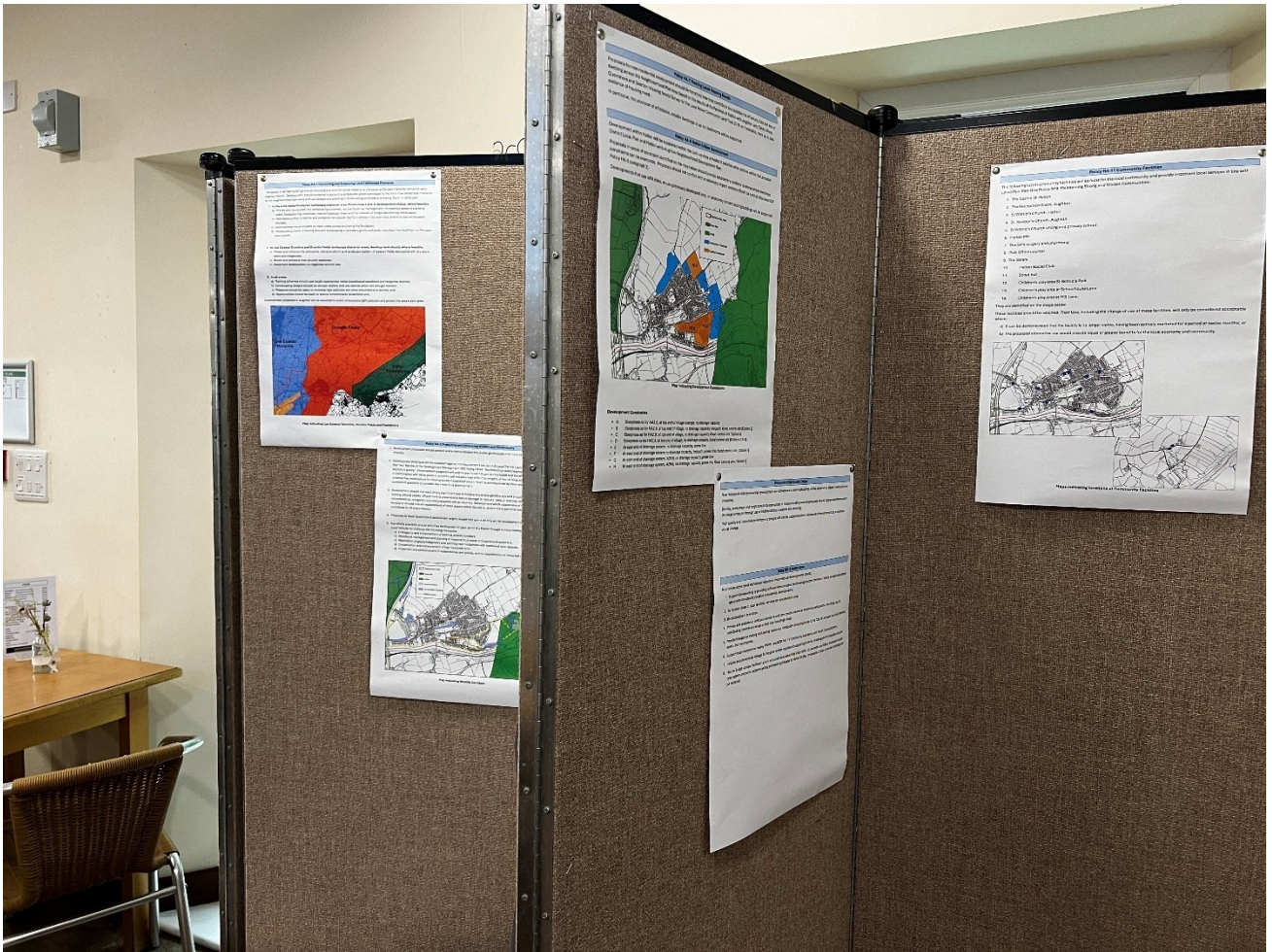
Photos of posters




Display setup in The Centre with paper copies of the plan and survey forms







July 2024 Facebook Post



Halton with Aughton Parish Council
14 July · 🌍

The **draft Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)** has been published for formal consultation by Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council (Regulation 14, Town and Country Planning, England, Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

The consultation period runs for 8 weeks from **15th July** until midnight **8th September 2024**.

The Draft Plan, supporting documents and **online Response Form** can be accessed on the **Parish Council website**.

Hard copies of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed in the following locations at normal opening times:

- The Centre, Low Road, Halton
- Halton Mill, Mill Lane, Halton
- Halton Library, Penny Stone Road, Halton
- Aughton Recreation Room, Aughton

The Parish Clerk can also provide hard copies upon request (see contact details below).


Public drop-in sessions will be held at the following dates and locations:

- The Centre: Wednesday 24th July 2-4pm
- The Centre: Wednesday 21st August 2-4pm
- The Centre: Thursday 5th September 6-8pm


An **online Response Form** is provided for comments, but the Parish Council also welcomes comments by email or in writing to:




- Parish Clerk, c/o 28 Forgebank Walk, Halton, Lancaster, LA2 6FD
- clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

Following the public consultation process on the Draft NDP, the plan will be amended and submitted to Lancaster City Council together with supporting documentation.


HALTONWITHAUGHTON-PC.GOV.UK 

Neighbourhood Plan – Regulation 14 Consultation

 1

 Like  Comment  Send

August 2024 Facebook Post



Halton with Aughton Parish Council

20 August · 🌐

⋮

There will be another public drop-in session from 2-4pm at The Centre tomorrow (21st) for anyone who has questions or comments on the draft Neighbourhood Plan.

The draft Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) has been published for formal consultation by Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council (Regulation 14, Town and Country Planning, England, Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

The consultation period runs until midnight 8th September 2024.

The Draft Plan, supporting documents and online Response Form can be accessed on the Parish Council website.

Hard copies of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed in the following locations at normal opening times:

- The Centre, Low Road, Halton
- Halton Mill, Mill Lane, Halton
- Halton Library, Penny Stone Road, Halton
- Aughton Recreation Room, Aughton

The Parish Clerk can also provide hard copies upon request (see contact details below).


Public drop-in sessions will be held at the following dates and locations:

- The Centre: Wednesday 24th July 2-4pm
- The Centre: Wednesday 21st August 2-4pm
- The Centre: Thursday 5th September 6-8pm


An online Response Form is provided (<https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/neighbourhood.../>) for comments, but the Parish Council also welcomes comments by email or in writing to:




- Parish Clerk, c/o 28 Forgebank Walk, Halton, Lancaster, LA2 6FD
- clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

Following the public consultation process on the Draft NDP, the plan will be amended and submitted to Lancaster City Council together with supporting documentation.


HALTONWITHAUGHTON-PC.GOV.UK


Neighbourhood Plan – Regulation 14 Consultation

 1

 Like
 Comment
 Send

September 2024 Facebook Post

 **Halton with Aughton Parish Council** 5 September · 🌐


There are a few days left to comment on the draft Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). The Regulation 14 Consultation will close midnight Sunday 8th September. ·

The final public drop-in session will occur tonight at The Centre Thursday 5th September 6-8pm, where a couple of councillors will be available to discuss the plan.




An online Response Form is available (<https://forms.office.com/e/RU6y9fGruX>) but you can also email or fill in paper forms available at the Centre.

Following the public consultation process on the Draft NDP, the plan will be amended and submitted to Lancaster City Council together with supporting documentation.

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk, clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk



2 comments

 Like  Comment  Send

Screen shot of Parish Council Website

The screenshot shows a webpage with a dark blue header containing the title "NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION". Below the header, the main content area is white. The first section is titled "Regulation 14 Public Consultation" in bold black text. Underneath, a sub-section "What is Happening?" is followed by two paragraphs of text explaining the consultation process and dates. The next section is "Learn More", which includes information about where to find paper copies of the draft plan and online versions, and lists public drop-in sessions. The "Comment" section provides three ways to give feedback: completing an online form, filling in paper versions, or attending a public drop-in session. At the bottom, a grey box titled "Supporting Information and Documents" lists links to the draft plan, assessment report, and response forms.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION

Regulation 14 Public Consultation

What is Happening?

Formal public consultation on the draft Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (known as Regulation 14) in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012 will run between **Monday 15th July 2024 to Sunday 8th September 2024** for an 8-week period.

The Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared to reflect the way in which residents of the parish wish to see their area develop until 2031. Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area.

All responses received by the consultation end date will be considered when preparing the Neighbourhood Plan for the final stage when the plan will be amended and submitted to Lancaster City Council.

Learn More

Paper copies of the Draft Plan and Local Green Space Assessment Report will be available at **The Centre, Halton Mill and Aughton Recreation Room**, along with survey forms. **Online versions** of the documents are listed below. Further paper copies can be obtained from the Parish Clerk upon request (clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk).

You are also welcome to attend the **public drop-in sessions** that are being held at the following dates at **The Centre: Wed 24th July 2 – 4pm, Wed 21st August 2 – 4pm, Thurs 5th Sep 6 – 8pm**

Comment

You can provide your feedback in the following ways:

- **Complete the [Online Response Form](#)**
- **Fill in paper versions of the Response Form** available from the above locations and return to: **Neighbourhood Plan, The Centre, Low Road, Halton, LA2 6NB**
- **Email** the Parish Clerk with your comments (clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk)
- **Attend one of the public drop-in sessions** and complete a form there

Supporting Information and Documents

The documents listed below have all played a part in creating and supporting the Draft Neighbourhood Plan.

Draft Plan for Regulation 14 Consultation

[Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan July 2024.pdf](#)
[Local Green Space Assessment Report July 2024.pdf](#)

Regulation 14 Response Forms

[Reg 14 Consultation Feedback v1.docx](#)
[Reg 14 Consultation Feedback v1.pdf](#)

Supporting Documents

[A Landscape Strategy Lancashire 2000.pdf](#)
[Halton Conservation Area Appraisal Dec 2009.pdf](#)
[Halton Parish Plan 2003.pdf](#)
[Halton Parish Plan 2013.pdf](#)
[Jacobs Flood Risk Management Study Report Feb 2020.pdf](#)
[Landscape Character Assessment for Halton v4 Mar 2024.pdf](#)
[Lune Valley CLT Housing Needs Survey Report Nov 2019.pdf](#)

Informal Public Consultation

[Informal Consultation 2019 - Comments on NDP.pdf](#)
[Informal Consultation 2024 - Draft Plan v12.1 Apr 2024.pdf](#)
[Informal Consultation 2024 - Feedback Form v2 Apr-May 2024.pdf](#)
[Informal Consultation 2024 - Local Green Space Report v2 Apr 2024.pdf](#)
[Informal Consultation 2024 - Responses and Actions.pdf](#)

Meetings

[Minutes meeting 23-01-12.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 23-01-27.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 23-02-09.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 23-03-10.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 23-03-31.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 23-07-19.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 23-08-16.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 23-11-24.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 24-01-08.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 24-02-23.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 24-03-12.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 24-05-17.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 24-06-06.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 24-06-27.pdf](#)
[Minutes meeting 24-11-08 - draft.pdf](#)

Previous Drafts

[Draft Neighbourhood Plan 2019 v3.2.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v1 Jan 2023.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v12.1 Apr 2024.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v2 Feb 2023.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v3 Mar 2023.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v4 Mar 2023.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v6 May 2023.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v7 Aug 2023.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v8.1 Nov 2023.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v8.2 Jan 2024.pdf](#)
[Draft Plan v9 Jan 2024.pdf](#)
[Local Green Space Report v1 Dec 2023.pdf](#)
[Local Green Space Report v2 Apr 2024.pdf](#)

August 2024 The Prattle (Issue 138)

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

HALTON WITH AUGHTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

CHAIR: Cllr. Carol Slinger, Tel: 07810 356929; carol.slinger@hotmail.co.uk

Cllr. Chris Coates, Tel: 07426 701155; chris@utopia-britannica.org.uk

Cllr. Anne Lamb, Tel: 01524 811052; annelamb27@hotmail.com

Cllr. Naomi Turner, Tel: 07738 586107; naomismith1210@hotmail.com

Cllr. Claire Buntin; Cllr. Jonathan Sewell; Cllr. Darren Rigby

Parish Clerk & Financial Officer: Luke Mills, Tel 01524 881499;
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

LANCASTER CITY COUNCILLORS Sarah McGowan and James Somerville

DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION

The next stage of producing a Neighbourhood Plan for the Parish will be a formal public consultation on the draft plan (known as Regulation 14) which will run from Monday 15th July to Sunday 8th September 2024

You can have your say via a simple online survey using the QR code, or read and respond on paper at the following locations:



- The Centre@Halton, Low Road
- Halton Mill, Mill Lane
- Aughton Village Hall Recreation Room, Aughton Road

You are also welcome to discuss it in person at the public drop-in sessions:

- The Centre: Wednesday 24th July 2 - 4pm

- The Centre: Wednesday 21st August 2 - 4pm

- The Centre: Thursday 5th Sep 6 - 8pm
- Carol and Naomi will also be happy to answer questions whenever they are working in the office at the Centre.

The Draft Plan and all supporting documents are published on the Parish Council website. Paper copies are available from the Parish Clerk.

MARTIN SOAR CHIMNEY SWEEP

25 years+ experience - fully insured

TEL 01524 812163

7 Schoolhouse Lane,
Halton
LA2 6QU



info@martinsoarchimneysweep.co.uk

Comments by email or in writing are also welcome:

- Parish Clerk, 28 Forgebank Walk, Halton, LA2 6FD
- clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

We would like to thank everyone who responded to the last consultation. All comments were reviewed and wherever possible, changes made to the plan.

PLAY AREAS, INCLUDING MILL LANE

The Mill Lane play area recently failed a safety inspection, so it has been closed by the owner. It was installed around 20 years ago by the initial developer of the Town End Way estate and after they became bankrupt, responsibility passed to the residents' association; however, they are struggling to find a way to fund the necessary maintenance. A long-term solution for funding and maintaining it is required, otherwise the play area will be lost.

The Parish Council agreed in principle to leasing the land, subject to terms and conditions. This play area could then be included in the plans to refurbish the play areas around the village, particularly St Wilfrid's Park.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

This seems to ebb and flow but often increases during the holiday periods. If you see or encounter any such behaviour, we encourage you to directly report it to Lancashire Police either via their website or via the Non-Emergency 101. This is unlikely to have an immediate response from the police, but we have been assured that police will prioritise areas with high numbers of reported incidents.

Luke Mills, Parish Clerk

e: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

m: 01524 881 499

VILLAGE SERVICES

LIBRARY: Tues, 1-7pm; Wed, 9-1pm; Fri, 1-5pm; Sat, 9-1pm. Tel 0300 123 6703 and 0300 123 6704 for automated renewal service.

