

# Contents:

Preface	3
The Parish	4
Summary of Findings	7
Summary of Recommendations	10
Detailed Findings & Recommendations	13
<i>Housing</i>	14
<i>Communities</i>	16
<i>Schools</i>	18
<i>Churches and churchyards</i>	19
<i>Village halls</i>	21
<i>Transport and roads</i>	23
<i>Health and social services</i>	26
<i>Environment</i>	27
<i>Communication</i>	30
Ideas for Action	32
What happens next?	35
Appendices	36
<i>Contact details</i>	36
<i>Acknowledgements</i>	37
<i>Methodology</i>	38
<i>Copies of:</i>	
<i>Questionnaire</i>	40
<i>Ideas sheet</i>	41
<i>Legal</i>	42



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# Preface:

'Parish Plans were announced in the 2000 "Rural White Paper" which set out the Government's plans for the countryside. They are intended to develop previous work such as village appraisals and village design statements and set a framework for communities to plan their own futures.'

'Parish Plans are part of the Countryside Agency's "Vital Villages" initiative.'

The purpose of the parish and town plans, was defined by the Government to:  
'...set out a vision of what is important, how new developments can best be fitted in, the design and quality standards it should meet, how to preserve valued local features and to map out the facilities which the community needs to safeguard for the future.'

'Plans should "identify key facilities and services, set out the problems which need to be tackled and demonstrate how distinctive character and features should be preserved."'

- *The Countryside Agency,  
Parish Plans, Guidance for Parish and Town Councils.  
March 2003*



# The Parish:

The present Parish of Eglington was formed in the 1980s and is part of Hedgely Ward. It lies in North Northumberland and has a varied, attractive landscape of moorland and rolling farmland. There are two small villages, Eglington and South Charlton as well as about 25 farms. Livestock farming predominates with arable crops on the better land. There are currently 292 people on the electoral roll and around 65 under 18s.

Northumberland has a population of 307,186 giving a density of 61 people/km<sup>2</sup>. Nationally the density is 377 people/km<sup>2</sup>

*Census 2001*

There is however, a long and fascinating history of the Parish with the earliest evidence of human activity in the area in the Neolithic period (4000BC – 2200BC) though more permanent settlements wouldn't have been around until the Bronze Age (2200BC – 700BC). Little is known about where people lived in the parish, but they have left many reminders of their time living here, with a number of stone cist burial sites, and some burial cairns. Stock enclosures, defended homesteads with hut circles and some old Hill Forts are thought to date from 700 BC to 75 AD. There is little evidence of Roman activity, though they are believed to have been in the region. Most of the early remains are on the moorland but later the centres of population moved off the moors, though these were still used for grazing animals and quarrying for millstones and house building.



*\*\* Looking towards the south of the parish from South Charlton Moor*

Records go back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century for all the settlements and in medieval times the area was quite densely populated with small villages and hamlets such as Harehope, South and North Charlton, Shipley, East and West Ditchburn and Eglington. Little remains on the same site from this period other than parts of Eglington Hall, Eglington Mill (now the village hall) and the Church of St. Maurice in Eglington. The early Churches in South Charlton and North Charlton are no longer standing, though South Charlton had a new Church built in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century.

These were also times of warfare and unrest in the border region of England and, because of this, a tower house was built at South Charlton and at East Ditchburn for the protection of the villagers. Feuds between border families continued into the 16<sup>th</sup> and early 17<sup>th</sup> centuries and those who could afford it built defensive homes called bastles to protect themselves, such as The Old School House at South Charlton.

The Lords of Ditchburn and then the Dukes of Northumberland owned North and South Charlton until the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Most of the houses and farms we see today were built from the early 19<sup>th</sup> Century onwards. South Charlton was swept away and rebuilt on the opposite side of the road from the original and has now recently expanded to the north.

Eglingham was a divided village from the 16<sup>th</sup> century with one half owned by the Ogle family and the other by the Tankervilles. The Milvains who had bought Eglingham Hall in the early 1900s united these two halves in 1913. Although there were always a number of privately owned houses it wasn't until the 1970s and 1980s that many of the properties were sold by the estate. Eglingham is now a Conservation Area with strict guidelines for new buildings. A number of the existing buildings and other features in the parish are Grade II listed and all mature trees are protected in Eglingham.

Over the years there have been major changes in land use, population, businesses, communications and general 'progress'. In the Middle Ages periodic outbreaks of the plague would have decimated populations, border wars and even those in more distant lands would have taken the young men off the land.



\*\*\* Blawearie now left to ruin, as farming methods continue to change.

Records show numerous businesses in the 1860s. These have now all gone, apart from one visiting shop that services South Charlton and the mobile library. As a result residents now have to travel to other centres, mainly Alnwick, for all provisions and services.

Both villages had blacksmiths until relatively recently and Eglingham had a Post Office until 1989. The telephone box in Eglingham was relocated when the shop and Post Office closed and is accepted as necessary despite the low number of calls made.

### Jobs in Eglingham - Mid 1800s

32 Agricultural labourers & farm workers  
 15 Miners  
 24 Domestic servants  
 3 Shoemakers  
 4 Tailors with 2 apprentices  
 3 Stonemasons  
 1 Butcher  
 1 Grocer with 1 apprentice  
 2 Publicans  
 4 Blacksmiths  
 1 Police constable  
 2 Gatekeepers (Tollgate)  
 1 Carter  
 1 Schoolteacher  
 1 Miller

The mill in Eglingham was a water driven corn mill until 1913 when it was destroyed in a fire and then became the village hall. South Charlton also boasts a village hall which is in the former school, which closed in the 1970s. Eglingham still has a first school with about 40 pupils aged from 4 to 9, though its future is under discussion as the County Council look at major re-organisation in education throughout the county.

There was once a direct road connecting Eglingham with South Charlton and the road from Alnwick to Eglingham was a toll road. Roads and bridges have now been realigned, improved, and are no longer maintained by individual landowners as they were in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. There is a widespread and wonderful network of footpaths throughout the parish, which reflect the importance of communication between farms and settlements in days gone by.

The Tankerville Arms in Eglingham has a long history and continues to provide meals and refreshments to residents, visitors and travellers. The mounting steps and water trough on the opposite side of the road are a reminder of the main transport used in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



\* The Tankerville Arms – Eglingham (Early 1900s)

The Industrial Revolution and mechanisation of farming would have brought further changes. Agricultural workers had to become more mobile as farmer's needs changed, and now very few are needed to work on the land. Houses built for the workers are now the prized residences of people who chose to move into the country even when working in more distant towns and for many the area is seen as an ideal place to retire as people are now retiring younger and fitter than ever before. Family size has dropped dramatically with better opportunities for health and education. Gone are the days when every family kept a pig and grew their own vegetables.

