

Duston's Future



We have a new opportunity to help to shape the future of our community



**Duston
Neighbourhood Plan
Issues and Options
Consultation**

Please return by Thursday 12th June 2014 - see back cover

Introduction The Duston Neighbourhood Plan (2014 - 2029) will allow the Parish Council, to have more influence in the planning decisions of the Borough Council. It will help to manage development pressure and seek changes so that the environmental, economic and social needs of local people are taken into account, making sure that Duston remains – “A great place to Live, Work and Play”. The plan covers the whole Parish, including the older parts of the village and newer residential areas (see map on back page).

The Duston Neighbourhood Plan will seek to;

- Influence the location, scale and type of development in Duston, especially housing.
- Improve access to and the quality of open spaces;
- Deliver services and infrastructure to meet the day-to-day needs of residents;
- Protect and enhance the Conservation Area and distinctive parts of the Parish;
- Create strong cycle and footpath links within the Parish and to neighbouring areas.
- Protect local interests and influence new infrastructure linked to nearby development.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group wants to ensure that local residents and businesses have opportunities to get involved in the plan throughout the process. This questionnaire is about key issues and different options to address them, beginning with a suggested “Vision”

The Draft Vision – *By 2029, we would like Duston to be an even better place to **live**, with a strong sense of identity and community spirit. We hope that it will have adapted to the extensive development to the west of Northampton and will have benefited from improved transport facilities for motorists, pedestrians and cyclists, to allow safe and sustainable journeys to **work**, school, shopping and leisure. The character built up areas and open spaces for **play** and nature conservation, will have been protected and enhanced.*

Please let us know what you think of this Vision	Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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Any other comments.....

If you want more detail, a full Issues & Options report is available from Duston Parish Council.

The next steps -The anticipated work programme for the Neighbourhood Plan is as follows;

- **May & early June 2014**- Issues and options consultation (this leaflet/questionnaire).
- **June, July & August 2014** - Preparation of a complete draft plan.
- **September & October 2014** - Six week consultation with local residents and businesses.
- **November & December 2014** - Prepare submission documents.
- **January 2015** - Submit plan to NBC who will check that it meets the Basic Conditions,
- **February/March 2015** - An independent Examiner will report on the plan.
- **June 2015** - If recommended by the Examiner, a referendum will be held and a majority of over 50%, will make the Plan part of the legal planning framework for Duston.

Please read the rest of the leaflet and complete the questions – we really do want to know what you think of our ideas. **Please note** - you can complete the form online if you wish, simply go to; - www.dustonparish.org.uk

Housing and built environment

The **objectives** are;

1 To influence the location, scale, design and type of new housing to ensure that it fits with the character of local areas and meets identified local housing needs.

2 To ensure that small scale development, including conversions and residential extensions, reflect the character of the local area where it takes place.

3 To protect and enhance the Conservation Area and identify other distinctive areas of Duston where additional local polices will help to protect their character

The **issues** which we have identified, with your help, are;

1 The need to retain character in areas, e.g. detached houses in larger gardens (including boundary walls, trees and hedges), detached bungalows (where there is pressure for large extensions, including dormers) and planned estates from the 1950s and 1960s.

2 The opportunity, related to need, to set requirements for particular types of housing.

3 How to accommodate development without unacceptable pressure e.g.; over-developed sites, loss of retail, community and employment uses, or loss of open space and playing fields.

4 The need to consider more detailed policies for the Conservation Area and to identify other character area's where protection and enhancement is needed?

Please let us know what you think about the **options** we have developed to respond to these issues

Say whether you agree with the option by circling **Agree**, **Disagree** or **Neutral** – if you want to add any other comments, please use the box on the back page of the leaflet.

If you are willing, you can also give us your address, age group & gender on that page.



The **options** are;

1 To set requirements for types of housing - size, density, type and cost.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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2 To use a criteria based policy for proposals for new housing.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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3 To identify and allocate sites for new housing.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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4 To set out strict design criteria for house extensions and related development.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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5 To set criteria out for infill with restrictions in some areas.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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6 To enable adaptation, including domestic scale renewable energy.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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7 To set out policies to give freedom to people to extend their houses.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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8 To develop additional detailed policies for the Conservation Area.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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9 To set out polices to protect the character of other areas.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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Transport and movement

The **objectives** are;

1 To improve movement in and around Duston for all road users, including private cars, public transport, cyclists and pedestrians of all ages

2 To encourage joint working between the Northamptonshire County Council, Borough Council, Daventry & South Northants District Councils, to agree solutions to manage the impact of large scale development on the roads in and around Duston.