SURGERY: Halton Medical Centre, 110 High Rd 811226. Mon to Fri 8:00am-12:30pm and 1:30-5:30pm. **Pre-booked appointments only.**

POLICE: Community police 101, Police station 01524 463333

POST OFFICE: (In the Pharmacy) Mon, Wed, Fri 9:30-12:30 & 1:00-4:00

PHARMACY: Mon – Fri 9:00-5:30; tel 812149, closed Saturdays & Sundays

Appendix 10 – Responses to Formal Reg. 14 Consultation

Figure 4 - General Responses from Formal Consultation

General Responses to Draft Plan SECTIONS	Section 1: Introduction and Background	Section 2: A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish	Section 3: Vision and Objectives	Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment	Section 5: Conserving our Built Heritage	Section 6: Housing Need	Section 7: High Quality and Sustainable Design	Section 8: Transport	Section 9: Local Community Facilities	Section 10: Community Aspirations	Section 11: Next Steps
Agree Strongly	6	6	7	7	8	6	9	7	8	9	7
Agree	5	5	3	4	3	2	1	3	2	2	3
Neutral	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-
Disagree	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	1	1	1
Disagree Strongly	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total Responses	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	11	12	11

General Responses to Draft Plan POLICIES	Policy HA-1: Conserving & Enhancing Local Landscape Character	Policy HA-2: Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity	Policy HA-3: Area of Separation	Policy HA-4: Local Green Spaces	Policy HA-5: Flooding	Policy HA-6: Protecting Historic Character	Policy HA-7: Meeting Local Housing Needs	Policy HA-8: Halton Urban Development	Policy HA-9: High Quality Design	Policy HA-10: Active Travel	Policy HA-11: Community Facilities
Agree Strongly	8	9	8	8	7	8	7	7	9	8	7
Agree	3	2	3	4	3	3	2	2	1	3	3
Neutral	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	1
Disagree	-	1	1	1	1	-	2	2	-	-	-
Disagree Strongly	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Responses	12	12	12	13	12	12	12	12	12	12	11

Responses from Individuals

Response reference: 2

Section 1: Introduction and Background

Clear and and transparent

Section 2: A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish

Accurate and informative

Section 3: Vision and Objectives

Broadly agree but it is disappointing to see the vision apparently limited to people 'bringing up families' - many live in the village beyond that description and others have moved here for whom it does not apply

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

Support

Section 5: Conserving our Built Heritage (incl. Policies HA-6)

Very important to retain this - particularly as pressure to build increases

Section 6: Housing Need (incl. Policies HA-7, HA-8)

Important to acknowledge the change of Government and perhaps change of priority when it comes to home/house building

Section 11: Next Steps

Clear and relevant

Other documents (please specify)

None - but we wanted to say that we are due to leave the village soon (definitely no 'push' factors!) - we are returning to my wife's family home that we have renovated and extended. Our time in the village has been very, very special and we have loved being and feeling part of a special community. We wish the Parish all the best for the future and we will remain relatively close with friends here and the lure of the occasional 'memory' walk along the beautiful Lune and its woods. Thank you!

Response reference: 3

Local Green Space Assessment Report

Keep the green space in Halton

Response reference: 4

Section 1: Introduction and Background

This section underscores the importance of community involvement in shaping local development and preserving the natural environment, which aligns with my interest in restricting housing development and enhancing green spaces for wildlife and residents.

Section 2: A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish

This description highlights the balance between preserving the parish's historical and natural environment while managing growth, which resonates with my concerns about restricting further housing development and enhancing green spaces.

Section 3: Vision and Objectives

The vision for Halton-with-Aughton in 2031 is to be a place where residents enjoy a strong sense of community, with beautiful rural surroundings and preserved historical sites. The plan aims to protect the parish's natural beauty and tranquility while supporting vibrant social spaces and enriching biodiversity. These goals are designed to ensure that the parish remains a desirable place to live, balancing development with environmental conservation. This aligns perfectly with my desire to limit housing development and maximise the use of green spaces for wildlife and community benefit.

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

The plan's policies are informed by detailed landscape character assessments at both the national and county levels, ensuring that the distinctive qualities of each landscape area are maintained. This approach is reinforced by local planning policies that safeguard landscapes and natural features, particularly in areas with high ecological or scenic value. The NDP's Policy HA-1 specifically provides design guidelines to ensure that new developments respect and enhance the local landscape character, maintaining the area's rural charm and environmental integrity.

Section 5: Conserving our Built Heritage (incl. Policies HA-6)

I fully support the focus on conserving and enhancing Halton's built heritage as outlined in Policy HA-6. The protection of our historic assets, including listed buildings and the Conservation Area, is essential for preserving the character and identity of our community. Future development must respect and integrate with our rich historical legacy.

Section 6: Housing Need (incl. Policies HA-7, HA-8)

I strongly support the constraints placed on developers in the Neighbourhood Plan. Ensuring that future housing developments meet the specific needs of the local population while preserving the character of Halton is crucial. The focus on restricting development due to physical and landscape constraints, including the proximity to the M6 motorway, the Forest of Bowland AONB, and flood risks, is essential to maintaining the village's integrity and preventing overdevelopment. This approach will help safeguard Halton's unique character and ensure that any growth is both sustainable and in keeping with the community's needs. When purchasing property on Forest Heights, we were assured that the estate, including its green areas, would be transferred to residents. Unfortunately, the developer has been delaying this transfer, and in the meantime, residents are facing substantial annual fees for basic maintenance such as grass cutting. These fees are justified by vague and inaccurate accounts provided by the developer, which has created financial and management difficulties for the community.

Additionally, the estate was developed with specific planning commitments, including a swale waterway intended to manage water runoff. However, each property has been fitted with aqua cells designed to handle rainwater runoff from the houses. These cells have proven ineffective, leading to garden flooding and excessively wet conditions that impair the usability of outdoor spaces.

These issues are having a significant impact on our quality of life and the effectiveness of the infrastructure intended to support the community. I urge the NDP to consider these concerns and support measures to address these ongoing problems and ensure that future developments meet their planning commitments and provide effective solutions for water management.

Section 7: High Quality and Sustainable Design (incl. Policies HA-9)

I strongly support the emphasis on high-quality and sustainable design in new developments. Ensuring that new residential and commercial projects respect local character and utilize traditional materials while also incorporating innovative, sustainable practices is crucial. This approach will enhance the visual appeal of the area while promoting environmental responsibility.

Section 8: Transport (incl. Policies HA-10)

As a father with a child in high school, it's crucial to prioritize transport solutions that support independence and accessibility. The Neighbourhood Plan should focus on enhancing local transport options, improving active travel infrastructure, and supporting public transport links. Ensuring developments are well-connected to facilities and providing safe, accessible routes will help reduce reliance on private cars and promote sustainable travel choices.

Section 9: Local Community Facilities (incl. Policies HA-11)

The NDP Policy HA-11 aims to protect these facilities, recognizing their importance to the community.

Section 10: Community Aspirations

I fully agree with the proposed measures for traffic calming, improved parking, and enhanced public transport services. The suggested upgrades to community facilities, including play areas and the library, are also much-needed and will benefit the community greatly.

I am particularly supportive of the plans to improve green spaces, wildlife corridors, and footpaths. Enhancing connectivity and access to recreational areas aligns well with the community's needs and environmental goals.

Response reference: 6

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

I am concerned that a housing development on Arrow Lane will compromise the use of the public footpath, which for decades has crossed the fields and which offers a stunning view over Morecambe Bay and the Lake District peaks

Section 9: Local Community Facilities (incl. Policies HA-11)

Concern that the Halton village infrastructure (e.g. shops, school) will not be able to sustain an influx of people if the development on Arrow Lane goes ahead

Response reference: 7

Section 9: Local Community Facilities (incl. Policies HA-11)

The parade of shops on High Road should be included in this policy, they are important community facilities.

Response reference: 8

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

HA3 offers further protection from encroachment of the Lancaster urban area.

HA4 proposes various green spaces that are very important to the residents of Halton

HA5 seeks to ensure that flood mitigation measures are possible into the future for key flood zones in Halton.

Section 5: Conserving our Built Heritage (incl. Policies HA-6)

The Conservation Area provides good overall protection for the historic parts. HA6 provides extra protection for the wider parish.

Section 6: Housing Need (incl. Policies HA-7, HA-8)

HA7 highlights the particular housing that Halton needs.

HA8 highlights some of the physical limitations to housing expansion.

Section 9: Local Community Facilities (incl. Policies HA-11)

As Halton grows it is important to retain and improve local community facilities.

Response reference: 9

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

Agreed - but these policies have already been infringed. Development of the housing on the ridgeline above and east of Forgebank have damaged the open view from the cycle track especially in the winter.

Housing has been built without have any exceptional circumstances (most of it is not affordable_.

I am very disappointed that there are no intentions to improve the footpath network, or to safeguard what little exists.

Wildlife corridors would be very good to safeguard ancient and newer woods.

Section 6: Housing Need (incl. Policies HA-7, HA-8)

This has already been infringed with the building of lots of large houses, and very few affordable ones.

Section 7: High Quality and Sustainable Design (incl. Policies HA-9)

Sustainable design is essential.

Plan for reducing water run-off are excellent; and for storage.

Can the Halton Prattle and social media be used to persuade residents not to pave gardens with impermeable surfaces?

Section 8: Transport (incl. Policies HA-10)

A secure evening bus service is essential.

The absence of busses between 8:03 and 9:25 is very inconvenient.

Safe crossing (or calmed) palces are needed especially on the Low Road. It is not safe for young or old residents.

Section 9: Local Community Facilities (incl. Policies HA-11)

A bowling green could be good for older residents.

Section 10: Community Aspirations

I wrote these by mistake on earlier pages. The footpath network needs improving and linking.

I understand that some elderly people would like a bowling green.

Safer road crossings are urgently needed.

Response reference: 10

Section 9: Local Community Facilities (incl. Policies HA-11)

With new builds - concern for infrastructure, ie. drains, doctors, school, parking

Response reference: 11

Section 6: Housing Need (incl. Policies HA-7, HA-8)

Strongly agree with using infill sites & considering the needs of older residents, e.g. bungalows

Section 7: High Quality and Sustainable Design (incl. Policies HA-9)

Agree

Section 8: Transport (incl. Policies HA-10)

Agree

Section 9: Local Community Facilities (incl. Policies HA-11)

Need to add areas around Centre, play areas, MUGA, Skate Park and field

Section 10: Community Aspirations

If Castle Hill is opened to the public the lack of suitable parking areas will be more apparent especially if it brings in visitors.

Section 11: Next Steps

Agree

Other Comments

Thank you to all those who put so much time and work into the Neighbourhood Plan.

Response reference: 12

<Individual on behalf of North Lancashire Bridleways Society>

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

4.1 Strongly agree

4.15 Strongly agree

Section 8: Transport (incl. Policies HA-10)

8.9 & 8.10 Agree: Many horse riders access the multiuser greenway - the "Millenium Greenway" as a longer safe off road route

8.11 Strongly agree

Section 10: Community Aspirations

10.1 Strongly agree

10.7 Inconsiderate parking, especially around school times and speeding

10.19 Agree

We applaud your aspirations that any new paths will be multi-use to allow access for all vulnerable road users + No discrimination + Offering best value for money

10.21 The footpath to the west of Dale Wood has historical evidence to suggest it should be a higher status.

Other Comments

Blimey what a lot of work has gone into producing this document. Thank you.

Response reference: 14

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

We should try to achieve the flood mitigation methods as described

Section 6: Housing Need (incl. Policies HA-7, HA-8)

I agree with the plan. There is very little suitable land to build on in Halton.

Section 8: Transport (incl. Policies HA-10)

20mph speed limit on Low Rd, especially around the narrow gap and the club where the footpath is very narrow and non-existent.

Section 10: Community Aspirations

Upgrade Army Camp path with permission of MOD for cycle and pedestrian access.
New footpaths around village are a good idea.

Response reference: 15

Section 1: Introduction and Background

Generally agree

Section 2: A Description of Halton-with-Aughton Parish

Generally agree

Section 3: Vision and Objectives

Generally agree

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

Generally agree

Section 5: Conserving our Built Heritage (incl. Policies HA-6)

Generally agree

Section 6: Housing Need (incl. Policies HA-7, HA-8)

NDP will not be able to override free-market solution. Social housing is the most feasible solution.

Development as a whole should be resisted to avoid a tragedy of the commons consequence and irreversible nature depletion (see 8)

Section 8: Transport (incl. Policies HA-10)

"Affordable" housing is a chimera without a <??> public transport infrastructure.

Car ownership should be deterred. Traffic restriction measures on how High Road lorries are a particular material measure.

The cycle track needs to be promoted - events, etc - to encourage use. No-one I know uses it. I commute daily. it is empty.

Section 9: Local Community Facilities (incl. Policies HA-11)

Generally agree

Section 10: Community Aspirations

Generally agree

Responses from a Local Group

Response reference: 16

NORTH LANCASHIRE BRIDLEWAYS SOCIETY

SECRETARY:

██████████
secretary@nlbs.org.uk

WEB SITE: www.nlbs.org.uk
CHARITY NO: 1076096

PRESIDENT:

██████████

CHAIR PERSON:

██████████
chair@nlbs.org.uk



8 September 2024

Clerk, Halton-with-Aughton PC

clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

Dear Sir

Re Draft Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan

North Lancashire Bridleways Society (NLBS) represents the interests of 166 members of the equestrian community in Lancashire and South Cumbria, many live along the Lune valley and other visit to horse ride in the area. NLBS strongly believe in the creation of multi user routes for the benefit of all vulnerable road users of all abilities where ever possible.

We are pleased to see that the Draft Development Plan (8.10, 8.11 8.12) recognises the equine businesses in the area and the popularity of horse riding. As it states, horse riders have to use increasingly busy roads to access the fragmented rights of way network and there is a need for more multi-user routes suitable for all vulnerable road users.

As well as the appropriate surfaces as noted in the Draft, NLBS would recommend appropriate inclusive user signage along any routes.

The Lune Valley Greenway is an excellent local example of a popular multi use path which has worked well for over 20 years with a variety of users by foot, wheel and hoof.

It is paramount that discussions occur between interested parties to ensure a coherent and linked up approach is taken to any paths/greenways. We at NLBS would like to contribute to such a discussion and are very happy to meet to discuss this further.

Best wishes

██████████, Chair, NLBS

Responses from Landowners

Response reference: 17

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

I acknowledge that you note that my land is implicated by policy HA5 and that I have no objection in principle to entering into without prejudice discussions regarding drainage works subject to all matters including financial provisions to be fully taken in account.

Response reference: 18

Section 4: Landscape and Natural Environment (incl. Policies HA-1, HA-2, HA-3, HA-4, HA-5)

Thank you for the email concerning Green Spaces and the Halton Development Plan.

I think that "The wooded bank from Quarry Road to the centre fulfils the criteria to confirm it as a Green Space."

It is in close proximity to the community. It has a richness of wildlife (ancient rookery) and it is not an extensive tract of land. I am not sure of the meaning of "extensive" in this context.

It also forms part of the whole ownership of the Manor House and Cottage. The idea of building on such land would be extremely difficult due to its high gradient and inaccessibility.


I feel we need less houses, more infrastructure and more open spaces.

Responses from Official Bodies

See below for the responses from:

- Canal & River Trust (ref. 19)
- Coal Authority (ref. 20)
- Environment Agency (ref. 21)
- Historic England (ref. 22)
- Local Lead Flood Authority - Lancashire County Council (ref. 23)
- National Gas Transmission (ref. 24)
- National Grid (ref. 25)
- National Highways (ref. 26)
- Natural England (ref. 27)
- Sport England (ref. 28)
- Local Planning Authority - Lancaster City Council (ref. 29)

Response reference: 19

 Outlook

RE: Regulation 14 Consultation: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan

From: [REDACTED]
Date: Tue 30/07/24 08:58
To: Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>

Dear Mr Mills

Thank you for your consultation on the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan, having reviewed the document the Trust have no comments to make.

Kind regards

[REDACTED] (ONS), MSc, MRTPI
Area Planner & Special Projects / Cynlluniwr Ardal & Prosiectau Arbennig

[REDACTED]
W www.canalrivertrust.org.uk

Canal & River Trust / Glandwr Cymru,
National Waterway Museum Ellesmere Port, South Pier Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire, England, CH65 4FW

From: Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 3:25 PM
Subject: Regulation 14 Consultation: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan

You don't often get email from clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk. [Learn why this is important](#)

An 8-week Regulation 14 Formal Public Consultation on [the draft Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan](#) will take place from Monday 15th July until midnight Sunday 8th September 2024.

The attached letter provides details on how to your organisation can view and comment on the draft Plan and associated documents.

We look forward to receiving your representations.

Regards,
Luke Mills

Clerk to the Parish Council

Halton-with-Aughton

Halton, Lancaster

01524 881 499

Keep in touch

Sign up for the Canal & River Trust e-newsletter <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/newsletter>
Become a fan on <https://www.facebook.com/canalrivertrust>
Follow us on <https://twitter.com/canalrivertrust> and <https://www.instagram.com/canalrivertrust>

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Canal & River Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England & Wales with company number 7807276 and charity number 1146792. Registered office address National Waterways Museum Ellesmere Port, South Pier Road, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire CH65 4FW.