<b>Known Population Figures in 1861</b>	
Ditchburn	86
Harehope	62
Shipleigh	147
Eglingham	357

In the 20<sup>th</sup> century there were many improvements with water, sewage, electricity, pavements and some street lighting installed. In housing, cottages were extended and had bathrooms and kitchens added, the walk across the yard to the outside toilet has quickly become a thing of the past. Nowadays people desire effective heating, double-glazing, larger, more efficient houses, and smaller gardens.

Land use has also changed greatly from the early stone clearances on the moorland to rig and furrow cultivation, which gave way to modern day methods with combine harvesters, balers and muck spreaders. After the Acts of Enclosure the field boundaries of hedges and dry stoned walls

were extended with access onto the moorland for the tenants. Fields are now larger and there are a number of small conifer plantations. The future may see our landscape change considerably with a rather controversial proposal for a wind farm at Middlemoor near North Charlton, with up to 25 turbines with a height of around 125 metres (410 ft). (As a comparison the nearby television mast is 50 metres.)

Both South Charlton and Eglingham have had churches since the early Middle Ages or earlier and there are records of a chapel at North Charlton and a leper hospital at Harehope. The Vicar at Eglingham is also the Vicar at South Charlton and the former vicarage in South Charlton is now a care home for the elderly.



\*\* Grovewood House

Modern technology has also made an ingress into the parish. Broadband connections are available to most, for high speed Internet access. There is some (patchy) reception for most mobile phone networks and satellite TV is an option for those with poor TV reception.

All rural communities are changing, but as can be seen from the above this has been the case over the centuries with much the same anxieties, regrets and anticipation as we see today.



\*\*\* Just one of the many beautiful landscapes which paint our parish.

# *Summary of Findings:*

## *What people think about the way things are now*

This section attempts to provide an overview of the findings from the questionnaire and public meetings, which are reported in more detail in the main body (pages 13 – 31) of the Parish Plan.

### *Housing*

Most people are happy with the present situation, in which the potential for additional housing development is restricted. The need for affordable housing for local people and young families is an important issue, both for those immediately involved and for the future viability of community life. Second homes and holiday homes are undesirable. Any further development should be in keeping with the character of the existing stone buildings. Alnwick District Council should do more to ensure that the local knowledge and views of the Parish Council are taken into account in decisions regarding planning applications.

### *Communities*

There are lots of ideas for activities, mostly involving the village halls. A number of people are willing to volunteer their services, but are reluctant to organise something themselves. The closures of the Youth Club and village shop in Eglington are a particular cause for regret. The size of the communities makes some activities difficult to sustain. North Charlton as a community is both linked with and distinct from the village of South Charlton. It would be wrong to assume that, even in small communities, everyone knows what's going on: improved communications are vital. A mobile shop and a milkman visit South Charlton, but not Eglington for some reason.

### *Schools*

Almost everyone questioned had comments to make about schools in general and Eglington and Ellingham Schools in particular. (For geographical and historical reasons, children from South Charlton tend to go outside the parish to Ellingham School.) Eglington School and the quality of its teaching staff are held in high regard. A school is an important part of community life, and links should be fostered between the schools and the communities of which they are part. One way of fostering links would be to 'extend' the schools, by making their facilities more accessible to the wider community.

## *The Church Buildings and Churchyards*

Many people would like to see the church buildings and churchyards 'extended', by making them more of a community resource. A number of suggestions were made for non-traditional uses of the churches and churchyards. At the same time, the traditional character and uses of the churches and churchyards should not be compromised. There are two kinds of people in the parish (and in the world): some feel that a churchyard should be a tidy place, with the grass cut like a lawn; others prefer a churchyard to be a more natural place, in which wildlife can flourish.

## *Village Halls*

In some ways, village halls are like churches. They might not be used very often, but they play a valuable part in sustaining community life and would be missed if they disappeared. The work being done to improve the decoration and facilities of South Charlton village hall is appreciated; similar work is needed to make Eglington village hall more attractive and convenient. (Funding for the improvement of Eglington village hall is difficult to obtain, because of the uncertain future for the hall after the present lease runs out in 2013). As noted above, there are lots of ideas for activities involving the village halls. A number of people are willing to volunteer their services, but are reluctant to organise something themselves.



*# Eglington Village Hall. Used as a mill until a fire in 1913 destroyed the building.*

## *Transport and Roads*

Like the churches and village halls, the rural bus service is under-used, but remains a vital part of community life. The infrequency and cost of the service are major disincentives. A late bus back from Alnwick would be attractive. The rowdiness of some pupils on the school bus is off-putting. There is scope for publicising the existing bus

service more effectively, and for thinking imaginatively about the way in which the service could be extended.

Road safety is a significant issue. There is concern about both the volume and, especially, the speed of traffic through Eglingham and South Charlton villages. Most people want to see the completion of the pavement between The Terrace and the rest of Eglingham village, and the provision of a pavement across the bridge. Roadside hedges need to be cut back in the villages so that pedestrians can use the existing pavements. Roadside trees, hedges and verges need to be maintained so that drivers can see clearly. Surface water running from The Terrace onto the main road in Eglingham is a hazard in winter. Roads generally could be better maintained. Car parking is an issue in both villages. Fast traffic on rural roads discourages people from cycling.

### *Health and Social Services*

Most people who responded said that they had no problems in obtaining health and other public services. At the same time, it was recognised that access can be made difficult by a number of issues, such as the distances involved, the times when surgeries are open, the availability of NHS dentists, the time required to book a GP appointment, and the publicising and reliability of mobile services. People who are unable to drive for any reason are at a particular disadvantage.

### *Environment*

It's good to see that the Council has already responded to the widespread desire for blue recycling bins! Many of the concerns about the environment were also expressed within other subject areas, such as housing, and transport and roads. Some people would like to see more trees planted, walls repaired, street lighting restricted, and the general tidiness of the villages improved.

Opinion is more or less evenly divided on the acceptability of wind farms. In South Charlton the same applies to local quarrying, but in Eglingham most people are opposed to local quarrying. Nearly everyone is in favour of dualling the A1.

### *Communications*

The findings in this section were gathered together under one heading from the other subject areas, because it was clear to the Steering Group that communications was an important issue in its own right. As has been noted above, it would be wrong to assume that, even in small communities, everyone knows what's going on.

There is significant support for newspaper drop-off points, a parish newsletter delivered to every household, some kind of neighbourhood watch scheme, and (in Eglingham) better noticeboards.

# Summary of Recommendations:

*Based on the comments received by the Steering Group*

The recommendations in this section are drawn from the 'action plan', i.e. the possible actions identified within each of the subject areas in the main body (pages 13 – 31) of the report. They have been re-ordered according to the individuals or organisations who might be responsible for their implementation.

