

NORTHALLERTON EXHIBITION ANALYSIS

Organisations involved:

North Yorkshire County Council	Hambleton District Council
Northallerton Town Council	National Farmers Union
Local Development Agencies	Over 50's Forum / Age Concern
Community Safety Partnership	North East Chamber of Commerce
Hambleton and Richmondshire Primary Care Trust	
Hambleton and Richmondshire Rural Transport Partnership	

81 people signed in on the day, with over 100 people estimated to have visited the exhibition throughout the day. General comments about the day were positive in that people found it useful to access information from a variety of service providers under the same roof. People also valued the opportunity to comment on future developments happening in and around the town. One negative comment was received from one resident who was concerned that these types of events needed to be more accessible to people living in villages who commuted out of the area to work, i.e. evening or weekend events.

Consultation feedback

The **Northallerton and Villages Community Plan Steering Group** used the event as part of their consultation programme. People were invited to comment on what they liked about where they lived, what they didn't like and if they could think of ways to improve the area. Below are the responses:

What do you like about where you live?

- Good range of shops and facilities, i.e. the hospital
- I feel safe at night
- Excellent hospital (2)
- Free parking (2)
- Leisure centre and gym
- New bus shelters at Buck Inn
- Bus shelters (2)
- The market (2)
- Cycle tracks
- Flowers in the High Street and litter bins
- Good road and rail links
- Royal Shakespeare Company coming
- Christmas illuminations

What don't you like about where you live?

- Lack of communication from County when we speak to them
- Grass verges not being maintained properly
- No cinema
- Cemetery water tap – delays
- Lots of rubbish in the streets

- Change the crossing by Friarage Street to a pelican crossing
- Maintenance of hedges / gardens / grass verges in Castle Close, Northallerton. Looks run down and is a disgrace
- Require pedestrian crossing near Romanby clock (disabled comp)
- Too many charity shops
- No more pylons
- County Council officers parking in Broomfield Street
- Tescos should be better monitored so as not to take trade away from other shops
- Cyclists on pavement
- School children littering – no response from school to complaints
- Giant pylons coming close to Northallerton. Bad for health and visually unpleasant
- Poor grasscutting. Grass in drains
- No giant pylons
- Rubbish on walkway near Tescos
- Slippage on appeal for Applegarth Park. Why has it taken so long?
- Library outside maintenance lacking
- Library gardens not maintained
- Paying for new toilets 20p too much
- Rubbish on streets
- Tall houses at Weavers Green
- Rail crossings – too many hold ups
- Cars parking on footpaths
- Stonecross fields not being properly maintained
- Cycle tracks difficult to use because thorn hedges not cut properly
- More frequent buses after the doctors moved
- New blue rubbish bags too small
- Youth problems in cemetery – abusive language and truants

Can you think of ways to improve where you live?

- Swimming pool to be open more to public and used less by schools
- More cycle lanes
- Cycle lanes joined up
- More facilities for childrens playground and picnic area – Stonecross
- Teaching first aid to school children
- More interesting parks for children
- Improve whole of town not just High Street re. Planting / cleaning etc
- Unemployed given opportunities to support councils re maintenance of gardens / hedges / verges. Introduce new schemes
- Traffic calming measures in Romanby Park same as in Harewood
- Develop Castle Hills for walkway park
- Need better recycling facilities, eg for plastic bags. People will recycle if the facilities are easily available
- Extension to Applegarth Park into Castlehills area – wildlife area etc. think big!
- A café suitable for young people for talking and relaxing
- Hilton Close street lights not bright enough
- Bus station

- To prevent addicts converging and leaving litter and threatening behaviour at Sheep Wash
- Stop cars parking on road near Netto and new crossing
- Boroughbridge Road needs a pelican crossing instead of an island
- More recycling bins for plastic
- Don't have bus station in High Street – keep at Buck Inn
- Locally run scheme for growing and selling food – support local farmers
- There should be bus stops near Netto to Brompton?
- 70 year old with heart condition difficulties to get to and from Doctors on Boroughbridge Road. What transport services are there?
- Buses to Doctors surgery
- Leisure activities organised by Council for older people eg ballroom dancing
- Relocation of Auction Mart to out of town
- Relocation of buses to adapted Auction Mart
- More toilets
- More parking
- More play areas for children
- Better variety of shops
- Improvement of Low Gates

Hambleton District Councils Planning Policy Department were also asking for people's comments on the future of Northallerton. These were as follows:

New Developments

- Flexibility shown on housing issues with agricultural ties considering the current state and change in British Farming
- Should be able to access reliable public transport if houses are built in villages
- People with learning and / or physical disabilities should be given more choice of the type of accommodation
- Housing to be developed on the site of HM Prison and the cattle mart (or use for retail)
- There has been a lot of housing built in Northallerton in the last 10 years, but no improvements to roads to accommodate extra people. Do we really need more housing?
- No housing developments in Brompton unless a brownfield site is identified
- Additional sheltered housing for elderly / disabled
- Housing should be developed in villages – Northallerton is becoming too big and is in real danger of losing its attractiveness as a market town.
- Type of property to be built that is in keeping with the town
- The proposed brown field sites to be made into Parkland, gardens etc for the over fifties to enjoy.
- Petrol station needed on south side of town
- Not spend any money on offices at Stone Cross – reduce or at least hold the Council Tax
- There needs to be greater level of support for village community facilities or else everyone will want to move to the town

- Darlington Road Industrial Estate needs tidying up and will therefore allow for more local industry to be developed
- Need to consider better access to bus's when raising pavements; is there lower paving opposite to get across – is the platform accessible from the road?
- More manufacturing would be beneficial rather than service sector and retail
- Need for more employment
- Jobs required on the outskirts of town
- Buses on an evening and Sundays to and from villages
- Sporting facilities managed by voluntary organisations should be rate free to help in their survival
- New toilets should have been erected over the previous block in front of the town hall but would be provide ideal site for proposed bandstand

Town Centre Improvement

- A bus station is needed and toilet facilities at the Southern end of the town
- Public toilets in Library and on the High Street
- A bus station
- Empty shops on the High Street are of concern
- Northallerton is well served by shops
- More of the big retailers would be very good
- The development areas 1 – 5 seem to be reasonable for redevelopment but the character of the town should be preserved as much as possible
- North End badly needs redevelopment. The Mount is being left to go to ruins which needs addressing instantly.
- Development of Applegarth to incorporate a parkland area
- Instead of improving the town centre you should improve North End and places outside the centre; have the area round the cemetery and the paths weeded regularly
- Demolish the prison and on the site erect a bus station, a theatre, shopping centre (undercover) and multi storey car park. With this in place demolish the community centre in Bullamoor Road, replace with multi storey car park for town and hospital. At the rear of the High Street behind Iceland form a paved area with single storey shops, seats and band stand and access to the old prison site. The Applegarth Mart to move up Darlington Road and mart site used to extend the Applegarth fields to be used for recreation. North End railway crossing – lower the line at this point and put a low line bridge over for traffic.
- Northallerton mart would provide ideal site for a larger community centre, theatre, car park and bus station with the Applegarth adjacent. Sell off the Community Centre for flats or housing and provide skateboard centre.
- In the villages cancel business rates on pubs and shops to prevent further closures or village life will evaporate

Traffic Management Improvement

- Levels of public transport or any other transport other than using my private car to get to Northallerton do not exist. Even taxis aren't keen to come to Thrintoft. If I use my bike the traffic is terrible and not safe.

- Re-arrange rail traffic or provide bridge or tunnel at North End railway crossing
- Provide round-a-bout at Warlabby crossroads. Widen road to Yafforth and continue to cross Darlington Road to Stokesley Road.
- The railway crossing problem should be addressed urgently
- The car parking on Crosby Road is appalling. Cars should be made to park all on one side or make the verges suitable for parking instead of grass which is very messy due to bad clearing up after cutting
- Remove responsibility from the control NYCC
- There has to be some way from through traffic to go through without going down/up South Parade / Thirsk Road etc. The town is choking on traffic
- Better signage when toilets behind Safeway are developed. Words 'accessible toilet' to be used and not disabled toilet
- Walking – cars parked on Brompton Road and Northallerton Road, Brompton cause people to have to walk on the road. This parking should be stopped
- Cycling – Why has footpath to Brompton on west side of road been signed only with cycles? Why are there barriers at the end near the Rugby Club and why is there a patch of unmade pavement?
- One way system during market days and more parking facilities (multi storey?)
- Deter parking in town centre – pedestrianise
- Development of a ring road round Northallerton
- Bus shelters – seats are uncomfortable – slope forward and not wide enough. Does not provide enough shelter
- Bus services are not frequent enough and times keep being changed
- Get the eastern by pass in as soon as possible before house building extensions take over the route

General comments

- Beck at Stone Cross has quantity of rubbish, tree boughs etc that need clearing out
- More litter bins around Stone Cross playing fields
- Grass cutting leaves quantity of grass on road side which is going into drains – concerned about blockage of drains
- Thorns from hedge along cycleway at Stone Cross causing punctures for cycles
- Litter around school fields and Stone Cross