Cadw mewn cysylltiad

Cofrestrwch i dderbyn e-gylchlythyr Glandŵr Cymru <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/newsletter>

Response reference: 20



200 Lichfield Lane
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire
NG18 4RG
T: 01623 637 119 (Planning Enquiries)
E: planningconsultation@coal.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/coalauthority

For the attention of: Mr L Mills - Parish Clerk

Halton with Aughton Parish Council

[By email: clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk]

27th August 2024

Dear Mr Mills

Re: Halton with Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (Regulation 14)

Thank you for your notification of the 12th July 2024 seeking the views of the Coal Authority on the above.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. As a statutory consultee, the Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

Our records indicate that within the Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan area there are recorded coal mining features present at surface and shallow depth including; mine entries and coal outcrops, which may have been worked. These features may pose a potential risk to surface stability and public safety.

Having reviewed the Neighbourhood Plan it does not appear that it proposes to allocate any new sites for future development and on this basis the Planning team at the Coal Authority have no specific comments to make on this document.

Yours sincerely



(BSc, DipEH, DipURP, MA, PGCertUD, PGCertSP, MRTPI)

Principal Planning & Development Manager



Making a **better future** for people
and the environment **in mining areas**

Response reference: 21

Lancaster City Council
Planning Policy
Town Hall Marine Road East
MORECAMBE
Lancashire
LA4 5AF

Our ref: NO/2012/104361/OR-24/IS1-L01

Your ref:

Date: 26 July 2024

Dear Sir/Madam

Regulation 14 Consultation: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan

Thank you for consulting us on the above document. We have the following recommended amendments to the draft.

- Under Policy HA-5 Flooding: consideration should be made of the impacts of climate change on all sources of flooding. Guidance on when and how to do this can be found here: [Flood risk assessments: climate change allowances - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/flood-risk-assessments-climate-change-allowances)
- Under Appendix 4: Point 3 it is outlined that Halton will be registered as a critical drainage area (CDA). It should be noted that it is the council not the Environment Agency that designate CDA's

Yours faithfully


Planning Advisor

e-mail clplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk

Environment Agency
Lutra House Walton Summit, Bamber Bridge, Preston, PR5 8BX.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency
End

Response reference: 22



Mr Luke Mills
Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council

Direct Dial: 0161 242 1445

Our ref: PL00796446
5 September 2024

Dear Mr Mills

**Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan
Regulation 14 Consultation, July 2024**

As the public body that advises on England's historic environment, we are pleased that you have consulted Historic England on the draft Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan.

The area contains designated heritage assets (such as listed buildings, scheduled monuments and a conservation area). The plan area is also likely to contain many other features of local historic, architectural or archaeological value.

We do not wish to comment on the detail of this draft Plan as we consider that the planning and heritage staff at Lancaster City Council are best placed to assist in relation to the historic environment; but we are happy to offer you our general guidance.

If you have not already done so, we also recommend that you also speak to the staff at Lancashire County Council who manage the Historic Environment Record (HER, formerly SMR). They should be able to provide up to date details of locally important buildings, archaeological remains and landscapes, as well as designated heritage assets.

To ensure that the protection and enhancement of the historic environment is fully embedded within the draft Plan, we recommend that you refer to our advice on neighbourhood planning, and particular our *Neighbourhood Planning and the Historic Environment Advice Note No. 11 (HEAN11)* and our 4 information sheets, which are available on our website here: <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/improve-your-neighbourhood/> This should be the first port of call for advice on heritage in neighbourhood plans.

Other Historic England advice that you may find of use includes:

- HE Advice Note 2 - Making Changes to Heritage Assets (HEAN2): historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/making-changes-heritage-assets-advice-note-2/ historicengland.org.uk/images-



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

Telephone 0161 242 1416
[HistoricEngland.org.uk](https://historicengland.org.uk)

Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.



- [books/publications/making-changes-heritage-assets-advice-note-2/](#)
- HE Good Practice Advice in Planning 3 - The Setting of Heritage Assets (GPA3): [historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/](https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/)
- HE Advice Note 7 - Local Heritage Listing (HEAN7): [historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7](https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7) <<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/local-heritage-listing-advice-note-7>>
- HE Advice Note 8 - Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment (HEAN8): [historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/](https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/) <<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>>

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) indicates that plans should set out a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment (para 196) and can include detailed policies on conserving and enhancing the historic environment and establishing design principles (para 28).

It is important that your plan identifies heritage assets in the area and includes a positive strategy to safeguard those elements that contribute to their significance. This will ensure they can be appropriately conserved and enjoyed now and in the future. The plan might, for example, address the following:

- Consider how the plan's objectives can be achieved by maximising the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits of the area's heritage, e.g. regeneration, tourism, learning, leisure, wellbeing and enjoyment.
- Locate new development to protect the significance of heritage assets and their settings.
- Give detail on the expected scale, density, massing, height, landscape, layout, materials and access of new development.
- Offer solutions to heritage assets that are at risk from their condition or vacancy; or are vulnerable to becoming so during the life of the plan. The national register does not ordinarily cover Grade II listed buildings or non-designated heritage assets, so your plan could usefully consider whether there are any are at risk.
- Consider how the significance of heritage assets can be enhanced.

As well as designated heritage assets, your plan presents an opportunity to include a positive strategy for local heritage assets (these may include buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas, landscapes or views that are important to the local community for their heritage value). Government's National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) is clear that neighbourhood plans need to include enough information about local



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

Telephone 0161 242 1416
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heritage to guide local authority planning decisions and to put broader strategic heritage policies from the local authority's local plan into action, but at a neighbourhood scale.

The strategy and policies in your plan should be based on proportionate, robust evidence. For heritage, this might include a characterisation study, historic area assessment or archaeological appraisal, for example. Rather than just the presence or absence of heritage assets, evidence should focus on what makes them significant and, where relevant, vulnerable.

In terms of the plan's policies, rather than re-writing higher-level policy, we suggest that neighbourhood plan policies add local depth to their application. For example, setting out specific themes, characteristics or features to be protected, or what measures would be acceptable to mitigate the impact of development that higher-level policy might allow. Policies can also set out good design principles, local characteristics and appropriate materials to which new development will be required to respond. Paragraph 132 of the NPPF supports this, saying that neighbourhood planning groups can play an important role in identifying the special qualities of the area and explain how this should be reflected in development.

We also recommend that you familiarise yourself with the terminology of historic environment planning (such as "historic environment", "conservation", "significance", "heritage asset", and "setting") by referring to the glossary in the NPPF, and ensure that your plan maintains consistency with the terminology used in the NPPF. We also suggest copying these and other terms across to your plan's own glossary.

Finally, and to avoid any doubt, this guidance does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on, or potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise as a result of the proposed neighbourhood plan, where we consider these would have an adverse effect on the historic environment.

Thank you for providing Historic England with the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted]
Historic Places Adviser

[Redacted] historicengland.org.uk

cc:



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

Telephone 0161 242 1416
HistoricEngland.org.uk

Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.

Response reference: 23



Contact: suds@lancashire.gov.uk

Date: 22 August 2024

Dear Halton with Aughton Parish Council,

Thank you for inviting the Lead Local Flood Authority to comment on the below consultation.

Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan 2024-2031 – Regulation 14 Consultation

Lancashire County Council is the Lead Local Flood Authority for the county council's administrative area. The Flood and Water Management Act sets out the requirement for the Lead Local Flood Authority to manage 'local' flood risk (flooding from surface water, groundwater, and ordinary watercourses) within its area. In the planning process, the Lead Local Flood Authority is a statutory consultee for major developments with surface water drainage, under the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015.

Comments provided in this representation are advisory and it is the decision of the parish council whether any such recommendations are acted upon. The comments given have been composed based on the extent of the knowledge of the Lead Local Flood Authority and information provided at the time of this response.

The Lead Local Flood Authority has reviewed the consultation details and has the following comments to make:

We are concerned that many of our comments provided in response to the draft Neighbourhood Plan Consultation (points (d) to (i) of our response dated 30 April 2024) appear to have been missed when preparing the revised plan for the Regulation 14 Consultation, as these have not been included within the "Informal Consultation 2024 – Responses and Actions.pdf" document and do not appear to have been reflected in the revised wording of Policy HA-5. These comments are repeated here.

Policy HA-5 Flooding

The Lead Local Flood Authority generally support the principles contained within the policy to manage specific flooding issues in the neighbourhood plan area, which go beyond the adopted policies within Lancaster City Council's Local Plan, and we are pleased to see that some of our comments on the draft plan have been taken on board to provide additional clarity to the policy. However, we would urge the parish council to consider the following amendments to make the policy more robust and unlock some

Lancashire County Council
PO Box 100, County Hall, Preston, PR1 0LD



lancashire.gov.uk

of the opportunities presented by new development in the neighbourhood to deliver the measures contained within the Halton Initial Assessment Flood Risk Management Study¹ (B2327FF1-JUK-ZZ-HA-RP-Z-1201, P02, February 2020, Jacobs) (hereafter referred to as the 'flood risk management study').

- a) Points 3 and 4 of Policy HA-5 – We support the inclusion of point 4 within the revised policy to encourage new development in areas identified to support the delivery of the 'do-something' options identified, in line with paragraph 167c of the National Planning Policy Framework, where the parish council consider this appropriate, reasonable and justified. The parish council may wish to make the policy more explicit to define what is considered by this 'support', for example, to privately fund and deliver, or contribute towards the options. However, the parish council should satisfy itself that there are no conflicts between points 3 and 4 of the policy to avoid any ambiguity regarding the delivery of the plan.

While we support the principle of safeguarding land for current or future flood risk management, in line with paragraph 167b of the National Planning Policy Framework, we would urge the parish council to consider if this is a reasonable approach. The parish council should account for the fact that the options identified would currently not attract 100% funding through national Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant-in-Aid², which is available to the flood risk management authorities to take the options forward, and that the options identified within the flood risk management study are only indicative, not a commitment to pursue any action requiring the land identified.

- b) Point 5 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council may wish to expand on this to identify such opportunities for flood risk mitigation measures, for example, the use of natural flood management measures³ in addition to the inclusion of sustainable drainage systems to manage the runoff generated by new development.
- c) Point 6 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council should clarify the areas meant by the "existing overloaded network of surface water drains and culverts" and the basis on which this has been identified. For example, the drawing contained within Appendix E of the flood risk management study (Halton drainage network capacity during 1.3% AEP event)? This may need to be included as a map within the neighbourhood plan.

This point should also be changed to "...avoiding discharging any *additional* flows...". In some instances, it may not be reasonably practicable for new development to avoid discharging any flows into the network identified, for example, to comply with the hierarchy of drainage options set out in the Planning Practice Guidance and Policy DM34 of the adopted Lancaster Local Plan, where the alternative options are less sustainable (e.g., combined sewer). There is a risk with the proposed wording that new development will instead be encouraged to

¹ Halton Initial Assessment Flood Risk Management Study <https://www.haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/NP/Supporting/Jacobs%20Flood%20Risk%20Management%20Study.pdf>

² Refer to section 2.10 of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for more information - <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/928565/lancashire-flood-risk-management-strategy-2021-2027-final-v2.pdf>

³ Further information on Natural Flood Management is available at <https://thefloodhub.co.uk/nfm/>



discharge flows into other systems which did not previously receive it, potentially generating new and unknown issues.

In these cases, the parish council may wish to expand on point 4, insofar that where a discharge into the "existing overloaded network of surface water drains and culverts" cannot be avoided, development discharging into this network must take measures to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding, such as through over-attenuation and restricted discharge rates below the minimum standards set out in the Defra Technical Standards for SuDS. Further examples of such measures are included within paragraph 063 of the National Planning Practice Guidance.

- d) Point 7 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council should amend the language 'excess flows' to 'exceedance flows' for consistency with The SuDS Manual (C753)⁴ and the national Defra Technical Standards for SuDS⁵ (standard S9). This point should also be changed to "...will not cause *increased* off-site flooding..." in line with paragraph 173 of the National Planning Policy Framework.
- e) Point 8 of Policy HA-5 – We fully support the inclusion of interception and source control SuDS components to minimise runoff from sites during everyday rainfall events (e.g., permeable paving, water butts and blue roofs) on new development.

The parish council should be aware that the Lead Local Flood Authority does not consider source control components towards the overall attenuation volume on proposed developments required to manage the design flood (1% annual exceedance probability + climate change, as defined by the Planning Practice Guidance), as there is no guarantee that such components will remain in place over the lifetime of the development where they could be removed or replaced by private property owners, and such components are frequently saturated during extreme rainfall events.

Other

- a) Policy HA-2 Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity – We support point 5e of this policy which aims to re-naturalise culverted watercourses. This is consistent with the county council's ordinary watercourse regulation policy OWC2⁶ and will enable the development of improved blue-green corridors within the neighbourhood.
- b) In every instance, the parish council must minimise the risk of individual people (particularly private landowners) being identifiable through reference to the flood risk management study, in order to comply with the obligations of the county council and the parish council set out in the Data Protection Act 2018.

⁴ https://www.ciria.org/CIRIA/CIRIA/Item_Detail.aspx?iProductCode=C753F

⁵ Non-statutory technical standards for sustainable drainage systems - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainable-drainage-systems-non-statutory-technical-standards>

⁶ Ordinary Watercourse Regulation - Consenting and enforcement of ordinary watercourses in Lancashire <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk/media/950248/ordinary-watercourse-regulation-policies-adopted-1-march-2024.pdf>



4

I trust that you find these comments valuable. Should you wish for further information or clarification on the contents of this letter please contact us at the email address provided.

Yours faithfully,



Lead Local Flood Authority



Response reference: 24



Central Square
Forth Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 3PJ

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F: +44 (0)191 269 0076

avisonyoung.co.uk

Our Ref: MV/15B901605

02 September 2024

Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk
via email only



Dear Sir / Madam

**Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation
July – September 2024
Representations on behalf of National Gas Transmission**

National Gas Transmission has appointed Avison Young to review and respond to Neighbourhood Plan consultations on its behalf. We are instructed by our client to submit the following representation with regard to the current consultation on the above document.

About National Gas Transmission

National Gas Transmission owns and operates the high-pressure gas transmission system across the UK. In the UK, gas leaves the transmission system and enters the UK's four gas distribution networks where pressure is reduced for public use.

Proposed sites crossed by or in close proximity to National Gas Transmission Assets

Following a review of the above document we have identified the following National Gas Transmission assets as falling within the Neighbourhood area boundary:

Asset Description
Gas Transmission Pipeline, route: LUPTON TO BRETHERTON
Gas Transmission Pipeline, route: GRAYRIGG TO SAMLESBURY
Gas Transmission Pipeline, route: CARNFORTH TO TREALES
Gas Transmission Pipeline, route: PANNAL TO NETHER KELLET

A plan showing details of National Gas Transmission's assets is attached to this letter. Please note that this plan is illustrative only.

National Gas Transmission also provides information in relation to its assets at the website below.

- <https://www.nationalgas.com/land-and-assets/network-route-maps>

Please see attached information outlining guidance on development close to National Gas Transmission infrastructure.

Distribution Networks

Information regarding the gas distribution network is available by contacting:
plantprotection@cadentgas.com

Avison Young (UK) Limited registered in England and Wales number 6382509.
Registered office, 3 Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2JB. Regulated by RICS



Further Advice

Please remember to consult National Gas Transmission on any Neighbourhood Plan Documents or site-specific proposals that could affect our assets.