What individuals and groups could do:-

- Investigate the possibility of forming a local Housing Trust.
- Organise events and activities for local people.
- Re-start the Youth Club.
- Investigate the possibility of opening a village shop or of extending the range of the mobile shop in Eglington.
- Produce a 'Welcome Pack' for people moving into the parish.
- Develop the Ogle Chapel in Eglington Church as a community resource.
- Organise well-publicised churchyard maintenance days in Eglington.
- Revitalise the Friends' Scheme for Eglington Village Hall.
- Promote the use of both village halls.
- Organise regular, well-publicised cleaning days for both village halls.
- Investigate the possibility of a 'Good Neighbour Scheme' to support elderly residents.
- Play their part in maintaining the rural character of the parish.
- Improve the general tidiness of Eglington village.
- Plant and/or replace trees in South Charlton.
- Play their part in the trimming-back of hedges and other overhanging plants from village pavements.
- Produce a parish newsletter, to be delivered to every household.
- Provide better information on lettings and facilities in the village halls.
- Provide more publicity for the times of regular activities.
- Organise a newspaper delivery or drop-off point.

What the Parish Council could do:-

The Steering Group's main recommendation is the establishment of some kind of 'Enabling Group', made up of elected Parish Council members and co-opted members (similar to the Steering Group), whose role is to monitor and encourage the implementation of the 'action plan' part of this Parish Plan. Whereas the Parish Council is mainly reactive in responding to planning applications, etc., the Enabling Group would be proactive in encouraging people to do those things which build up community life, as

identified in the action plan. It should be emphasised that the Enabling Group should not be expected to implement the actions themselves.

The Parish Council should review the 'action plan' part of this Parish Plan in two years' time (i.e. in September 2007), asking the questions, What has been achieved? and, What needs to be done? The Enabling Group should be able to help the Parish Council in this task.

The Parish Council could also do the following:-

- Play its part in preserving the traditional appearance of the area by limiting and controlling housing development.
- Identify an individual to act as a volunteer Funding Officer, able to provide information on the availability of grants.
- Produce a 'Welcome Pack' for people moving into the parish.
- Clarify the use of Eglington School facilities by the wider community.
- Set up some kind of Entertainments Group to arrange occasional, village- or parish-wide events.
- Explore the possibility of providing a bus service to Eglington from Alnwick later than 6.00pm.
- Investigate the feasibility of diverting an existing bus service into South Charlton.
- Investigate the feasibility of establishing some kind of 'ring and go' public transport.
- Encourage the District Council to maintain roadside trees, hedges and verges in the interest of road safety.
- Play its part in maintaining the rural character of the parish.
- Plant and/or replace trees in South Charlton.
- Organise the upkeep of the village garden in South Charlton.
- Clear the wooded area behind the village garden in South Charlton
- Encourage the trimming-back of hedges and other overhanging plants from village pavements.
- Play its part in minimising light pollution.
- Clean up the graffiti in the bus stop.
- Investigate the possibility of re-siting the noticeboard in Eglington.
- Set up a web-site for the parish.
- Provide more publicity for the times of the bus services and travelling library.
- Display information about plans received by the Parish Council.
- Request information is sent to the Parish Council concerning road, drainage and other works.
- Publish reports of Parish Council meetings in the Northumberland Gazette.

What the District Council could do:-

- Play its part in preserving the traditional appearance of the area by limiting and controlling housing development.
- Make low-cost housing available within the parish.
- Investigate ways of slowing down traffic through South Charlton.
- Investigate the possibility of extending Alnmouth Station car park.
- Minimise light pollution.

- Improve communication about planning applications, including notification to adjacent properties.

What the County Council could do:-

- Explore the possibility of providing a bus service to Eglington from Alwick later than 6.00pm.
- Complete the pavement leading to The Terrace in Eglington.
- Provide a pavement across the bridge in Eglington.
- Investigate ways of slowing down traffic through South Charlton.
- Improve the trimming-back of hedges and other overhanging plants from village pavements.
- Improve drainage on roads and driveways, especially at the end of The Terrace in Eglington.
- Renew the 30mph speed markings in Eglington.
- Improve the safety of access to North Charlton from the A1.
- Play its part in maintaining the rural character of the parish.



*\*\* South Charlton showed that ideas can bear fruit by working together with the Parish Council, Alwick District Council and the County Council as South Charlton finally had its new street lights switched on in November 2004.*

# *Detailed Findings and Possible Actions:*

The findings and possible actions on the following pages derive from the questionnaire given to every household towards the end of 2004 and the public meetings held in March 2005.

They have been divided up according to subject area, based on the questions in the questionnaire.

# Housing:

## Findings:

People were asked if they were happy with the present situation, in which Eglingham village is a conservation area and very little additional housing is expected to be allowed within the parish as a whole. The response was as follows:

	Eglingham	South Charlton
Yes	82%	71%
No	18%	29%

Additional suggestions or comments were invited.

### *Eglingham and surrounding area*

- About two-thirds of people who responded made additional comments.
- People in Eglingham were concerned to retain its 'small village' character.
- Many people believed that affordable housing for local people and young families would make the community more viable.
- There was concern that affordable housing could be bought as holiday homes or resold at a higher price.
- Many people were strongly against any further development at all.
- Any further building should be strictly in keeping with the existing stone buildings.
- There was concern that Alnwick District Council is not strict enough in enforcing the guidelines for new developments.
- It was suggested that the Parish Council should approve planning applications before they are passed to the District Council.

### *South Charlton and surrounding area*

- Fifteen people made additional comments.
- The general feeling was that either
  - \* There should be no more housing in South Charlton, or
  - \* There should be more affordable housing for younger people, built and run by a Housing Trust.
- Affordable housing was seen by many people as essential for the area to retain its sense of community.
- Affordable housing was thought desirable for local workers or young people in the parish, rather than for second home owners or as holiday lets.



*\*\* Conversions at Harehope Farm, a fine example of the reuse of outdated farm steadings.*

*The following possible actions have been identified –*

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Preserve the traditional appearance of the area by limiting and controlling housing development	Alnwick District Council needs to improve it's procedures for consulting with the Parish Council and individuals before decisions are made	Alnwick District Council Parish Council
Provide affordable housing	This would enable local, low-income families to remain/return to the area. Not to be used as second homes.	Alnwick District Council
Look at the possibility of forming a local Housing Trust	See Ideas for Action No. 6	Individuals



*\*\* The new 'Taylors Field' development in South Charlton has made quite a difference to the village*

# Communities:

## *Findings:*

People were asked if they had any suggestions as to how the existing life and activities within the parish could be improved.