The **issues** which we have identified, with your help, are;

1 Traffic levels and particular problems around schools and in the village centre, noting that much of the traffic at peak times is generated from outside Duston.

2 The need for better walking and cycling routes to the village centre, schools and employment areas, including to and from adjoining areas.

3 The need for better and/or extended car parking in the village centre.

4 The need for a consistent approach to signage and traffic management measures to help create an identity for Duston and achieve high design standards

Please let us know what you think about the **options** we have developed to respond to these issues

Say whether you agree with the option by circling **Agree**, **Disagree** or **Neutral** – if you want to add any other comments, please use the box on the back page of the leaflet.

If you are willing, you can also give us your address, age group & gender on that page.



The **options** are;

1 To work with the Borough & County Councils & other districts on solutions for traffic problems linked to new development, (road building, public transport, walking, cycling routes and traffic management).

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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2 To better manage traffic in the village centre, including parking, weight/size of vehicles and physical features.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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3 To increase parking in the village centre, noting that this may require some redevelopment.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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4 To require new building (10 houses, 0.25ha or 500 m2) to provide solutions for roads, parking, buses, walking and cycling.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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5 To allow larger shops and services outside the village centre through the re-use of employment sites, public houses etc.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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Business and the Village centre

The **objectives** are;

1 To maintain local businesses and employment in Duston in locations and on sites/land which will be viable in the long term.

2 To maintain and enhance the role of Duston village centre as a focal point for local shopping and the provision of social and community facilities.

3 To address traffic, parking and associated environmental problems in the village centre.

The **issues** which we have identified, with your help, are;

1 People value local employment opportunities,

2 Access to nearby employment sites (Lodge Farm, Sixfields, to the town centre and to the larger scale (M1 related) warehouses and factories is important

3 The need to re-evaluate allocated employment land where it is not being taken up and is not viewed as viable by site owners/developers.

4 The village centre plays a critical role in service provision for the local community and is also an important location for local jobs in the retail and service sectors.

5 Linked to the Conservation Area, with a focus on design, there is also an issue on the impact of new shop fronts, security measures and signage on the environment.

Please let us know what you think about the **options** we have developed to respond to these issues

Say whether you agree with the option by circling **Agree**, **Disagree** or **Neutral** – if you want to add any other comments, please use the box on the back page of the leaflet.

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1 To focus on better walking, cycling and public transport links to other employment areas.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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2 To protect existing business sites and recent employment allocations.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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3 To be flexible to allow leisure, retail uses and/or housing on empty sites.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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4 To promote traffic management to give priority to pedestrians and shoppers.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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5 To encourage the redevelopment of commercial and other property to provide new facilities and parking.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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6 To set a high standard of design for shop fronts and signs with a unified approach in the centre.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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7 To protect the existing shops and businesses in Duston.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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8 To allow new shops outside the centre.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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Open space and recreation

The **objectives** are;

- 1 To review open space provision and management regularly, including quality measures, in relation to the changing needs of the population and local development pressures.
- 2 To focus on recreation and the contribution that open spaces make to landscape, nature conservation and overall quality of life.
- 3 To ensure that new development in and around Duston contributes to the open space and recreation needs of the local community.

The **issues** which we have identified, with your help, are;

- 1 There is a need to protect and enhance existing recreation spaces to ensure they meet the needs of the current and future population.
- 2 There is a need to protect and enhance other open green spaces, especially in housing areas, to maintain the character of the area and maintain local facilities.
- 3 The importance of natural open spaces, including trees and hedgerows
- 4 Access to the countryside and to strategic open space being provided as part or nearby larger scale residential development is limited.

Please let us know what you think about the **options** we have developed to respond to these issues

Say whether you agree with the option by circling **Agree, Disagree** or **Neutral** – if you want to add any other comments, please use the box on the back page of the leaflet.

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The **options** are;

- 1 To include a policy in the plan which protects all open spaces in Duston.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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- 2 To set out proposals for new, extended or improved open spaces, allotments and recreation grounds, linked to new development.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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- 3 To identify and protect natural features within and around open spaces, including trees, hedges, woodland, wetland and meadow areas.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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- 4 To work with the Borough Council & other authorities on green infrastructure linked to new development close to Duston.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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- 5 To set out proposals for new and improved footpath/cycle links to nearby countryside.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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Community facilities and schools

The **objectives** are;

1 To maintain and enhance community facilities (for recreation, meetings, welfare and health) in Duston to meet the needs of a growing and ageing population, taking account of users from nearby areas and to encourage safe and sustainable access to facilities.

2 To enable local schools to develop to meet the needs of their catchment's area, at the same time as addressing their impact on traffic and nearby houses, and encouraging the joint use of school facilities and grounds.