We would be grateful if you could add our details shown below to your consultation database, if they are not already included:

[REDACTED] Director

nationalgas.uk@avisonyoung.com

Avison Young
Central Square
Forth Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 3PJ

[REDACTED] Asset Protection Lead

box.assetprotection@nationalgas.com

National Gas Transmission
National Grid House
Warwick Technology Park
Gallows Hill
Warwick, CV34 6DA

If you require any further information in respect of this letter, then please contact us.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MRTPI

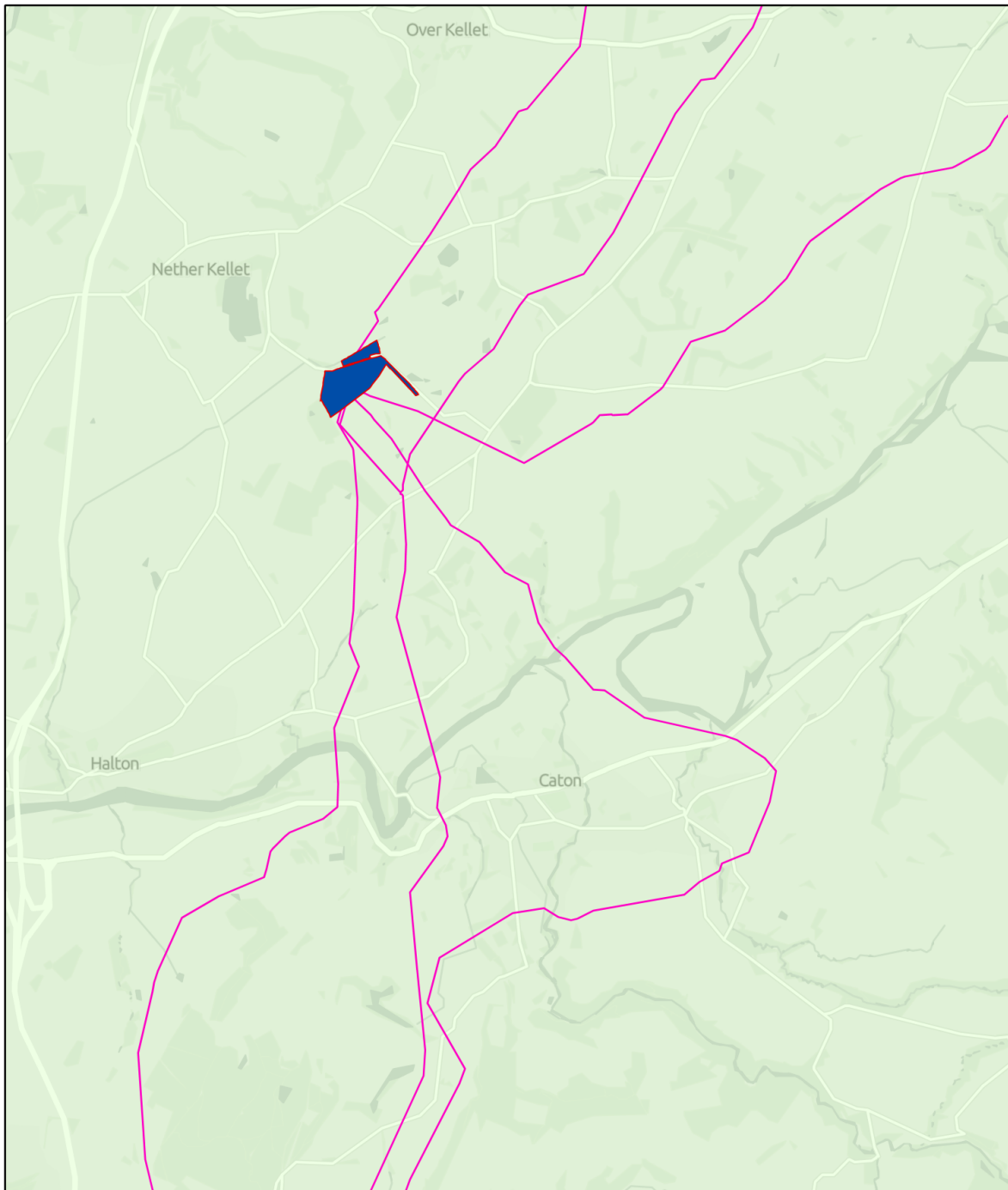
Director

0191 269 0094





[REDACTED]@avisonyoung.com

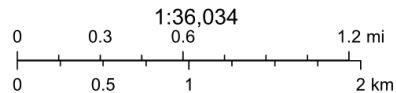
For and on behalf of Avison Young

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan National Gas Asset Map



02/09/2024, 16:55:45

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-  Gas_Assets_6495
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-  Development_Plan_Monitoring_v2_977



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Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2023 |

Response reference: 25



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avisonyoung.co.uk

Our Ref: MV/15B901605

02 September 2024



Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk
via email only

Dear Sir / Madam

**Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation
July – September 2024
Representations on behalf of National Grid**

National Grid Electricity Transmission has appointed Avison Young to review and respond to local planning authority Development Plan Document consultations on its behalf. We are instructed by our client to submit the following representation with regard to the current consultation on the above document.

About National Grid Electricity Transmission

National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (NGET) owns and maintains the electricity transmission system in England and Wales. The energy is then distributed to the electricity distribution network operators, so it can reach homes and businesses.

National Grid no longer owns or operates the high-pressure gas transmission system across the UK. This is the responsibility of National Gas Transmission, which is a separate entity and must be consulted independently.

National Grid Ventures (NGV) develop, operate and invest in energy projects, technologies, and partnerships to help accelerate the development of a clean energy future for consumers across the UK, Europe and the United States. NGV is separate from National Grid's core regulated businesses. Please also consult with NGV separately from NGET.

Proposed development sites crossed or in close proximity to National Grid assets:

Following a review of the above document we have identified the following NGET assets as falling within the Neighbourhood area boundary:

Asset Description

ZX ROUTE TWR (248R - 444R): 400Kv Overhead Transmission Line route: HEYSHAM- HUTTON - PENWORTHAM 1
--

A plan showing details of NGET's assets is attached to this letter. Please note that this plan is illustrative only.

National Grid also provides information in relation to its assets at the website below.



- www2.nationalgrid.com/uk/services/land-and-development/planning-authority/shape-files/

Please see attached information outlining guidance on development close to NGET infrastructure.

Distribution Networks

Information regarding the electricity distribution network is available at the website below: www.energynetworks.org.uk

Further Advice

Please remember to consult NGET on any Neighbourhood Plan Documents or site-specific proposals that could affect our assets.

We would be grateful if you could add our details shown below to your consultation database, if they are not already included:

[REDACTED] Director

nationalgrid.uk@avisonyoung.com

Avison Young
Central Square
Forth Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 3PJ

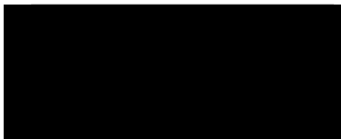
[REDACTED] Development Liaison Officer

box.landandacquisitions@nationalgrid.com

National Grid Electricity Transmission
National Grid House
Warwick Technology Park
Gallows Hill
Warwick, CV34 6DA

If you require any further information in respect of this letter, then please contact us.

Yours faithfully,

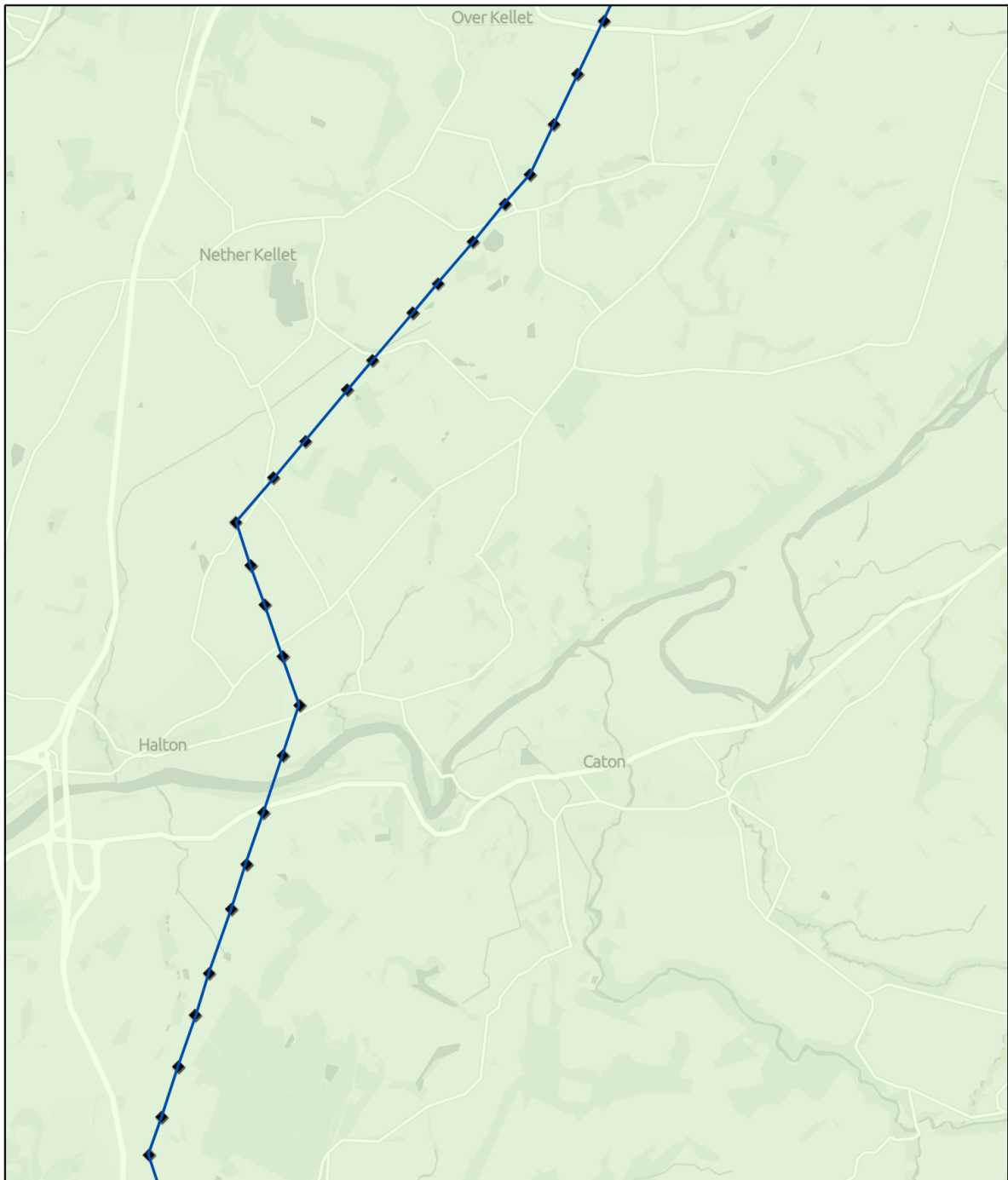


Director
0191 269 0094

[REDACTED] avisonyoung.com

For and on behalf of Avison Young

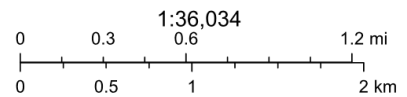
Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan National Grid Asset Map



02/09/2024, 16:56:58

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- Development_Plan_Monitoring_v2_977



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Response reference: 26

 Outlook

FW: Regulation 14 Consultation: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan -

From [REDACTED]
Date Tue 20/08/24 18:14
To Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>

1 attachments (206 KB)
Halton-with-Aughton NDP Reg 14 Consultation.pdf;

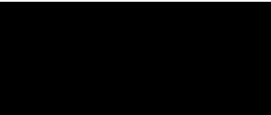
Good afternoon,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above consultation for the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan.

National Highways have no specific comments to make with regards to this plan as it does not affect the Strategic Road Network.

We therefore have no objection to the proposed plan.

Kind Regards



Pronouns :She/Her/Hers
Spatial Planner
Network Development & Planning Team
OD EDI Lead
Equality Diversity and Inclusion NW Champion
Please note new email address. Please update your address book to include this;



National Highways | Piccadilly Gate | Store Street | Manchester | M1 2WD
Tel: +44 (0) 300 4705117 | Mobile: + 44 (0) 7796192350
Web: <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/>

GTN: 0300 470 5117



For information and guidance on on planning and the Strategic Road Network in England please visit:

<https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-work/planning-and-the-strategic-road-network-in-england/>

From: Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>
Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 2:23 PM
Subject: Regulation 14 Consultation: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan

An 8-week Regulation 14 Formal Public Consultation on the draft [Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan](#) will take place from Monday 15th July until midnight Sunday 8th September 2024.

The attached letter provides details on how to your organisation can view and comment on the draft Plan and associated documents.

We look forward to receiving your representations.

Response reference: 27

Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)
Our ref: 482618
Your ref: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan



Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ
T 0300 060 3900

Mr Luke Mills
Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council

BY EMAIL ONLY
clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk

Dear Mr Mills

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan - Pre-submission Regulation 14 Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 12 July 2024.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft neighbourhood development plans by the Parish/Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums where they consider our interests would be affected by the proposals made.

Natural England does not have any specific comments on this draft neighbourhood plan.

However, we refer you to the attached annex which covers the issues and opportunities that should be considered when preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and to the following information.

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Further information on protected species and development is included in [Natural England's Standing Advice on protected species](#) .

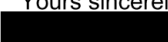
Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission [standing advice](#).

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If an Strategic Environmental Assessment is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

For any further consultations on your plan, please contact: consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely


nsultation Team

Annex 1 - Neighbourhood planning and the natural environment: information, issues and opportunities

Natural environment information sources

The [Magic](#)¹ website will provide you with much of the nationally held natural environment data for your plan area. The most relevant layers for you to consider are: **Agricultural Land Classification, Ancient Woodland, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Local Nature Reserves, National Parks (England), National Trails, Priority Habitat Inventory, public rights of way (on the Ordnance Survey base map) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (including their impact risk zones)**. Local environmental record centres may hold a range of additional information on the natural environment. A list of local record centres is available from [the Association of Local Environmental Records Centres](#).

Priority habitats are those habitats of particular importance for nature conservation, and the list of them can be found [here](#)². Most of these will be mapped either as **Sites of Special Scientific Interest**, on the Magic website or as **Local Wildlife Sites**. Your local planning authority should be able to supply you with the locations of Local Wildlife Sites.

National Character Areas (NCAs) divide England into 159 distinct natural areas. Each character area is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. NCA profiles contain descriptions of the area and statements of environmental opportunity, which may be useful to inform proposals in your plan. NCA information can be found [here](#)³.

There may also be a local **landscape character assessment** covering your area. This is a tool to help understand the character and local distinctiveness of the landscape and identify the features that give it a sense of place. It can help to inform, plan and manage change in the area. Your local planning authority should be able to help you access these if you can't find them online.

If your neighbourhood planning area is within or adjacent to a **National Park** or **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty** (AONB), the relevant National Park/AONB Management Plan for the area will set out useful information about the protected landscape. You can access the plans on from the relevant National Park Authority or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty website.

General mapped information on **soil types** and **Agricultural Land Classification** is available (under 'landscape') on the [Magic](#)⁴ website and also from the [LandIS website](#)⁵, which contains more information about obtaining soil data.

Natural environment issues to consider

The [National Planning Policy Framework](#)⁶ sets out national planning policy on protecting and enhancing the natural environment. [Planning Practice Guidance](#)⁷ sets out supporting guidance.

Your local planning authority should be able to provide you with further advice on the potential impacts of your plan or order on the natural environment and the need for any environmental assessments.

Landscape

Your plans or orders may present opportunities to protect and enhance locally valued landscapes. You may want to consider identifying distinctive local landscape features or characteristics such as ponds, woodland or dry stone walls and think about how any new development proposals can respect and enhance local landscape character and distinctiveness.

If you are proposing development within or close to a protected landscape (National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) or other sensitive location, we recommend that you carry out a landscape assessment of the proposal. Landscape assessments can help you to choose the most appropriate sites for development and help to avoid or minimise impacts of development on the landscape through careful siting, design and landscaping.