### *Eglingham and surrounding area*

- Just under half the people who responded commented on this question.
- People pointed out that the most village activities are associated with the village school, the village hall, the WI and the church.
- Volunteer effort appears to be available to organise and run various activities.
- Several people regretted the closure of the Youth Club. There was support for its renewed funding.
- Four people regretted the closure of the village shop. Many people were keen to have one re-open but doubt its viability.
- Six people mentioned that the village hall needs to be used more for social purposes.
- The state of the internal facilities of the village hall was a concern and a possible negative influence.
- Several people suggested using the village hall for various activities.
- Several people stated that those who want more social life should organise it themselves.
- *"Activities are difficult to sustain within such a small parish."*

### *South Charlton and surrounding area*

- 18 comments were made.
- *"There are in fact three villages in the parish: Eglingham, South Charlton and North Charlton. North Charlton feel left out."*
- The improvements to the village hall were welcomed.
- There were suggestions, offers of help to organise and offers of support for various activities.
- *"I have no idea what the existing activities are in the parish. Advertise them in a parish magazine."*
- The need for a shop was felt to be largely satisfied by a mobile shop which visits from Alnwick.
- A milkman visits three times a week.
- *"You could have a website, but we are more likely to read something on paper."*
- *"How about a communal store of village documents - photos, maps, reminiscences etc., kept in a box file and available for inspection. I could start it and hold it in safe keeping."*
- *"Initiatives such as the Friends of South Charlton Church encourage everyone to participate in community life - well done!"*

People were asked if they had any specialist, trade or professional skills to offer to the community.

*Eglingham and surrounding area*

- There were 30 replies offering skills to the community.
- A vast range of expertise is available, including:
  - \* Trades
  - \* Professions
  - \* Organisers
  - \* Executives
  - \* Administrators
- Project groups could be formed to carry out various objectives or tasks.
- *"Many professional people put notices in the very good Parish Magazine. Perhaps another page could be made available for this purpose."*

*South Charlton and surrounding area*

- There were nine positive replies to the question.

*The following possible actions have been identified –*

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Organise events and activities for local people	This should foster and strengthen the community spirit. See the Ideas for Action sheets.	Local individuals and groups
Restart the Youth Club	Funding is required	Individuals
Establish a volunteer Funding Officer	The person would be able to give information on available grants and who to contact for further information	Parish Council
Investigate the possibility of a village shop or extending the range of the mobile shop in Eglingham	See Ideas for Action No. 11	Individuals
Produce a 'Welcome Pack' for people moving into the parish	See Ideas for Action No. 14	Parish Council Parochial Church Council (PCC)?

# Schools:

## *Findings:*

People were asked what they wished for the future of the schools.

### *Eglingham and surrounding area*

- Almost everybody commented on this question.
- The proposal to move from a three-tier to a two-tier system was a major source of comment.
- It was recognised that the school is an important element in the life of the village.
- Everyone who commented holds the school and the quality of teaching in high regard and wants the school to remain.
- A number of people supported strong links between the school and the community.
- It was recognised that things may have to change.
- Care facilities for children of working parents would be welcome.
- A nursery for pre-school children two to three mornings a week, was suggested.
- Access to the school tennis courts and school field was appreciated.
- Several people suggested public access to the school computer suite and public use of the school sports facilities.

### *South Charlton and surrounding area*

- The majority of people want the three-tier system to remain and both Eglingham and Ellingham schools to stay open.
- There were some who recognise that we may lose the three-tier system.
- There was an appreciation of the benefits of having a school in the locality.

## *The following possible action has been identified –*

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Clarify the use of Eglingham School facilities	Playing fields, rooms for meetings, use of computers, etc.	Parish Council representative on Board of Governors

# The Church Buildings and Churchyards:

## Findings:

The suggestion was made that the churches and churchyards could be used as a community resource for walkers, cyclists and other visitors. Suggestions as to other possible uses were invited.

### *Eglingham and surrounding area*

- 32 comments were received.
- A number of people made suggestions for non-traditional uses of the church:
  - \* Exhibitions, e.g. village history
  - \* Concerts
  - \* Toilet facilities
  - \* *"I would like to see an information board, especially for tourists, about the history and attractions of the parish." "It would be very interesting to see a map of the parish."*
  - \* *"The Ogle Chapel is a possibility for development."*
- A number of people made suggestions for the churchyard:
  - \* Hide and seek
  - \* Picnic areas
  - \* Seats
  - \* Treasure hunts
  - \* A nature trail for young children
  - \* Wildlife sanctuaries
  - \* More information about conservation efforts
- A number of people believed that the church should be restricted to its 'official' functions.
- A number of people thought that the churchyard should be 'cleaned up' and the grass kept well-mown to lawn standards.
- One person raised health and safety issues concerning the headstones.

### *South Charlton and surrounding area*

- 11 responses were received.
- There was a mix of feelings: some wanted no change; others would have liked to have additional uses.

*The following possible actions have been identified –*

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Develop the Ogle Chapel in Eglington church as a community resource	See Ideas for Action No. 8	Parochial Church Council (PCC)
Regular, well publicised churchyard maintenance days in Eglington		Parochial Church Council (PCC)



*\*\* St James' Church, South Charlton.*



*\*\* St Maurice's Church, Eglington*

# Village Halls:

## Findings:

People were asked how often their family used their local village hall. The responses were as follows:

	Eglingham	South Charlton
Once a week or more	2	8
About once a month	8	3
A few times a year	42	11
Never	29	3

People were asked if they had any comments about their village hall and its facilities.

### *Eglingham and surrounding area*

- There were 36 responses.
- The external appearance of the building was generally considered very attractive.
- The interior and its facilities were regarded as badly in need of attention.
- Nine people recommended that the kitchen be refitted.
- Seven people mentioned that the heating is inadequate.
- Several people mentioned the damp.
- Several people described the toilets as unattractive, cold and not very clean.
- One person mentioned mice.
- One person suggested that a microwave would be handy.
- *"If the interior could be brought up to present day standards it would probably attract more users."*
- *"We used to have a Friends' Scheme for the hall where people donated a certain sum annually. This scheme seems to have gone by the board, which seems ludicrous as no building can be maintained if there are no funds available."*
- There were various offers of help in organising activities in the hall.

### *South Charlton and surrounding area*

- There were 20 responses.
- *"Village Halls are vital elements of village life."*
- A suggestion was made that the hall facilities and the groups that use the hall should be better advertised. This could apply equally to Eglingham Village Hall.
- *"It is important to keep the playgroup in South Charlton if possible, or the hall will be under-used and the village will be the poorer."*
- There were several suggestions for activities in the hall, backed up with offers of help.