The **issues** which we have identified, with your help, are;

1 Duston offers a broad range of community facilities, services and infrastructure which is used and highly valued by residents and neighbouring communities. There is a perception that such infrastructure is 'at capacity'.

2 Some community facilities, services and infrastructure are ageing and need to be improved.

3 There are five schools in Duston, (4 primary and one secondary). Several of these have seen investment and development in recent years. There are plans for expansion on two school sites but no new land allocations are needed.

4 However, the schools are linked to issues, including;

- The need for safe and attractive walking and cycling routes to schools.
- How school playing fields contribute to the environment and character of Duston.
- Community access to schools and playing fields.

Please let us know what you think about the **options** we have developed to respond to these issues

Say whether you agree with the option by circling **Agree, Disagree** or **Neutral** – if you want to add any other comments, please use the box on the back page of the leaflet.

If you are willing, you can also give us your address, age group & gender on that page.



The **options** are;

1 To identify specific deficits and priorities for facilities & infrastructure, write a policy to support proposals which deliver those items.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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2 To have policies to protect certain facilities/services/ infrastructure and support proposals that seek to enhance those assets.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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3 To consider if there is a need for policies (in addition to those at national level) to protect school playing fields?

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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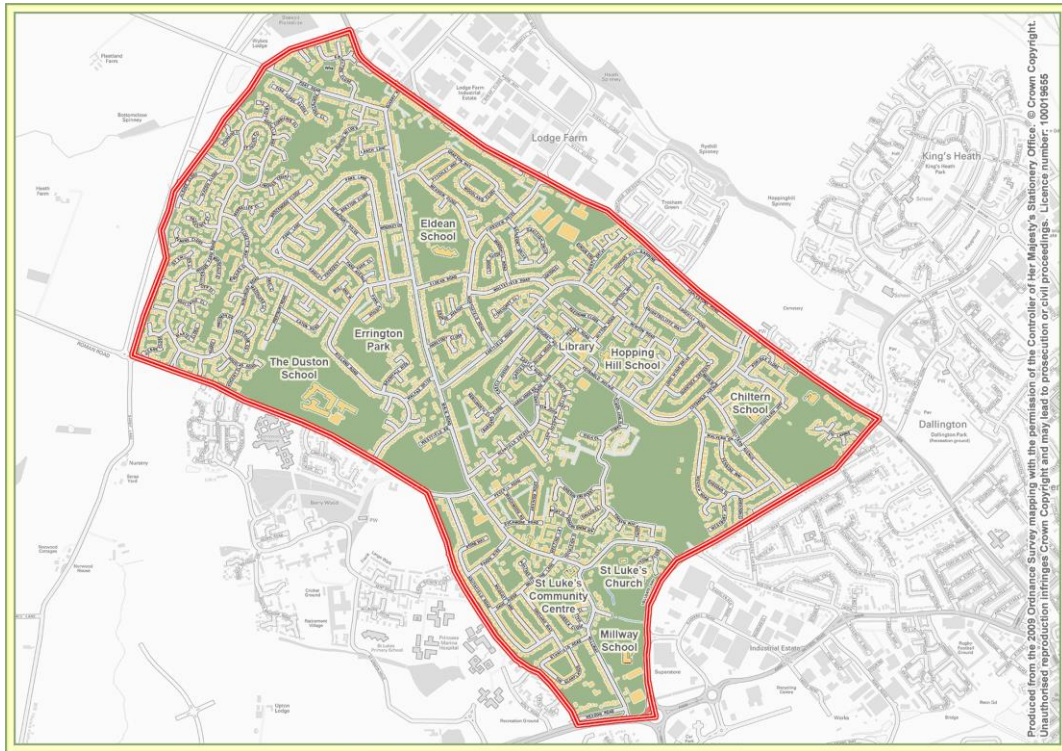
4 To encourage individual schools and the education authority to be directly involved in the provision of walking and cycling routes.

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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5 As far as possible, to use the Plan to encourage the joint use of school facilities?

Agree	Disagree	Neutral
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The area covered by the plan



Any Further Comments

Name.....

Address.....

Age Group – please ring (under 18) (18- 30) (31-45) (46-64) (65+)

Duston Parish Council
Office 1
St Luke's Centre
Duston, NN5 6JB
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www.dustonparish.org.uk
neighbourhoodplanning@dustonparish.org.uk

Questionnaires should be completed by **Thursday 12th June 2014**. They can be completed electronically at www.dustonparish.org.uk or paper copies can be handed to Duston Community Centre Pendle Road, St Luke's Centre Main Road, Duston Sports Centre Cotswold Avenue, Duston United Reform Church and Duston Eldean Primary School Main Road.