¹ <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/habitats-and-species-of-principal-importance-in-england>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making>

⁴ <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

⁵ <http://www.landis.org.uk/index.cfm>

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

⁷ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/natural-environment/>

Wildlife habitats

Some proposals can have adverse impacts on designated wildlife sites or other priority habitats (listed [here](#)⁸), such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest or [Ancient woodland](#)⁹. If there are likely to be any adverse impacts you'll need to think about how such impacts can be avoided, mitigated or, as a last resort, compensated for.

Priority and protected species

You'll also want to consider whether any proposals might affect priority species (listed [here](#)¹⁰) or protected species. To help you do this, Natural England has produced advice [here](#)¹¹ to help understand the impact of particular developments on protected species.

Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land

Soil is a finite resource that fulfils many important functions and services for society. It is a growing medium for food, timber and other crops, a store for carbon and water, a reservoir of biodiversity and a buffer against pollution. If you are proposing development, you should seek to use areas of poorer quality agricultural land in preference to that of a higher quality in line with National Planning Policy Framework para 112. For more information, see [Guide to assessing development proposals on agricultural land](#)¹².

Improving your natural environment

Your plan or order can offer exciting opportunities to enhance your local environment and should provide net gains for biodiversity in line with the [National Planning Policy Framework](#). If you are setting out policies on new development or proposing sites for development, you should follow the biodiversity mitigation hierarchy and seek to ensure impacts on habitats are avoided or minimised before considering opportunities for biodiversity enhancement. You may wish to consider identifying what environmental features you want to be retained or enhanced or new features you would like to see created as part of any new development and how these could contribute to biodiversity net gain and wider environmental goals.

Opportunities for environmental enhancement might include:

- Restoring a neglected hedgerow.
- Creating a new pond as an attractive feature on the site.
- Planting trees characteristic to the local area to make a positive contribution to the local landscape.
- Using native plants in landscaping schemes for better nectar and seed sources for bees and birds.
- Incorporating swift boxes or bat boxes into the design of new buildings.
- Think about how lighting can be best managed to reduce impacts on wildlife.
- Adding a green roof to new buildings.
- Providing a new footpath through the new development to link into existing rights of way.

Site allocations should be supported by a baseline assessment of biodiversity value. The statutory [Biodiversity Metric](#) may be used to understand the number of biodiversity units present on allocated sites. For small development allocations the [Small Sites Metric](#) may be used. This is a simplified version of the statutory [Biodiversity Metric](#) and is designed for use where certain criteria are met. Further information on biodiversity net gain including [planning practice guidance](#) can be found [here](#)

You may also want to consider enhancing your local area in other ways, for example by:

- Setting out in your plan how you would like to implement elements of a wider Green Infrastructure Strategy (if one exists) in your community.
- Assessing needs for accessible greenspace and setting out proposals to address any deficiencies or enhance provision. Natural England's [Green Infrastructure Framework](#) sets out further information on green infrastructure standards and principles
- Identifying green areas of particular importance for special protection through Local Green Space designation (see [Planning Practice Guidance](#)¹³).
- Managing existing (and new) public spaces to be more wildlife friendly (e.g. by sowing wild flower strips in less used parts of parks or on verges, changing hedge cutting timings and frequency).

⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/habitats-and-species-of-principal-importance-in-england>

⁹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ancient-woodland-and-veteran-trees-protection-surveys-licences>

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/habitats-and-species-of-principal-importance-in-england>

¹¹ <https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals>


¹² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agricultural-land-assess-proposals-for-development/guide-to-assessing-development-proposals-on-agricultural-land>

¹³ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space>

- Planting additional street trees.
- Identifying any improvements to the existing public right of way network, e.g. cutting back hedges, improving the surface, clearing litter or installing kissing gates) or extending the network to create missing links.
- Restoring neglected environmental features (e.g. coppicing a prominent hedge that is in poor condition, or clearing away an eyesore).

Natural England's [Environmental Benefits from Nature tool](#) may be used to identify opportunities to enhance wider benefits from nature and to avoid and minimise any negative impacts. It is designed to work alongside the statutory [Biodiversity Metric](#) and is available as a beta test version.

Response reference: 28

 Outlook

 RE: Regulation 14 Consultation: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan

From [REDACTED]
 Date Tue 27/08/24 13:32
 To Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>

Luke, thank you for consulting Sport England on the Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan, our comments are set out below:-

OVERVIEW:

Government planning policy, within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), identifies how the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Encouraging communities to become more physically active through walking, cycling, informal recreation and formal sport plays an important part in this process. Providing enough sports facilities of the right quality and type in the right places is vital to achieving this aim. This means that positive planning for sport, protection from the unnecessary loss of sports facilities, along with an integrated approach to providing new housing and employment land with community facilities is important.

Sport England provides guidance on developing planning policy for sport and further information can be found via the link below. Vital to the development and implementation of planning policy is the evidence base on which it is founded.

https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#planning_applications

- The Neighbourhood Plan, Objective 5: Could also refer also to the potential for indoor sport and leisure improvements through financial contributions from new residential developments.

PLAYING FIELD PROTECTION:

It is essential therefore that the neighbourhood plan reflects and complies with national planning policy for sport as set out in the NPPF with particular reference to Pars 102 and 103. It is also important to be aware of [Sport England's statutory consultee role in protecting playing fields and the presumption against the loss of playing field land. Sport England's playing fields policy is set out in our Playing Fields Policy and Guidance document.](https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy)

https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy

- Of particular note are Policies HA1, HA2, HA4 and HA8 which should take account of this.

NB: Sport England's Playing Field Policy has specific requirements for any development affecting playing field land, there is no 'very special circumstance' test.

Sport England would like to advise that we do not support measures to meet wildlife enhancements or biodiversity net gain schemes which impact the use of playing fields. Whilst such measures may not require the benefit of planning permission, where these affect playing fields, Sport England's advice should be sought.

It is noted that neither Low Road Playing Fields nor St Wilfrid's CE Primary playing field are included in the Local Green Space designations.

EVIDENCE BASE:

Sport England works with local authorities to ensure their Local Plan is underpinned by robust and up to date evidence. In line with Paras 96 and 102 of the NPPF, this takes the form of assessments of need and strategies for indoor and outdoor sports facilities. A neighbourhood planning body should look to see if the relevant local authority has prepared a playing pitch strategy or other indoor/outdoor sports facility strategy. If it has then this could provide useful evidence for the neighbourhood plan and save the neighbourhood planning body time and resources gathering their own evidence. It is important that a neighbourhood plan reflects the recommendations and actions set out in any such strategies, including those which may specifically relate to the neighbourhood area, and that any local investment opportunities, such as the Community Infrastructure Levy, are utilised to support their delivery.

Where such evidence does not already exist then relevant planning policies in a neighbourhood plan should be based on a proportionate assessment of the need for sporting provision in its area. Developed in consultation with the local sporting and wider community any assessment should be used to provide key recommendations and deliverable actions. These should set out what provision is required to ensure the current and future needs of the community for sport can be met and, in turn, be able to support the development and implementation of planning policies. Sport England's guidance on assessing needs may help with such work.

<http://www.sportengland.org/planningtoolsandguidance>

- The Neighbourhood Plan refers to Lancaster's Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy (Dec 2021).
- Sport England notes the references made to Lancaster Local Plan Policy DM27.

Both the above adhere to a 'standards based' approach to the provision of sports facilities and is not supported by Sport England.

Sport England would advise that a 'standards based' approach is not used for the delivery of sporting facilities and that this should be clearly identified as a needs-based approach in policy wording. We would welcome a policy that aims to maintain and enhance a network of high-quality open spaces, including those that provide opportunities for sport, physical activity and recreation, private and public. Policy should recognise the role of sport in contributing to a wide range of spatial planning issues including; regeneration, health promotion, crime reduction, quality of life, engaging with colleagues in sports development, education and public health and should identify and plan positively for where sport and recreation can contribute to spatial planning initiatives such as greenspace networks or enhance the urban fringe (and Green Belts) through the location of appropriate facilities. All playing fields are a finite resource protected by paragraph 103 of the NPPF and Sport England's Playing Fields Policy.

Lancaster has completed a Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy earlier this year as part of its Local Plan evidence base and this should be used to inform planning decisions and assessments of playing field land.

DESIGN:

If new or improved sports facilities are proposed Sport England recommend you ensure they are fit for purpose and designed in accordance with our design guidance notes.

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/>

SPORTS FACILITY DEMAND:

Any new housing developments will generate additional demand for sport. If existing sports facilities do not have the capacity to absorb the additional demand, then planning policies should look to ensure that new sports facilities, or improvements to existing sports facilities, are secured and delivered. Proposed actions to meet the demand should accord with any approved local plan or neighbourhood plan policy for social infrastructure, along with priorities resulting from any assessment of need, or set out in any playing pitch or other indoor and/or outdoor sports facility strategy that the local authority has in place.

Sport England's Playing Pitch Calculators and sports facility planning tools are available to assist with this process and access can be provided on request.

- Of particular note are Policies HA8 and HA11 which should take account of this.

ACTIVE DESIGN:

In line with the Government's NPPF (including Section 8) and its Planning Practice Guidance (Health and wellbeing section), links below, consideration should also be given to how any new development, especially for new housing, will provide opportunities for people to lead healthy lifestyles and create healthy communities. Sport England's Active Design guidance can be used to help with this when developing planning policies and developing or assessing individual proposals.

Active Design, which includes a model planning policy, provides ten principles to help ensure the design and layout of development encourages and promotes participation in sport and physical activity. The guidance, and its accompanying checklist, could also be used at the evidence gathering stage of developing a neighbourhood plan to help undertake an assessment of how the design and layout of the area currently enables people to lead active lifestyles and what could be improved.

<https://www.sportengland.org/guidance-and-support/facilities-and-planning/design-and-cost-guidance/active-design#activedesignguidancedraftconsultation-19692>

- Of particular note is Policy HA10 which should take account of this.

Helpful Links:

NPPF Section 8: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/8-promoting-healthy-communities>

PPG Health and wellbeing section: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-and-wellbeing>

Get Active: a strategy for the future of sport and physical activity [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/get-active-a-strategy-for-the-future-of-sport-and-physical-activity](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/get-active-a-strategy-for-the-future-of-sport-and-physical-activity/get-active-a-strategy-for-the-future-of-sport-and-physical-activity)

Sport England's Active Design Guidance: <https://www.sportengland.org/activedesign>

Finally, I would encourage the use of improved mapping imagery to that policy areas can be clearly identified, maps in the document lose some resolution when they are zoomed in.

(Please note: this response relates to Sport England's planning function only. It is not associated with our funding role or any grant application/award that may relate to the site.)

I hope the above is of assistance. If you need any further advice, please do not hesitate to contact Sport England via planning.north@sportengland.org

Kind Regards

██████████ MSc BA Hons MRTPI

Planning Manager

M: ██████████
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We have updated our Privacy Statement to reflect the recent changes to data protection law but rest assured, we will continue looking after your personal data just as carefully as we always have. Our Privacy Statement is published on our [website](#), and our Data Protection Officer can be contacted by emailing [Gaile Walters](mailto:Gaile.Walters)

From: Luke Mills <clerk@haltonwithaughton-pc.gov.uk>

Sent: Friday, July 12, 2024 2:23 PM

Subject: Regulation 14 Consultation: Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan

An 8-week Regulation 14 Formal Public Consultation on the draft [Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan](#) will take place from Monday 15th July until midnight Sunday 8th September 2024.

The attached letter provides details on how to your organisation can view and comment on the draft Plan and associated documents.

We look forward to receiving your representations.

Regards,
Luke Mills

Clerk to the Parish Council

Response reference: 29



**Halton with Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan
Lancaster City Council Response to Regulation 14 Draft Plan
27th August 2024**

The Council welcome the opportunity to provide comments and input into the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan for Halton with Aughton (the Plan). The comments provided in this response are informal officer opinions, without prejudice and intended to support the Parish Council in producing a robust plan which will meet the basic conditions for neighbourhood planning in accordance with national and local policies. A formal council response will be provided at the Regulation 16 stage prior to submission of the Plan for examination.

The changes from previous drafts have been noted and the way in which they address the comments made at an earlier stage is welcomed. There are few remaining matters which require further comment.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA)

The SEA and HRA screening carried out on the previous version of the draft plan concluded that it is unlikely that the Plan would result in a significant environmental effect. The Council remains of this opinion. A further screening exercise will be necessary once the final detail of the plan has been determined. This needs to be completed before the final version of the Plan is submitted to the Council.

General Comments

The draft NPPF has been published and it is anticipated that this will be finalised by the end of the year. The changes will need to be considered and any changes which affect the content of the Plan will need to be addressed.

Chapter 1: Introduction and Background

The additional information about public engagement in sections 1.13 to 1.34 is important to outline the consultation process. However, it would be better placed in the Consultation Statement to be included as part of the submission to the Council for examination.

We are still awaiting the Inspectors report of the Climate Emergency Local Plan Review (CELPR) so progress has slipped. It is now anticipated that the plan will be adopted Winter 2024.

Chapter 3: Vision and Objectives

For ease of use, it is recommended that the titles of the policies are added to 3.7 and a brief description of what the maps depict.

Chapter 4: Landscape and Natural Environment

Policy HA-1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty are now National Landscapes. The terminology should be changed throughout the Plan to reflect this (apart from where the original is within the title of a document or existing policy).

The description of the 'Lune Valley Floodplain' in the policy is different to the description as 'Valley Floodplain' on the policy map. One or the other should be amended so that they read the same. This should avoid potential arguments over discrepancy and whether the policy applies to the area it is intended to.

The aim behind the additional last paragraph is supported. However, the scope appears to be narrow, referring to Aughton only and without a map there could be disagreements over how far it extends. The Parish includes wider areas of dark skies than Aughton, in particular the Crook of Lune which is a designated a Dark Sky Discovery Site. It is recommended that the policy is amended to expand on the protection of dark skies by amending bullet point 3.C) as follows:

Measures should be taken to protect the night sky from light pollution and minimise other disturbance to wildlife.

Map 2

It is recommended that a description of the map is included in the title e.g. Landscape Character Areas.

Policy HA-3 Area of Separation

The history behind the drafting of the policy, the local support and the reasoning behind the inclusion of this policy in the Plan is understood. However, issues raised previously about the duplication of the Local Plan policy and lack of evidence to support an additional designation remain. Policy EN6: Areas of Separation of the Local Plan already affords this area protection and policy DM39: The Setting of Designated Heritage Assets seeks to ensure that development within the setting of a heritage asset enhances or better reveals their significance. Policy HA-3 doesn't add anything to these policies, indeed the first sentence simply refers to Local Plan policy EN6. It is recommended that this policy is removed from the Plan before it proceeds to submission.

Policy HA-4 Local Green Spaces

The Council recognises that our previous advice in terms of providing further information and explanation for the detailed analysis section has been taken on board, but we still have some concerns in relation to how the assessment conclusions have been reached. The National Planning Practice Guidance sets out that 'different types of designations are intended to achieve different purposes. If land is already protected by designation, then consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space'. As acknowledged within your report, there are a number of sites which are already designated via other policies within the Local Plan, such as policy SC3: Open Space, Recreation and Leisure, and from the assessments the additional local benefit that a Local Green Space designation would provide is not clear. Additionally, there are a number of sites where the extent to which they satisfy the criteria set out in paragraph 106 of the NPPF is not clear.