*The following possible actions have been identified –*

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Friends Scheme in Eglingham to be revitalised	Publicity required	Village Hall Committee
Promote use of both village halls	See Ideas for Action No.s 1,5,9,12,13,20 & 30	Individuals and groups
Provide information on lettings and facilities		Village Hall Committees
Regular, well publicised cleaning days		Village Hall Committees
Set up an Entertainments Group	To arrange events for the parish/each village e.g. Christmas parties, ceilidhs etc	Parish Council



*\*\* South Charlton Village Hall – Formerly the village school.  
Is Eglingham about to lose its school as South Charlton did in the 1970s?*

# Transport and Roads:

## Findings:

People were asked if a member of their household had used a bus service or the Post Bus within the last month (excluding travelling to and from school). The responses were as follows:

	Eglingham	South Charlton
Yes	13	2
No	68	24

People were asked if they would use the bus service more often if it came near their house or was more frequent. The responses were as follows:

	Eglingham	South Charlton
Yes	22	8
No	59	17

People were asked if they had any other comments about public transport.

### *Eglingham and surrounding area*

- 28 comments were given.
- The bus service was perceived as being infrequent and expensive and as finishing too early.
- It was stated that, at school times, the buses are unpleasant to use because of the bad behaviour of some of the pupils.
- Most people have their own cars, but there may come a time when they are unable to drive and would use public transport more.
- A 'co-operative' use of people's cars might be attractive.
- The lack of information about the Post Bus (its availability and timetable) makes it a wasted resource.
- A suggestion was made that the 'Tynedale Experiment' could be adapted for use here. It enables people to request transport at specific times, and someone on a computer in Newcastle scheduled pick-ups accordingly.

### *South Charlton and surrounding area*

- Eight comments were given.
- Public transport for South Charlton is notable by its absence.
- *"The bus stops on the A1 are dangerous for children."*
- *"The Post Bus is no use here as we only see it picking up the 6pm mail!"*
- *"Buses should be diverted into the village."*
- *"We need a rural bus to go around the villages."*
- *"I'm in trouble when the car breaks down!"*

People were asked if they had any comments on safety regarding cycling, roads, pavement systems and car parking.

*Eglingham and surrounding area*

- The non-completion of the footpath along the village was of major concern.
- Traffic through the village is on the increase.
- The 30mph speed limit is frequently ignored.
- The above factors are said to prevent integration of The Terrace end of the village with the rest of the village.
- One suggestion was for 'rumble strips' to be put on the roads at either end of the village to encourage traffic to slow down.
- The absence of a footpath across the bridge was also a concern.
- Inadequate hedge trimming by the footpath was a concern.
- The junction of The Terrace with the main road was considered hazardous. The hazard is increased when water runs onto the junction and freezes in cold weather.
- There was concern about the maintenance of roads in the area.
- Parking by the Tankerville Arms and in other parts of the village was a concern.
- *"There should be a cycle road all the way from Wooler to Alnwick."*

*South Charlton and surrounding area*

- There were 15 responses to this question.
- The most frequent request was for roadside trees, hedges and verges to be cut back more.
- Next was a desire for traffic speeds through the village to be reduced.
- One suggestion was for 'Children Playing' signs on the roadside at either end of the village.
- There was said to be insufficient parking for cars for both the church and village hall.
- Cycling was an issue.
- *"We are restricted in walking the moors. I have a dog and walking along the road is not interesting either for me or my dog. We have hills or the moor but a lot of rambling paths are closed because of ploughed fields or locked gates."*

*The following possible actions have been identified –*

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Explore possibility of bus service to Eglingham from Alnwick later than 6.00pm	Present last service bus at 6.00pm.	Parish Council County Council
Investigate feasibility of bus diverting into South Charlton village occasionally		Parish Council
Investigate Rural Transport Initiative / Tynedale experiment 'Ring & Go' transport	A possibility for both villages	Parish Council

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Completion of pavement leading to The Terrace in Eglington	Highest frequency request. Very important for pedestrian safety	Northumberland County Council
Provide a pavement across the bridge in Eglington	Safety and traffic calming	Northumberland County Council
Investigate ways of slowing down traffic through South Charlton	Establish a 30 mph limit. 'Children Playing' signs	Alnwick District Council Northumberland County Council
Maintain roadside trees, shrubs, hedges and verges on a more regular basis	In the interests of road safety	Parish Council to contact Alnwick District Council
Find out if Alnmouth Station car park can be extended	Used to capacity at present, so increased use of trains is discouraged	Alnwick District Council Northumberland County Council
Improve drainage on roads/driveways in Eglington, especially at the end of The Terrace	Safety issue in winter	Northumberland County Council
Renew 30 mph road markings in Eglington	Safety	Northumberland County Council
Improve safety of access to North Charlton from A1	The road often has children playing on it. It should be properly lit, with warning notices and speed restrictions.	Northumberland County Council

# Health and Social Services:

## Findings:

People were asked if they had problems travelling to or obtaining health, social and other public services. The responses were as follows:

	Eglingham	South Charlton
No	76	26
Yes	3	0

People were asked for their comments.

### *Eglingham and surrounding area*

- No health and social services are located within the parish. The nearest places are Alnwick and Wooler, at least 5 miles away. Accessing these services can be difficult for people without a car or who are too ill to drive.
- *"GP surgeries should be open on Saturday mornings. The habit of some surgeries refusing to book appointments unless you ring the same day is unacceptable. More non-acute services should be community based. Difficulty of getting x-rays in Alnwick in the evening."*
- The hospital is difficult to get to and telephone contact can be difficult.
- There is a possible need for a repeat prescription delivery service.
- *"There is a shortage of NHS dentists."*
- *"The public library bus is a bit random. It doesn't appear always to come when it says it will. If it were better organised, it might be used more."*

### *South Charlton and surrounding area*

- *"We are fortunate to have a car, but when or if we can no longer drive we would have great difficulty getting medicines, shopping, etc."*
- *"You need to plan an illness well in advance to get a suitable doctor's appointment."*
- *"Had we a bus service, some of us would not need a car as they are a very expensive commodity. Perhaps a reduction in car tax or a petrol allowance would help. We would like to live in our village for ever!"*

*The following possible action has been identified –*

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Investigate setting up a 'Good Neighbour Scheme'	E.g. to collect prescriptions, provide transport to the doctor, get shopping. To provide a first port of call in the event of an accident or emergency. See Ideas for Action No. 21.	Individuals

# Environment:

## Findings:

People were asked if they had any suggestions for maintaining and improving their parish environment.

### *Eglingham and surrounding area*

- There were 30 answers to this question.
- The most frequent request was for blue recycling bins.
- Five answers concerned housing development:
  - \* Limit it
  - \* Control it better
  - \* Renovate old and derelict buildings
- A significant number of comments were concerned with the general appearance of the parish and the maintenance of its rural character.
- There were requests for:
  - \* More (replacement) planting of hardwood trees
  - \* Improved hedge cutting
  - \* The planting of bulbs (daffodils and bluebells)
  - \* General tidiness, especially on the Alnwick side of the bridge
- One person suggested the re-channelling of a spring to the drain at the bottom of The Terrace.
- *"Better marked footpaths." "More footpaths and signs."*
- One person complained about speeding traffic.