Site	Council Comments
LGS A – St Wilfrid's Park Play Area	The site is already designated under Local Plan policy SC3. It is not clear how this site is demonstrably special in comparison to other play areas across the district to warrant a Local Green Space designation. Whilst historical significance has been added to the conclusion as to why the site is considered suitable, the overall assessment suggests the reason for designation relates more to concerns around land ownership. It is recommended that this site is removed from the policy.
LGS B – Lune Riverbank	The assessment demonstrates how the site fulfils the Local Green designation. In response to the Council's previous comments, the boundaries of parcel 27a have been amended to remove the area which isn't green space and this is supported.
LGS C – Wooded Bank above Recreation Area	The site is already designated under Local Plan policy SC3. From the assessment the site provides more of a green corridor function, rather than fulfilling demonstrably special criteria of a Local Green Space designation. Whilst it is recognised that the area of woodland to the north of The Centre provides a footpath connecting The Centre to a path that connects to High Road, and whilst a small proportion of the land to the west of this may be publicly accessible, the majority of the woodland is not as there are signs which clearly indicate the wooded area is private. The Council is not clear why this site warrants the designation of a Local Green Space. It is recommended that this site is removed from the policy.
LGS D – Town End Farm Field	Whilst the heritage value of this site is recognised, the NPPF is clear that a Local Green Space needs to be demonstrably special to the community it serves and hold a particular local significance. The location of the northern boundary of the site is not a clearly defined edge, and why this boundary has been chosen is not clear. Whilst not disputing the value of this field the Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space for historic significance in comparison to other similar areas adjacent to listed buildings.
LGS E – Forge Wood	The site has the character of a green corridor on the edge of the settlement with access amongst most of the site's length limited to the path. The site boundaries are unclear and it is indicative of an extensive tract of land. The Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space.

Map 3

It is recommended that a description of the map is included in the title e.g. Local Green Spaces.

Policy HA-5 Flooding

The policy proposed policy is supported, it is considered to be consistent with national and local policies and is supported by is robust evidence.

The quality of the maps should be improved prior to submission. The map at Figure 5 is unclear (the road names are not discernible) and the all the keys are unclear.

The area closest to Kirkby Lonsdale Road shown on Figure 5 is now within a housing site. This area needs to be removed from the safeguarded area.

Chapter 6 Housing Need

Policy HA-8 Halton Urban Development

The aim of the policy, to ensure any proposed development takes into account site specific landscape and flooding constraints, is supported. The changes made to this policy are acknowledged and do address some of the concerns previously raised but there is still a lack of evidence to support designation of land as 'areas of constraint'. Whilst Appendix 6 identifies the areas intended to be covered and refers to steeper sites and capacity of drainage, there is no assessment of each site or reasoning as to why they are particularly constrained. Appendix 6 appears to dwell on costs and viability rather than provide evidence to support the policy. Both the steepness of a site and drainage are issues that are considered through the planning application process. The arrangement of a site, design, landscape impact and drainage are all covered by policies in the Local Plan and other policies within the Plan. It is not considered that the second paragraph of the policy is necessary or justified and it is therefore recommended that it is removed. Alternatively, Appendix 6 could be amended to provide further site-specific information in support of the designations and to remove or reduce the emphasis on viability.

The background text dwells on a previously proposed boundary and whilst this is no longer proposed, the text reads as if it is attempting to implement such a boundary by default. There is no evidence, the Landscape Character Assessment does not address this, to support the text. It is recommended that the supporting text is amended to better reflect the proposed policy.

Housing Opportunity Sites

The section relates to sites but provides no assessment of them or related policy. As a policy is not proposed and the text will not materially affect decision making, the section is unnecessary and it is recommended that it is removed.

Chapter 7: High Quality and Sustainable Design

Sustainable Design

The February 2024 version of the draft Plan included policy HA-10 Sustainable Design. This policy was supported subject to a revision to criteria 1. Subject to this amendment the reinsertion of this policy would be supported as it would be consistent with the ambitions of the Council and the aims of the CELPR.

Without the policy there is no need for the section on Sustainable Design. Paragraph 7.9 notes, sustainable design is considered to be adequately addressed through Local Plan policies. As the Plan does not propose a policy, the background text does not add to the existing policy context and if a policy is not reinserted, it is recommended that this section is removed.

Map 5 & 6

It is recommended that the title of the map is amended to include reference to the community facilities for clarity.

Local Green Spaces Assessment Report July 2024

The report is currently attached at the end of the draft plan. It is recommended that this is separated out from the plan and published as a separate supporting document.

Appendix 11 – Review of Formal Reg. 14 Consultation

Ref. No.	Section / Vision / Objective / Policy No.	Comments Received	Steering Group Consideration	Draft Plan Amendments
2	3	Broadly agree but it is disappointing to see the vision apparently limited to people 'bringing up families' - many live in the village beyond that description and others have moved here for whom it does not apply	Accepted	Update 1st paragraph of Vision to: In 2031 local people will value Halton-with Aughton as a place where they want to spend their lives and bring up their families taking advantage of the many opportunities the locality affords.
4	6	<p>"I strongly support the constraints placed on developers in the Neighbourhood Plan. Ensuring that future housing developments meet the specific needs of the local population while preserving the character of Halton is crucial. The focus on restricting development due to physical and landscape constraints, including the proximity to the M6 motorway, the Forest of Bowland AONB, and flood risks, is essential to maintaining the village's integrity and preventing overdevelopment. This approach will help safeguard Halton's unique character and ensure that any growth is both sustainable and in keeping with the community's needs.</p> <p>When purchasing property on Forest Heights, we were assured that the estate, including its green areas, would be transferred to residents. Unfortunately, the developer has been delaying this transfer, and in the meantime, residents are facing substantial annual fees for basic maintenance such as grass cutting. These fees are justified by vague and inaccurate accounts provided by the developer, which has created financial and management difficulties for the community.</p> <p>Additionally, the estate was developed with specific planning commitments, including a swale waterway intended to manage water runoff. However, each property has been fitted with aqua cells designed to handle rainwater</p>	Noted.	No change.

		<p>runoff from the houses. These cells have proven ineffective, leading to garden flooding and excessively wet conditions that impair the usability of outdoor spaces.</p> <p>These issues are having a significant impact on our quality of life and the effectiveness of the infrastructure intended to support the community. I urge the NDP to consider these concerns and support measures to address these ongoing problems and ensure that future developments meet their planning commitments and provide effective solutions for water management.</p>		
6	9	Concern that the Halton village infrastructure (e.g. shops, school) will not be able to sustain an influx of people if the development on Arrow Lane goes ahead	Noted.	No change.
7	9	The parade of shops on High Road should be included in this policy, they are important community facilities.	Accepted	Para 9.3 added: The shops, chip shop and hairdresser on High Road are identified as a Rural Local Centre in the Local Plan which recognises the role of the local service businesses and provides protection for them.
9	9	A bowling green could be good for older residents.	Accepted	Para. 10.15 added: Facilities for older residents may be desirable, such as a bowling green.
9	10	The footpath network needs improving and linking. I understand that some elderly people would like a bowling green. Safer road crossings are urgently needed.	Noted. The PC will continue to work to support improvements in bus services and road safety.	No change.
11	10	If Castle Hill is opened to the public the lack of suitable parking areas will be more apparent especially if it brings in visitors.	Noted. This is not relevant to the NP but may need to be considered by the Parish Council.	No change.

12	10.21	The footpath to the west of Dale Wood has historical evidence to suggest it should be a higher status.	Noted. This refers to an aspirational footpath, so it may be something to explore once Castle Hill has been opened.	No change.
18	4	Thank you for the email concerning Green Spaces and the Halton Development Plan. I think that "The wooded bank from Quarry Road to the centre fulfils the criteria to confirm it as a Green Space." It is in close proximity to the community. It has a richness of wildlife (ancient rookery) and it is not an extensive tract of land. I am not sure of the meaning of "extensive" in this context. It also forms part of the whole ownership of the Manor House and Cottage. The idea of building on such land would be extremely difficult due to its high gradient and inaccessibility. I feel we need less houses, more infrastructure and more open spaces.	Accepted.	LGS-C Test 4 updated to include: It homes a large, possibly ancient, rookery.
21	HA-5	Under Policy HA-5 Flooding: consideration should be made of the impacts of climate change on all sources of flooding. Guidance on when and how to do this can be found here: Flood risk assessments: climate change allowances (https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessments-climate-change-allowances/) Under Appendix 4: Point 3 it is outlined that Halton will be registered as a critical drainage area (CDA). It should be noted that it is the council not the Environment Agency that designate CDA's	Accepted.	Policy HA-5 amended. New sentence: Proposals will be expected to give consideration to the impacts of climate change on all sources of flooding in accordance with most up to date Government Guidance. Appendix 4, point 3 amended to remove "and registering Halton as a 'critical drainage area' – which requires extra investigations for development sites"
23	General	We are concerned that many of our comments provided in response to the draft Neighbourhood Plan Consultation (points (d) to (i) of our response	Accepted.	Some of the comments from the Informal Consultation stage were accidentally missed. They have been included below by the

		dated 30 April 2024) appear to have been missed when preparing the revised plan for the Regulation 14 Consultation, as these have not been included within the "Informal Consultation 2024 – Responses and Actions.pdf" doc		corresponding comment which were repeated by the consultee.
23	HA-5 General	<p>The Lead Local Flood Authority generally support the principles contained within the policy to manage specific flooding issues in the neighbourhood plan area, which go beyond the adopted policies within Lancaster City Council's Local Plan, and we are pleased to see that some of our comments on the draft plan have been taken on board to provide additional clarity to the policy.</p> <p>However, we would urge the parish council to consider the following amendments to make the policy more robust and unlock some of the opportunities presented by new development in the neighbourhood to deliver the measures contained within the Halton Initial Assessment Flood Risk Management Study (B2327FF1-JUK-ZZ-HA-RP-Z-1201, P02, February 2020, Jacobs) (hereafter referred to as the 'flood risk management study')</p>	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
23	HA-5 (a)	Points 3 and 4 of Policy HA-5 – We support the inclusion of point 4 within the revised policy to encourage new development in areas identified to support the delivery of the 'do-something' options identified, in line with paragraph 167c of the National Planning Policy Framework, where the parish council consider this appropriate, reasonable and justified.	Noted. No change necessary.	No change.
23	HA-5 (a)	The parish council may wish to make the policy more explicit to define what is considered by this 'support', for example, to privately fund and deliver, or contribute towards the options.	Accepted.	Policy HA-5 (4) amended by adding: This support may for example, consist of privately funding and delivering one or more of the 'Do something' options, or contributing towards the 'Do something' options.
23	HA-5 (a)	However, the parish council should satisfy itself that there are no conflicts between points 3 and 4 of the policy to avoid any ambiguity regarding the delivery of the plan.	Noted. The PC considers that there shouldn't be a conflict between points 3 and 4; it should be quite clear to decision makers	No change.

			that safeguarded land could be used for the 'do something options' and not for say, housing or other non-flood related development.	
23	HA-5 (a)	While we support the principle of safeguarding land for current or future flood risk management, in line with paragraph 167b of the National Planning Policy Framework, we would urge the parish council to consider if this is a reasonable approach. The parish council should account for the fact that the options identified would currently not attract 100% funding through national Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Grant-in-Aid ² , which is available to the flood risk management authorities to take the options forward, and that the options identified within the flood risk management study are only indicative, not a commitment to pursue any action requiring the land identified.	Noted. The PC considers that this is a reasonable approach. The neighbourhood plan area has a history of flooding. It is appropriate for the NDP to have a positive and locally detailed planning framework to help address flooding even if the identified options would not be 100% funded and are indicative. It is possible that opportunities may arise over the plan period to deliver these (or other suitable) options and a positive policy in the NDP may help support future delivery.	No change.
23	HA-5 (b)	Point 5 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council may wish to expand on this to identify such opportunities for flood risk mitigation measures, for example, the use of natural flood management measures in addition to the inclusion of sustainable drainage systems to manage the runoff generated by new development.	Accepted.	Amend Policy HA-5 Point 5 to: 5. Recognise that development can provide opportunities for the provision of flood risk mitigation. 'This could include, for example, the use of natural flood management measures in addition to sustainable drainage systems to manage the

				runoff generated by new development. Proposals should seek to ensure that such opportunities are taken and delivered;
23	HA-5 (c)	<p>Point 6 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council should clarify the areas meant by the "existing overloaded network of surface water drains and culverts" and the basis on which this has been identified. For example, the drawing contained within Appendix E of the flood risk management study (Halton drainage network capacity during 1.3% AEP event)? This may need to be included as a map within the neighbourhood plan.</p> <p>This point should also be changed to "...avoiding discharging any additional flows...". In some instances, it may not be reasonably practicable for new development to avoid discharging any flows into the network identified, for example, to comply with the hierarchy of drainage options set out in the Planning Practice Guidance and Policy DM34 of the adopted Lancaster Local Plan, where the alternative options are less sustainable (e.g., combined sewer). There is a risk with the proposed wording that new development will instead be encouraged to discharge flows into other systems which did not previously receive it, potentially generating new and unknown issues.</p> <p>In these cases, the parish council may wish to expand on point 4, insofar that where a discharge into the "existing overloaded network of surface water drains and culverts" cannot be avoided, development discharging into this network must take measures to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding, such as through over attenuation and restricted discharge rates below the minimum standards set out in the Defra Technical Standards for SuDS. Further examples of such measures are included within paragraph 063 of the National Planning Practice Guidance.</p>	Accepted.	<p>Map of drainage network capacity during 1.3% AEP event added from the Jacobs report.</p> <p>Policy HA-5 point 6 amended to refer to new map.</p> <p>Point 6 amended to include: Where this cannot be avoided, development discharging into this network must take measures to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding, such as through over-attenuation and restricted discharge rates below the minimum standards set out in the Defra Technical Standards for SuDS and paragraph 063 of National Planning Practice Guidance.'</p>
23	HA-5 (d)	Point 7 of Policy HA-5 – The parish council should amend the language 'excess flows' to 'exceedance flows' for consistency with The SuDS Manual (C753)4 and the national Defra Technical Standards for SuDS5 (standard S9).	Accepted	Policy HA-5 point 7 amended: Deleted 'excess flows' and replaced with 'exceedance flows'

		This point should also be changed to "...will not cause increased off-site flooding..." in line with paragraph 173 of the National Planning Policy Framework.		Inserted 'increased' before 'off site'.
23	General	In every instance, the parish council must minimise the risk of individual people (particularly private landowners) being identifiable through reference to the flood risk management study, in order to comply with the obligations of the county council and the parish council set out in the Data Protection Act 2018.	Noted.	In the opinion of the Parish Council individual ownership of land is publicly available information and therefore highlighting areas of land for flood mitigation measures should not be an issue. Additionally, using Land Registry information, letters were sent to all registered landowners to give them an opportunity to object and no objections were received.
28	3	The Neighbourhood Plan, Objective 5: Could also refer also to the potential for indoor sport and leisure improvements through financial contributions from new residential developments.	Accepted.	Objective 5 amended to: To recognise the importance of community, sport and recreation facilities in the Parish by ensuring existing facilities are protected and proposals for new and improved facilities are supported including through financial contributions from new residential developments.
28	General	I would encourage the use of improved mapping imagery to that policy areas can be clearly identified, maps in the document lose some resolution when they are zoomed in.	Accepted	Larger versions of maps to be made available on website where available.
29	1	The additional information about public engagement in sections 1.13 to 1.34 is important to outline the consultation process. However, it would be better placed in the Consultation Statement to be included as part of the submission to the Council for examination.	Accepted	Consultation details (1.13-1.34) moved to the separate Consultation Statement document.

		We are still awaiting the Inspectors report of the Climate Emergency Local Plan Review (CELPR) so progress has slipped. It is now anticipated that the plan will be adopted Winter 2024.		
29	3	For ease of use, it is recommended that the titles of the policies are added to 3.7 and a brief description of what the maps depict.	Accepted	Title of policy added to maps listed in 3.7
29	General	The report is current attached at the end of the draft plan. It is recommended that this is separated out from the plan and published as a separate supporting document.	Accepted	Documents separated.
29	HA-1	<p>Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty are now National Landscapes. The terminology should be changed throughout the Plan to reflect this (apart from where the original is within the title of a document or existing policy).</p> <p>The description of the 'Lune Valley Floodplain' in the policy is different to the description as 'Valley Floodplain' on the policy map. One or the other should be amended so that they read the same. This should avoid potential arguments over discrepancy and whether the policy applies to the area it is intended to.</p> <p>The aim behind the additional last paragraph is supported. However, the scope appears to be narrow, referring to Aughton only and without a map there could be disagreements over how far it extends. The Parish includes wider areas of dark skies than Aughton, in particular the Crook of Lune which is a designated a Dark Sky Discovery Site. It is recommended that the policy is amended to expand on the protection of dark skies by amending bullet point 3.C) as follows:</p> <p>Measures should be taken to protect the night sky from light pollution and minimise other disturbance to wildlife.</p>	Accepted	<p>NDP amended to replace 'AONB' with 'National Landscape'_(except where it refers to a document tile or is in an existing policy.)</p> <p>HA-1 amended to change "Lune Valley Floodplain" to "Valley Floodplain".</p> <p>HA-1 amended: delete final paragraph and change to: 'Measures should be taken to protect the night sky from light pollution and minimise other disturbance to wildlife, , particularly in Dark Sky Discovery Sites.'</p>
29	General	Map 2: It is recommended that a description of the map is included in the title e.g. Landscape Character Areas	Accepted	Map 2 title amended to "Policy HA-1 Conserving and Enhancing Local Landscape Character Areas"

		<p>Map 3: It is recommended that a description of the map is included in the title e.g. Local Green Spaces.</p> <p>Map 5 & 6 It is recommended that the title of the map is amended to include reference to the community facilities for clarity.</p>		<p>Map 3 title amended to “Policy HA-4 Local Green Spaces Areas”</p> <p>Map 4 title amended to “Policy HA-11 Community Facilities Locations (Halton)”</p> <p>Map 5 title amended to “Policy HA-11 Community Facilities Locations (Aughton)”</p>
29	HA-3	<p>The history behind the drafting of the policy, the local support and the reasoning behind the inclusion of this policy in the Plan is understood. However, issues raised previously about the duplication of the Local Plan policy and lack of evidence to support an additional designation remain. Policy EN6: Areas of Separation of the Local Plan already affords this area protection and policy DM39: The Setting of Designated Heritage Assets seeks to ensure that development within the setting of a heritage asset enhances or better reveals their significance. Policy HA-3 doesn’t add anything to these policies, indeed the first sentence simply refers to Local Plan policy EN6. It is recommended that this policy is removed from the Plan before it proceeds to submission.</p>	<p>Not accepted. This policy is important to the parish, confirmed by the public consultation in 2022.</p>	<p>No change.</p>
29	HA-4	<p>The Council recognises that our previous advice in terms of providing further information and explanation for the detailed analysis section has been taken on board, but we still have some concerns in relation to how the assessment conclusions have been reached. The National Planning Practice Guidance sets out that ‘different types of designations are intended to achieve different purposes. If land is already protected by designation, then consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as Local Green Space’. As acknowledged within your report, there are a number of sites which are already designated via other policies within the Local Plan, such as policy SC3: Open Space, Recreation and Leisure, and from the assessments the additional local benefit that a Local Green Space designation would provide is not clear. Additionally, there are a number of sites where the extent to which they satisfy the criteria set out in paragraph 106 of the NPPF is not clear.</p>	<p>Not accepted. The PC would like to retain the proposed LGS as it considers the criteria in the NPPF are met and it demonstrates to local residents that the importance to the community is recognised.</p>	<p>No change</p>

29	HA-4	<p>LGS A – St Wilfrid’s Park Play Area</p> <p>The site is already designated under Local Plan policy SC3. It is not clear how this site is demonstrably special in comparison to other play areas across the district to warrant a Local Green Space designation. Whilst historical significance has been added to the conclusion as to why the site is considered suitable, the overall assessment suggests the reason for designation relates more to concerns around land ownership. It is recommended that this site is removed from the policy.</p>	<p>Not accepted.</p> <p>The PC would like to retain the proposed LGS as it considers the criteria in the NPPF are met and it demonstrates to local residents that the importance to the community is recognised.</p>	No change
29	HA-4	<p>LGS B – Lune Riverbank</p> <p>The assessment demonstrates how the site fulfils the Local Green designation. In response to the Council’s previous comments, the boundaries of parcel 27a have been amended to remove the area which isn’t green space and this is supported.</p>	Noted	No change
29	HA-4	<p>LGS C – Wooded Bank above Recreation Area</p> <p>The site is already designated under Local Plan policy SC3. From the assessment the site provides more of a green corridor function, rather than fulfilling demonstrably special criteria of a Local Green Space designation.</p> <p>Whilst it is recognised that the area of woodland to the north of The Centre provides a footpath connecting The Centre to a path that connects to High Road, and whilst a small proportion of the land to the west of this may be publicly accessible, the majority of the woodland is not as there are signs which clearly indicate the wooded area is private. The Council is not clear why this site warrants the designation of a Local Green Space. It is recommended that this site is removed from the policy.</p>	<p>Not accepted.</p> <p>The PC would like to retain the proposed LGS as it considers the criteria in the NPPF are met and it demonstrates to local residents that the importance to the community is recognised.</p>	No change
29	HA-4	<p>LGS D – Town End Farm Field</p> <p>Whilst the heritage value of this site is recognised, the NPPF is clear that a Local Green Space needs to be demonstrably special to the community it serves and hold a particular local significance. The location of the northern boundary of the site is not a clearly defined edge, and why this boundary has been chosen is not clear. Whilst not disputing the value of this field the Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a</p>	<p>Not accepted.</p> <p>The PC would like to retain the proposed LGS as it considers the criteria in the NPPF are met and it demonstrates to local residents that the</p>	No change

		Local Green Space for historic significance in comparison to other similar areas adjacent to listed buildings.	importance to the community is recognised.	
29	HA-4	LGS E – Forge Wood The site has the character of a green corridor on the edge of the settlement with access amongst most of the site’s length limited to the path. The site boundaries are unclear and it is indicative of an extensive tract of land. The Council is not clear why this particular area warrants the designation of a Local Green Space.	Not accepted. The PC would like to retain the proposed LGS as it considers the criteria in the NPPF are met and it demonstrates to local residents that the importance to the community is recognised.	No change
29	HA-5	The policy proposed policy is supported, it is considered to be consistent with national and local policies and is supported by is robust evidence. The quality of the maps should be improved prior to submission. The map at Figure 5 is unclear (the road names are not discernible) and the all the keys are unclear. The area closest to Kirkby Lonsdale Road shown on Figure 5 is now within a housing site. This area needs to be removed from the safeguarded area.	Accepted	Figures 3-6 moved to Appendix 4, so that the size can be increased and quality improved. Figure 5 / Map 17 updated to remove area from H2.9 housing area.
29	HA-8	The aim of the policy, to ensure any proposed development takes into account site specific landscape and flooding constraints, is supported. The changes made to this policy are acknowledged and do address some of the concerns previously raised but there is still a lack of evidence to support designation of land as ‘areas of constraint’. Whilst Appendix 6 identifies the areas intended to be covered and refers to steeper sites and capacity of drainage, there is no assessment of each site or reasoning as to why they are particularly constrained. Appendix 6 appears to dwell on costs and viability rather than provide evidence to support the policy. Both the steepness of a site and drainage are issues that are considered through the planning application process. The	Partly accepted.	Reference to previously proposed development boundary (6.28) removed. HA-8 updated to include an “outline viability assessment” to demonstrate how constraints will be overcome. Appendix 6 removed. Amended to highlight clear physical and planning constraints emphasised in 1st paragraph, along with flood risk in 2nd paragraph.

		<p>arrangement of a site, design, landscape impact and drainage are all covered by policies in the Local Plan and other policies within the Plan.</p> <p>It is not considered that the second paragraph of the policy is necessary or justified and it is therefore recommended that it is removed. Alternatively, Appendix 6 could be amended to provide further site-specific information in support of the designations and to remove or reduce the emphasis on viability.</p> <p>The background text dwells on a previously proposed boundary and whilst this is no longer proposed, the text reads as if it is attempting to implement such a boundary by default. There is no evidence, the Landscape Character Assessment does not address this, to support the text. It is recommended that the supporting text is amended to better reflect the proposed policy.</p>		
29	6	<p>Housing Opportunity Sites</p> <p>The section relates to sites but provides no assessment of them or related policy. As a policy is not proposed and the text will not materially affect decision making, the section is unnecessary, and it is recommended that it is removed.</p>	Accepted.	<p>Paragraphs 6.33 & 6.34 merged to paragraphs before HA-8.</p> <p>The sites have been removed.</p>
29	4	<p>Sustainable Design</p> <p>The February 2024 version of the draft Plan included policy HA-10 Sustainable Design. This policy was supported subject to a revision to criteria 1. Subject to this amendment the reinsertion of this policy would be supported as it would be consistent with the ambitions of the Council and the aims of the CELPR.</p> <p>Without the policy there is no need for the section on Sustainable Design. Paragraph 7.9 notes, sustainable design is considered to be adequately addressed through Local Plan policies. As the Plan does not propose a policy, the background text does not add to the existing policy context and if a policy is not reinserted, it is recommended that this section is removed.</p>	Accepted	<p>Previous policy HA-10 Sustainable Design merged into HA-9.</p>

Appendix 12 – Screening 2025

The Submission Plan was passed to Lancaster City Council for a final SEA & HRA screening opinion in December 2024; and to the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England for a SEA & HRA screening consultation.

Lancaster City Council Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) SEA Screening Report (January 2025)

Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental (SEA) Screening Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Lancaster City Council has prepared this screening report to support Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council in determining whether the contents of the draft Halton-with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan are likely to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).
- 1.2 The requirement to undertake environmental assessment of plans and programmes was established in the EU Directive 2001/42/EC (SEA Directive), transposed into English law in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. Under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations SEA is required where a plan or programme is likely to have a significant effect on the environment. The assessment provides the main mechanism for ensuring that the environmental implications of decisions are considered before decisions are made and should be an integral part of plan preparation where potential for significant effects on the environment have been identified.
- 1.3 Under its 'duty to support' Lancaster City Council has been requested to determine whether, based on the preparation of the 2024 Draft Version of the Neighbourhood Plan, the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan requires a SEA.

2. Background

- 2.1 Neighbourhood Planning gives local communities the opportunity to prepare planning documents for their area, enabling them to shape the future of where they live and giving them greater ownership of the plans and policies that affect them. Introduced under the Localism Act in 2011 Neighbourhood Plans provide a new tier of planning policy.
- 2.2 Planning policy for the district is established in the Lancaster District Local Plan. This currently consists of policies contained in the adopted Strategic Policies and Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD), the Development Management DPD, The Arnsdale and Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) DPD and the Morecambe Area Action Plan`.
- 2.3 The City Council has undertaken a Climate Emergency Partial Review of the Local Plan aimed at strengthening its approach towards adapting to and mitigating against the impacts of Climate Change. This follows the declaration of a Climate Emergency by the City Council in January 2024. The Partial Review of the Local Plan has recently been found sound by an independent Planning Inspector and will shortly be adopted by the City Council. On adoption the policies will replace those currently contained within the current Local Plan.
- 2.4 Whilst only just completing the partial review the City Council has made the decision to undertake a full review of the Local Plan. The full review will cover all policy areas and will revisit issues including housing, employment, design, climate change and the natural environment. Initial scoping work has been undertaken and further consultation on issues and potential options is scheduled to take place early in 2025.

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) SEA Screening Report (January 2025)

- 2.5 The Neighbourhood plan area for Halton-with-Aughton was formally designated on the 26th October 2015. This confirmed the Parish Council's commitment to preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and identified the proposed Neighbourhood Plan area.
- 2.6 Following this Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council commenced preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan with a Draft Neighbourhood Plan Document prepared in April 2024. A Submission Plan has now been prepared. Lancaster City Council have used this information to undertake initial SEA screening of the Neighbourhood Plan.

2 SEA Screening

- 3.1 The SEA regulations require the responsible authority to determine whether or not a plan is likely to have a significant effect and therefore whether SEA is needed. When determining whether a Neighbourhood Plan requires SEA, the SEA regulations require that the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations are considered. The City Council has undertaken this assessment for the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan.

Table 1- Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

SEA Requirement	Comments
The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to:	
(a) the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources	The Neighbourhood Plan has potential to determine the use of small areas at a local level, whether that is through the application of detailed criteria or the allocation of land.
b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	The Plan sits in a hierarchy and must be in conformity with strategic policies in the development plan. It is unlikely to influence other plans and programmes.
(c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to promote sustainable development. The Plan has a strong focus on the protection of the natural and built environment.
(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme	There are no environmental problems relevant to this plan.
(e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	The Neighbourhood Plan has no relevance to the implementation of Community legislation.
Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to -	
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	The Neighbourhood Plan covers a 7 year plan period and seeks to conserve the rural setting of the parish recognising both natural and heritage assets in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) SEA Screening Report (January 2025)

	<p>It aims to deliver high quality development with development restricted to the settlement boundary and strong policies limiting opportunities for significant growth.</p> <p>The need to maintain the historic fabric and landscape of the Parish is given a strong focus. Very limited levels of development are promoted within the document.</p> <p>The need to protect the natural environment as well as the promotion of net gain is well recognised within the Plan.</p> <p>The Plan does not contain any development allocations.</p> <p>The strong environmental and historic focus of the Neighbourhood Plan together with policies within the District wide Local Plan make it unlikely that significant effects will occur.</p> <p>A monitoring framework is including detailing how the Neighbourhood Plan will be monitored.</p>
(b) the cumulative nature of the effects	The absence of large allocations and strong environmental focus together with protective criteria make it unlikely that negative significant environmental effects will occur either individually or cumulatively with other development and decisions. The Plan must also be in conformity with the Lancaster District Local Plan. This will ensure the protection of environmental assets.
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects	There are no transboundary effects. The Plan applies to the Neighbourhood Plan only.
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	The Plan poses no risk to human health.
(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	Effects are considered to be limited to the Neighbourhood Plan area only.
(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to - (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (iii) intensive land-use; and	The Plan is located in close proximity to a number of environmental designations and is partially within the Forest of Bowland National Landscape area. Whilst there is potential for impacts to this designation the wording of the policy and strong focus on protection make this unlikely. The Plan is very much focussed on ensuring that the special qualities of this area are protected.

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) SEA Screening Report (January 2025)

	<p>The plan area is also home to a number of designated and non-designated heritage assets. The plan contains specific policies for the protection of these assets including their setting. The protection of heritage assets is also continued throughout the rest of the plan.</p>
<p>(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.</p>	<p>The Plan is very much focussed on ensuring that the special qualities of this area are protected.</p>

3 Screening Outcome

- 3.3 Initial internal screening of the Neighbourhood Plan concludes that it is unlikely that the Neighbourhood Plan would result in a significant environmental effect. The strong focus of the Neighbourhood Plan on the protection of the environment, heritage assets, its National Landscape focus and lack of allocations make it unlikely to result in significant effects.
- 3.4 The council is satisfied that the Plan is unlikely to result in significant effects.
- 3.5 The three statutory bodies have confirmed this conclusion.

Lancaster City Council Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening Report

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) HRA Report
(January 2025)

Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening of Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Lancaster City Council has prepared this screening report to support Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council in determining whether or not the contents of the proposed Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan are likely to require a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA).
- 1.2 Habitats and species of international nature conservation importance have historically been protected by the European Directive (92/43/EEC) on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (The Habitats Directive). This was transposed into British law via the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Following the UK's withdrawal from Europe a number of amendments have been made to the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) to ensure that they remain operable post January 2021. Most of these changes involve transferring functions from the European Commission to the appropriate authorities in England and Wales.
- 1.3 The amended regulations continue to identify a national site network comprising protected sites previously identified as part of the EU's Natura 2000 ecological network. The national site network includes Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). Ramsar sites whilst not included as part of the national site network remain protected in the same way as SACs and SPAs. Government policy statements have been issued making clear that they should be afforded the same level of protection afforded to SPAs and SACs.
- 1.4 Under the Regulations, an assessment is required where a plan or project may give rise to significant effects upon a protected site.
- 1.5 The overarching aim of HRA is to determine, in view of a site's conservation objectives and qualifying interests, whether a plan or project, either in isolation and/or in combination with other plans would have a significant adverse effect on a European site. If the screening concludes that a significant adverse effect is likely, then Appropriate Assessment must be undertaken to determine whether there will be adverse effects on site integrity.
- 1.6 While there are no designated sites within the proposed neighbourhood boundary, 9 sites are noted to be within a 15km radius of the boundary and could potentially be affected by the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan. Further information on these designations is provided below.