### *South Charlton and surrounding area*

- There were 16 suggestions.
- *"Mains sewerage is required."*
- *"Put electricity and telephone cables underground. I believe the utilities have an annual budget for this - it's just a matter of getting it!"*
- *"Pressure should be kept on the District Council and Highways Authority to maintain the roads and cleaning of roads in a regular programme."*
- *"The area of trees within the boundary of the village hall could be improved by Northumberland Estates, as also the trees within the churchyard boundary by the Diocese."*
- *"The wall alongside the pavement on the main road is deteriorating rapidly and is in need of repair."*
- *"Trees are needed to the new development to the rear of the village."*
- *"The stretch of road between the A1 and Mill House at North Charlton often has children playing on it. It should be properly lit and warning notices and speed restrictions put on this section."*
- *"Avoid any additional streetlights, as Northumberland's black night sky is now very rare in Britain."*
- *"Possible help with the village garden in the form of grants towards its upkeep."*

People were asked if they were concerned about the following issues:

	Eglingham	South Charlton
Wind farm proposals	31	12
Local quarrying	26	7
Dualling the A1	38	13
Landscape preservation	38	8

People were asked for their comments regarding the above.

*Eglingham and surrounding area*

- There were strong feelings about wind farms in particular, and an apparent need for objective and reliable information.
- 10 comments were against wind farms.
- 14 were in favour of wind farms on land.
- Five were in favour of wind farms out at sea.
- The issue of local quarrying yielded comments which were mostly two to one against.
- Nearly all the comments on dualling the A1 were in favour.
- People were much appreciative of the landscape as it is.
- A few people questioned what landscape preservation means.

*South Charlton and surrounding area*

- 17 comments were given.
- Opinions on wind farms were more or less equally divided between support and opposition.
- The same applied to local quarrying.
- All comments were in favour of dualling the A1, although this is dependent on the availability of safe access from South Charlton and North Charlton.
- *"Many of the trees are coming to the end of their life. A programme is required to replace these. Could it be linked to the church, e.g. 'plant a tree in memory of ...'?"*

*The following possible actions have been identified –*

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Maintain rural character of the parish	Small fields, hedges, stone walls, woodlands and the replanting of hardwood trees are seen as extremely important. Farmers to be encouraged and supported.	Parish Council Northumberland County Council Individual farmers
Improve general tidiness in Eglingham	See Ideas for Action No. 10	Individuals

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Organise the upkeep of the village garden in South Charlton	See Ideas for Action No. 26	Parish Council
Trim back hedges and other overhanging plants from village pavements	Householders are responsible for keeping their plants trimmed back	Individuals Parish Council
Minimise light pollution	More focused streetlights. Could lights be switched off after 1.00am?	Parish Council Alnwick District Council
Clean up the graffiti in the bus stop	This action was suggested by some of the children & young people.	Parish Council County Council
Clear the wooded area behind the village garden in South Charlton	This action was suggested by some of the children & young people.	Parish Council Northumberland Estates



*\*\*\* How much longer will this view of South Charlton Moor remain the same?  
This landscape will be altered hugely if the currently proposed windfarm goes ahead.*

# Communication:

## Findings:

People were asked if they would actively support any of the following for the parish. The responses were as follows:

	Eglingham	South Charlton
Newsletter	23	13
Website	11	3
Better noticeboards	19	4
Newspaper drop-off points	42	11
Neighbourhood Watch	26	11

### Eglingham and surrounding area

- A parish newsletter should be delivered to every household.
- A noticeboard should give details of existing, regular activities, as well as occasional events.
- *"Could we do more to integrate newcomers to the village - make them feel that they are a welcome addition to the community? We do not want to become a dormitory village of commuters - everyone who lives here should feel that they are part of the village community and care about its development."*
- Other suggestions included:
  - \* Newspapers delivered to the house
  - \* An earlier postal delivery
  - \* Broadband internet access

### South Charlton and surrounding area

- The idea of a generally distributed newsletter was well supported.
- *"We would all love a proper paper delivery service daily."*

## The following possible actions have been identified –

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Produce a Parish Newsletter	To share information within the parish so that the whole community becomes aware of events. To be delivered to every household in the parish.  See Ideas for Action No. 3.	Individuals
Investigate the possibility of re-siting the notice board in Eglingham	To a more central position and a place where it is easier to park.  See Ideas for Action No. 28	Parish Council

Action	Comments	Who can do it? / Who is responsible?
Set up a website for the parish	See Ideas for Action No. 17	Parish Council
Provide better information on lettings and facilities in the village halls		Village Hall committee
Provide timetables for the buses and post buses, all regular activities in the parish, and the times of the travelling library and mobile shops	See Ideas for Action No. 27	Parish Council Individuals and groups
Improve communication about planning applications, including notification to adjacent properties		Alnwick District Council
Notice of plans received by Parish Council to be put on notice boards		Parish Council
Request information is sent to Parish Council regarding work on roads, drainage and other services		Parish Council
Organise a newspaper delivery or drop-off point	See Ideas for Action No. 4	Individuals
Publish reports of Parish Council meetings in Northumberland Gazette	Other Parish Councils already do this	Parish Council

# Ideas for Action

The people who attended the public meetings held in March 2005 were invited to 'sign up' for some of the ideas for action identified in the responses to the questionnaire, or to suggest their own ideas.

No.	Idea for Action	No. Prepared to Organize	No. Supporting
1	Organise social events in Eglington. E.g. ceilidh, Bonfire night, Xmas Craft Fair	5	19
2	Organise 1 or 2 walks in the summer. E.g. Beanley Moor and Blawearie	4	9
3	Provide a monthly newsletter to every household	3	12
4	Organise a newspaper delivery/drop-off scheme	2	19
5	Club for sports activities. E.g. table tennis, badminton, bowls, exercise classes (Tai Chi, yoga etc)	2	8
6	Set up Housing Trust to provide more affordable rented accommodation for local people	2	6
7	Set up and look after a communal store of village documents	2	3
8	Re-order the Ogle Chapel in Eglington Church, to use as meeting room, tourist point and for use by Sunday School etc	2	2
9	Mobile cinema	1	21
10	Village tidy	1	21
11	Open a shop	1	17
12	Restart Youth Club	1	12
13	Organise more village activities in South Charlton E.g. day/evening classes, music evenings, wine & cheese tasting, talks etc	1	10

14	Put together a 'welcome pack' for people moving into the parish	1	7
15	Build a new skate park for the kids in Eglingham	1	7
16	To see if village can buy the land beside the War Memorial in Eglingham for a small garden and seat	1	2
17	Set up a parish web-site	1	1
18	Organise a scheme for recycling fruit juice cartons and similar	1	0
19	Apply for larger post boxes in both villages (present ones have very restricted openings)	1	1
20	Do local concerts, talent contest to raise money for the village (Eglingham)	1	1
21	Organise a 'neighbourhood awareness scheme' to look out for the needs of e.g. older people	0	11
22	After school club for working parents	0	8
23	Swimming pool	0	8
24	Excursions from Eglingham and/or South Charlton to York, Dales, Bowes Museum etc	0	5
25	Have a mini nature park in the bog and a pond with wildlife (South Charlton)	0	3
26	Volunteers to help run village garden in South Charlton – organise grass cutting rotas etc	0	3
27	List on Parish Notice Boards for times of any library, bus or fish/meat/veg vans that come to either village. Also rural transport schemes and cricket match times	0	3
28	Provide a better public notice board in Eglingham or an extra one for permanent notices such as WI, Parish Council members, bus times, library times, club activities and contact names	0	2

29	New tuck or sweet shop in Eglington	0	2
30	Have 4 Ceilidhs a year in Village Hall	0	1
31	Organise community transport scheme, e.g. car sharing	0	0

# *What Happens Next?*

The Steering Group has done the work for which it was established, to the best of its ability. After the launch of the Parish Plan in September 2005 the Steering Group will cease to exist.

The point has been made repeatedly throughout the past year or so that the publication of the Parish Plan is not an end in itself, but a new beginning. The Parish Plan is both a vision of how a community wants to develop, and a plan of action needed to achieve that vision.

It's sometimes said that the Parish Plan will have little effect because "the local authority won't take much notice". This is to misunderstand the main purpose of the Parish Plan. The majority of actions identified in the 'action plan' part of this Parish Plan relate to individuals and groups within the parish and the Parish Council (as can be seen at a glance from the Summary of Recommendations). Our Parish Plan is a tool to help us as a community think more clearly about what we want to make happen for ourselves. The important question is not, What can the local authority do for us?, but, What can we do for ourselves?

Lots of possible actions have been identified in this Parish Plan. Some of them might seem blindingly obvious, some of them might seem totally impractical. Most of them are good ideas, but they won't happen by themselves. People in the parish need to take on some of the ideas and put them into effect. If the Parish Council establishes an Enabling Group, as recommended by the Steering Group, then individuals who wish to take on some of the ideas should at least receive some support and encouragement.

We can also use the Parish Plan to strengthen our hand in negotiations with local government, and in applying for grants to get things done. In other words, the Parish Plan is less like a magic wand than a lever. Magic doesn't exist in the real world, and a lever only works if you push on it.

The Parish Council should review the 'action plan' part of this Parish Plan in two years' time (i.e. in September 2007), asking the questions, What has been achieved? and, What needs to be done? The Enabling Group should be able to help the Parish Council in that task.

# Appendices:

## Contact Details:

Issue	Name of Contact	Phone No.
Any concerns relating to the parish	Parish Council – Bill Purvis (chairman) Sandra Cowens (clerk) Mike Findlay Ian Grant June Lawson Andy Nicholls Jean North April Potts Eddie Stafford Alan Hodgson Marion Wilson	01665 579255 01668 217197 01665 578407 01665 578282 01665 579207 01665 578409 01665 579395 01665 578213 01665 579262 01665 579494 01665 578466
To follow up information in this Parish Plan and to find how you can become involved in any of the actions	Parish Plan Steering Group Rev. Rob Kelsey (chairman) Jean Findlay (secretary)	01665 578250 01665 578407
Planning events, booking the village halls, hiring tables, chairs, crockery or helping to run the village halls	Eglingham Village Hall Committee Penny Blackmore  South Charlton Village Hall Committee Alan Hodgson	01665 578327  01665 579494
Church and churchyard matters	Eglingham Parochial Church Council (PCC) Janet Irish  South Charlton Parochial Church Council Jean North	01668 217166  01665 579395
Church services, weddings, baptisms and funerals	Rev. Rob Kelsey	01665 578250
Sunday School in Eglingham	Eileen Morgan	01665 578492
School issues	Eglingham Board of School Governors Alex McEwan-Chairman Jean North	01668 282092 01665 579395
Clubs – membership, activities, etc	South Charlton Indoor Bowling Club Margaret Cowens  Eglingham Women’s Institute Enid Grahamslaw	01665 720094  01665 578233

	Jean Findlay	01665 578407
	Eglington Leek Club Sally Holmes	01665 579338
	Eglington Cricket Club Maurice Graham	01669 640249
Restarting groups	Toddlers Linda Turner	01665 578419
	Youth Group Mary Nicholls Sue Forest-Warren	01665 578409 01665 578069
Reporting pot-holes	Northumberland County Council Pot-hole Pete	08081008910 (free number)
Reporting faulty street lights	Alnwick District Council	08000850029 (free number)
Recycling household & garden waste. Collecting large items for disposal	Alnwick District Council	01665 510505
Planning applications and concerns	Alnwick District Council	01665 510505
General concerns regarding the district or county	District and County Councillor for our parish John Taylor	01665 603825
Local history and old parish records	Morpeth Record Office	01670 504084

### *Acknowledgements:*

This Parish Plan is the work of the Steering Group that was formed following a public meeting called by the Parish Council in April 2004. Their enthusiasm and willingness to volunteer time and energy in this project has made it all possible. The membership has changed little over the last year and is made up as follows: The Reverend Rob Kelsey (Chairman), Chris Irish (Vice-Chairman and Treasurer), Jean Findlay (Secretary), Colin Bell (Vice-Secretary), Andy Gray, June Lawson\*, Ian Grant\* and April Potts\*. (\* Denotes Parish Councillors). We would also like to thank Stuart Cartmell and Alan Hodgson who, in the early stages, took on the roles of Chairman and Treasurer, formed a committee and applied for the necessary grant.

Clare Wood of the Community Council has been available throughout for advice, support and guidance.

Most importantly we must thank all the residents and others involved in the parish for their responses to the questionnaires and attendance at the Social Events, which have been such a vital part in formulating this plan.

The members of the former youth club helped by producing a well thought out, and enjoyable display at the village socials in March. Their photographs spoke volumes and some of their ideas, suggestions and photographs have been included in this document.

Maps and photographs have been reproduced thanks to Andy Gray and Jean Findlay. For copyright and permissions, see Legal section below.

Andy Gray took on the task of desktop publishing and the printing was done by How & Blackhall, Berwick-Upon-Tweed.

Finally, we could not have produced this plan without the funding from the Countryside Agency under the Vital Villages Initiative.

### *Methodology:*

Firstly, a Steering group was set up. Members were 'volunteered' at a Parish Plan public meeting on April 5<sup>th</sup> 2004 at South Charlton village hall and were agreed by acclamation. The members roughly represented the distribution of the 300 or so residents of the parish.

At the first meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup> 2004, after taking expert advice and much animated discussion, it was agreed to initially canvas all residents of the parish for their list of priorities/concerns for the parish regarding any or all aspects of parish life. This would be accompanied by an explanatory letter from the chairman of the parish plan steering group. The returns from this initial canvas would be used in formulating the more detailed questionnaire to be prepared by the Steering Group to follow up and circulate within the parish on these priorities/concerns. On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, the canvas was hand delivered throughout the parish and residents were asked to return them by post or hand them to a member of the Steering Group in each village. However, only 17 had been returned nearly two weeks later from the 143 households in the parish.

These and detailed discussions in the Steering Group were, however, used as a basis for the first draft of the detailed questionnaire. This was produced by a sub-committee of three members. This was then discussed by the Steering group and a final version developed before production and distribution.

It was also decided that, in an effort to maximize returns, the more detailed questionnaire would be handed in person to a member of each household and subsequently collected back about two weeks later in a similar manner. There would simultaneously be a publicity campaign consisting of placards throughout the parish and letters on parish noticeboards to raise the profile of the parish plan generally. This was done – see the copy of the questionnaire elsewhere in this report.

Questionnaires were also distributed to groups and organisations within the parish.

The return rate of the questionnaires appeared to be highly dependent on the Steering Committee member's ability to persist in returning to households more than once to collect completed questionnaires. The return rate by the middle of November 2004 varied from 40% to 85 % in different areas of the parish.

The returned questionnaires contained many comments as well as completed 'tick-boxes. These were all collated and typed up, and copies were circulated to the Steering Group members.

The collated results for each question were then summarised for presentation at public meetings and for eventual inclusion in the Parish Plan itself.

Public meetings were held in the two villages, Eglington and South Charlton, on the 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> March 2005. Refreshments were provided at these meetings and residents were encouraged to add further comments and to volunteer their time and effort to organise or assist in implementing various actions.

These meetings were reasonably successful and gave rise to significant numbers of further comments and volunteers.

Further Steering Group meetings concentrated on formulating the action plan to accompany the summary of answers from each question and to produce a format for the production and printing of the Eglington Parish Plan.

The finished version is to be printed and distributed to every household and group in the parish as well as the members of various interested bodies e.g. the Parish Council, Alnwick District Council, Northumberland County Council, The Countryside Agency and the Community Council.

# The Questionnaire:

## **EGLINGHAM PARISH PLAN QUESTIONNAIRE 2004**

Delivered by..... Tel:..... on.....

This includes the villages of Eglington & South Charlton and the surrounding area.

A parish plan is a document which establishes how all the people within the parish would like their community to develop over the next few years.

The plan will put forward exactly how the community wish to see the future of their parish and results in the creation of a plan of action to achieve this vision.

The plan will be produced from answers to this questionnaire and the previous submissions from earlier consultations, after discussion by the Parish Plan Steering Group, chaired by the Rev. Robert Kelsey.

The draft parish Plan will be presented to the local community for comment before being finalised

The finished plan will be used to take action in the community.

### Questionnaire

Each household in the parish will receive a copy of this questionnaire, the Steering Group would be grateful if you could fill this in over the next week as someone will collect it within about 10 days of your receiving it. Different people within a household might have different views, including children. You are welcome to have extra copies of the questionnaire. Please contact the person who delivered this copy. Their details are above.

**Confidentiality** All replies will be kept confidential.

### 1. Your Household

How many people live in your household in the following categories?

- 0-9 years
- 10-18 years
- 19-30 years
- 31-60 years
- 61 and over

Do you have any specialist, trade or professional skills to offer to the community? Paid or unpaid? e.g. Plumber, stick dresser, accountant...

### 5. Eglington/Ellingham School – What do you wish for the future of the schools?

### 6. The Church Buildings and Churchyards

The Churches and churchyards could be used as a community resource for walkers, cyclists and other visitors. Are there any other uses? eg. Large scale map display.

### 7. Village Halls

How often does your family use your local village hall?

- |                     | Eglington                | S. Charlton              | Other( please state)     |
|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Once a week or more | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| About once a month  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A few times a year  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Never               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

### 2. Where do you live?

- Eglington Village
- Eglington Area
- South Charlton Village
- South Charlton Area

### 3. Housing

The present situation in this parish is that Eglington village is a conservation area and very little additional housing is expected to be allowed within the parish as a whole.

Are you happy with this situation? Yes   
No

How do you feel about this and have you any suggestions or comments?

### 4. Communities

It is important to maintain & develop the existing life and activities within the village/parish.

Have you any suggestions as to how this could be improved?  
Would you be prepared to contribute your efforts?

What have you used the hall for?

Do you have any comments about the Halls and their facilities?

What else would you like to take part in, in the hall? – and would you help to organise it?

### 8. Transport & Roads

Has a member of your household used a service bus or the Post bus within the last month (excluding travelling to & from school)?

Yes  How many times?   
No

Would you use the bus service more often if came near your house or was more frequent?

Yes   
No

Have you any other comments about public transport?

Do you have any comments on safety regarding cycling, roads, pavement systems and car parking?

**9. Health & Social Services**

Do you have problems travelling to or obtaining health, social and other public services? No  Yes

What problems?

Do you have any other comments on these services?

**10. Environment**

Do you have any suggestions for maintaining and improving our Parish environment?

Is there anything else that you would like to say that has not been covered by the questionnaire?

Thank you for your time taken to fill in this questionnaire. It will be collected within about 10 days of your receiving it.

Are you concerned about...

- Windfarm proposals?
- Local quarrying?
- Dualling the A1?
- Landscape preservation?

Comments regarding above:

**11...and finally.**

Would you actively support any of the following for the Parish?:-  
Please tick

- Village shop.....
- Mobile shops.....
- Newsletter.....
- Website.....
- Better Notice boards.....
- Newspaper drop off points.....
- Recycling bins.....
- Pub taxi service.....
- Indoor sports & keep fit.....
- Activity clubs... What?.....
- Social functions e.g. Films... What?.....
- Neighbourhood Watch.....
- Anything else?.....

Comments regarding above:

**Blank "Ideas for Action" Sheet**

Eglington Parish Plan

**Idea for action: .....**

.....  
.....

If you feel strongly, please PRINT your name and phone number below.

*"I would like to help organise this action."*

*"I would support this action, if other people organised it."*

*"I would not support this action."*

## *Legal:*

### Statistics

Some of the statistics are taken from National Statistics and are Crown Copyright.

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\* Old photo of Tankerville Arms used with kind permission of Enid Grahamslaw.

\*\* Images supplied by Andy Gray

\*\*\* Misc. images taken by the young people of the parish for use in this document and also for the public meetings to express their feeling about the parish.

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