2. HRA process

- 2.1 The requirements of the Habitats Regulations comprises four distinct stages:

- *Stage 1: Screening.*

This is the stage which initially identifies the likely impacts upon a protected site of a project or plan, either alone or in-combination with other projects or plans, and considers whether these impacts may have a significant effect on the integrity of the site's qualifying habitats and/or species. Where a significant effect is identified the assessment moves onto stage 2.

- *Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment.*

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) HRA Report
(January 2025)

This provides the detailed consideration of the impact on the integrity of the protected site of the project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's conservation objectives and its structure and function. This is to determine whether or not there will be adverse effects on the integrity of the site. This stage also includes the development of mitigation measures to avoid or reduce any potential impacts.

- *Stage 3: Assessment of alternative solutions.*

This examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the plan or project that would avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the protected site, should avoidance or mitigation measures be unable to cancel out adverse effects.

- *Stage 4: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain.*

In such circumstances it must be demonstrated that the development is necessary for imperative reasons of overriding public interest.

3. Background

- 3.1 Neighbourhood Planning gives local communities the opportunity to prepare planning documents for their area, enabling them to shape the future of where they live and giving them greater ownership of the plans and policies that affect them. Introduced under the Localism Act in 2011 Neighbourhood Plans provide a new tier of planning policy.
- 3.2 Planning policy for the district is established in the Lancaster District Local Plan. This currently consists of policies contained in the adopted Strategic Policies and Land Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD), the Development Management DPD, The Arnside and Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) DPD and the Morecambe Area Action Plan`.
- 3.3 The City Council has undertaken a Climate Emergency Partial Review of the Local Plan aimed at strengthening its approach towards adapting to and mitigating against the impacts of Climate Change. This follows the declaration of a Climate Emergency by the City Council in January 2024. The Partial Review of the Local Plan has recently been found sound by an independent Planning Inspector and will shortly be adopted by the City Council. On adoption the policies will replace those currently contained within the current Local Plan.
- 3.4 Whilst only just completing the partial review the City Council has made the decision to undertake a full review of the Local Plan. The full review will cover all policy areas and will revisit issues including housing, employment, design, climate change and the natural environment. Initial scoping work has been undertaken and further consultation on issues and potential options is scheduled to take place early in 2025.
- 3.5 The Neighbourhood plan area for Halton-with-Aughton was formally designated on the 26th October 2015. This confirmed the Parish Council's commitment to preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and identified the proposed Neighbourhood Plan area.

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) HRA Report (January 2025)

- 3.6 Following this Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council commenced preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan with a Draft Neighbourhood Plan Document prepared in April 2024. A Submission Plan has now been prepared.
- 3.7 Lancaster City Council have used the information contained in the Submission Plan to undertake HRA screening of the Neighbourhood Plan.

4. Relevant Protected Sites

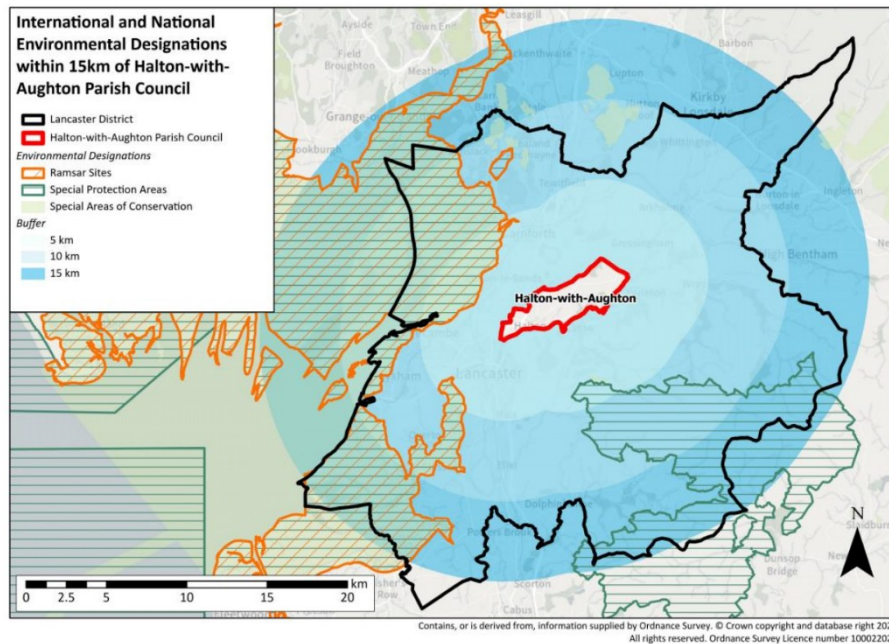
- 4.1 There are a number of designated sites that could potentially be affected by the Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan with 9 sites located within 15km of the Neighbourhood Plan boundary. Whilst outside of the boundary these sites could potentially be affected by the Neighbourhood Plan. As a general rule of thumb best practice indicates that sites with pathways of 10-15km of the plan/project should be included within a HRA.

Table 1 – Summary of Designated Sites

Site Name	Identification Number	Distance from the Neighbourhood Plan Boundary (km)
Special Protection Areas		
Bowland Fells	UK9005151	3.4
Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary	UK9020326	2.1
Leighton Moss	UK9005091	7.4
Special Areas of Conservation		
Morecambe Bay Pavements	UK0014777	7.3
Calf Hill and Cragg Woods	UK0030106	3.2
Ingleborough Complex	UK0012782	14.6
Morecambe Bay	UK0013027	2.1
RAMSAR sites		
Leighton Moss	UK11035	7.4
Morecambe Bay	UK11045	2.1

Figure 1 – International and national environmental designations within 15km of Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Boundary

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) HRA Report
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4.2 Further details on the description and character of the designated sites are provided below (appendix 1). The conservation of objections for the designations are also provided in appendix 2. This information was obtained from Natural England's website and informed by the wider Local Plan HRA assessment.

5. HRA Screening

- 5.1 The proximity of designated sites within 15km indicate that there could be potential for the plan, depending on its content, to have a significant adverse effect on a designated site.
- 5.2 The Submission Neighbourhood Plan has been screened for likely significant effects on designated sites. During the HRA screening stage, the likely nature, magnitude, frequency, timing, duration, location and spatial extent of changes resulting from implementation of the Neighbourhood Plan was assessed. As part of this, mechanisms through which the plan could impact upon Designated sites were considered.
- 5.3 The main impact pathways could be:
- Physical loss of habitat/damage to habitat
 - Non-physical disturbance
 - Recreational pressure
 - Contamination
 - Biological disturbance
 - Loss of functionally linked land
 - Changes in water quality
- 5.4 The conclusions of the initial assessment are described in table 2 below.

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(January 2025)

- 5.5 Policies that were screened out were generally those that could not lead to a direct pathway to any of the identified designated sites. These were generally policies that looked to protect historic assets and landscapes and the design of new development.
- 5.6 Of the nine designated sites, one can be ruled out completely on the basis that there are not considered to be any potential impact pathways which are likely to give rise to significant effects on this site. The site is the Ingleborough Complex.

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) HRA Report

Designated Sites	Policies										
	HA-1	HA-2	HA-3	HA-4	HA-5	HA-6	HA-7	HA-8	HA-9	HA-10	HA-11
Bowland Fells SPA	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	N
Leighton Moss SPA	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N
Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N
Calf Hill and Craggs Wood SAC	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N
Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N
Morecambe Bay SAC	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N
Morecambe Bay Ramsar	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N
Leighton Moss Ramsar	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	N	N

5.7 Unlikely effects on the Bowland Fells SPA, Leighton Moss SPA, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Calf Hill and Craggs Wood SAC, Morecambe Bay SAC, Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC, Morecambe Bay Ramsar, Leighton Moss Ramsar cannot be ruled out at this stage.

5.8 Initial screening identified three policies that cannot be ruled out at this stage:

- Policy HA7 'Meeting Local Housing Needs'
- Policy HA8 'Halton Urban Development'
- Policy HA10 'Active Travel'

5.11 A more detailed assessed of the screened in policies is provided in table 3.

Halton-with-Aughton Neighbourhood Plan (Submission Version December 2024) HRA Report (January 2025)

Table 3 – Detailed screening of policies

Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Designated Site Potentially affected	Development and Land Use Change and Potential Effects	Avoidance Potential	Recommendation/Conclusion
Policy HA-7 'Meeting Local Housing Needs'	Bowland Fells SPA, Leighton Moss SPA, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Calf Hill and Crags Wood SAC, Morecambe Bay SAC, Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC, Morecambe Bay Ramsar, Leighton Moss Ramsar	Policy HA7 sets out the requirements which new housing will be expected to deliver in relation to the size and type of properties and the delivery of affordable housing. New development has the potential to impact on designated sites through increased recreational pressure and changes in water quality where there are hydrological links to the Designated Site.	The policy seeks to restrict development to local needs. Whilst there is currently no wording within this Policy relating to the protection of Designated sites or non-designated ecological assets this protection is provided under Policy HA-2 'Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity'. The Plan would also be required to be read alongside the wider Local Plan for the area.	The existence of Policy HA-2 and higher-level policies means that no likely significant effects on designated sites are predicted as a result of the implementation of this policy.
Policy HA-8 Halton Urban Development	Bowland Fells SPA, Leighton Moss SPA, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Calf Hill and Crags Wood SAC, Morecambe	Policy HA8 states that development within Halton will be supported within the built-up area provided that it satisfies other policies within the Development Plan. New development has the potential to impact on designated sites through increased recreational pressure and changes in water quality where there	The policy seeks to restrict development to the existing built form of the settlement. It also identifies the use of infill sites, re-use of previously developed land, or the sensitive conversion of existing buildings as the priorities for new development.	The existence of Policy HA-2 and higher-level policies means that no likely significant effects on designated sites are predicted as a result of the implementation of this policy.

	Bay SAC, Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC, Morecambe Bay Ramsar, Leighton Moss Ramsar	are hydrological links to the Designated Site.	Whilst there is currently no wording within this Policy relating to the protection of Designated sites or non-designated ecological assets this protection is provided under Policy HA-2 'Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity'. The Plan would also be required to be read alongside the wider Local Plan for the area.	
Policy HA-10 'Active Travel'	Bowland Fells SPA	The policy sets out aspirations for for improvements to the active travel network in the area. Development has the potential to impact on the designated site through loss of habitat, disturbance to species as a result of construction activities/operational stage, changes in water quality where there are hydrological links to the Designated Site and potential increases in recreational pressure.	Whilst there is currently no wording within this Policy relating to the protection of Designated sites or non-designated ecological assets this protection is provided under Policy HA-2 'Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity'. The Plan would also be required to be read alongside the wider Local Plan for the area.	The existence of Policy HA-2 and higher-level policies means that no likely significant effects on designated sites are predicted as a result of the implementation of this policy.

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(January 2025)

6. Screening Conclusion

- 6.1 The HRA Screening Report of the Halton-with-Aughton Draft Neighbourhood Plan has considered the potential implications for designated sites near the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary.
- 6.2 The Submission document places a strong emphasis on the protection of the area's natural environment. The inclusion of Policy HA-2 'Protecting and Enhancing Wildlife and Geodiversity' is a welcomed inclusion and will ensure, together with policies within the Local Plan, that the Neighbourhood Plan would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the designated sites identified either alone, or in combination with other plans or projects.
- 6.3 The three statutory bodies have confirmed this conclusion.

SEA & HRA Screening Consultation - Environment Agency

Lancaster City Council
Planning Policy
Town Hall Marine Road East
MORECAMBE
Lancashire
LA4 5AF

Our ref: NO/2012/104361/OR-26/PO1-L01

Your ref:

Date: 17 January 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

Halton With Aughton Neighbourhood Plan Revised HRA and SEA Screening Opinion

Thank you for consulting us on the revised draft HRA and SEA screening reports for the Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Development Plan. We have reviewed the SEA screening report dated February 2024 and agree with your conclusion that no further work will be required for the SEA. The conclusions drawn in the HRA are beyond our remit, and we defer to our colleagues in Natural England regarding the findings of the HRA report.

Yours faithfully


ann ng v sor

e-mail clplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk

Environment Agency
Lutra House Walton Summit, Bamber Bridge, Preston, PR5 8BX.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency
End

SEA & HRA Screening Consultation - Natural England

Date: 17 January 2025
Our ref: 497241
Your ref: Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan



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Lancaster City Council

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BY EMAIL ONLY
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T 0300 060 3900

Dear [REDACTED]

Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan - SEA & HRA Screening Report Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 19 December 2024.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

It is Natural England's advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that:

- **significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely; and,**
- **significant effects on Habitats sites¹, either alone or in combination, are unlikely.**

The proposed neighbourhood plan is unlikely to significantly affect any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection areas (SPA), Ramsar wetland or sites in the process of becoming SACs or SPAs ('candidate SACs', 'possible SACs', 'potential SPAs') or a Ramsar wetland. The plan area is unlikely to have a significant effect on a National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast, and is unlikely to impact upon the purposes for which these areas are designated or defined.

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 is contained within the [Planning Practice Guidance](#). This identifies three triggers that may require the production of an SEA:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected

¹ Habitats sites are those referred to in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (Annex 2 - glossary) as "any site which would be included within the definition at regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 for the purpose of those regulations, including candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and any relevant Marine Sites".

species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require an SEA. Further information is included in Natural England's [standing advice](#) on protected species.


Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant an SEA. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission [standing advice](#).

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a SEA is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If a SEA is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

Please send any new consultations, or further information on this consultation to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely


onsultation Team

SEA & HRA Screening Consultation - Historic England



Historic England

[REDACTED]
Lancaster City Council
Planning and Place
PO Box 4, Town Hall
Dalton Square
Lancaster
LA1 1QR

Direct Dial: 0161 242 1445

Our ref: PL00797782

8 January 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan - SEA Screening Report

We write in response to your e-mail of 19th December 2024 seeking a formal screening opinion from Historic England on the need to prepare a SEA for the draft Halton with Aughton Neighbourhood Plan.

Historic England has produced a document that you might find helpful in providing guidance on the effective assessment of the historic environment in Strategic Environmental Assessments. This can be found at:

<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine the advice given to the question, "Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?", in respect to our area of concern, cultural heritage.

In the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 [Annex II of SEA Directive], and on the basis of the information supplied, we concur that the draft plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects upon the historic environment, and so Historic England are of the view that SEA is unlikely to be required.

We would like to stress that this opinion is based on the information made available in the email dated 19th December 2024. To avoid any doubt, this decision does not preclude Historic England providing further advice on later stages of the SEA process, should this be required, nor objecting to specific proposals that may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan/guidance), where we consider that these would have an adverse effect upon the historic environment. We note that the views of the other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for SEA is made.



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

Telephone 0161 242 1416
[HistoricEngland.org.uk](https://www.HistoricEngland.org.uk)

Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.



Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of Lancaster City Council and Lancashire County Council are closely involved in the development of the plan. They are best placed to advise on: local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the HER (formerly SMR); how the policies or proposals can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of historic assets.

Thank you for consulting Historic England. We request that you please send us a copy of the determination as required by Reg 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Yours sincerely,


Historic Places Adviser
@historicengland.org.uk

cc:



SUITES 3.3 AND 3.4 CANADA HOUSE 3 CHEPSTOW STREET MANCHESTER M1 5FW

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Halton-with-Aughton Parish Council with the support of:

