

MASHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

PUBLIC CONSULTATION QUESTIONNAIRE MARCH 2023

COMMENTS

SECTION 2 – ENVIRONMENT/LANDSCAPE

QUESTION 11: Do you feel that additional protection measures should be included, and if so, which are the priorities?

No further protection needed

Protecting watercourses and ponds from pollution:

Stonebridge homes have filled Beck with rubbish.

River Ure, Swinney Beck, River Burn

The Swinney from source.

Marfield wetlands

Swinney Beck

Clear the river of debris, shore up the riverbanks – prevent flooding

Anything to ease flooding and pressure on sewage system

Swinney Beck higher up.

Swinney Beck

Swinney Beck.

Preserving existing woodland trees and hedgerows and promoting further planting - any areas in particular?

More wooded land near parks

Increase AONB to include all of Masham

Green fields

Preserving, caring for and planting new hedges. Many are a disgrace!

Fearby Road

Red Lane and Fearby Road

Along river to Marfield, up Foxholme over to Golf Club, round all river areas and walks

Sustainable Drainage Required:

Swinney Beck

The Beck

Silver Street

Bottom of Millgate

Silver Street

Masham bridge

Silver Street

Down near River Ure bridge

Masham bridges

Sewage plant and extra dirty water cleaning systems

Area previously affected by Swinney Beck

Swinney Beck

Silver Street

Auction Mart

Swinney Beck

Red Lane and corner of Chapman Lane (greengrocer area)

Swinney Beck

Main road/Rec area

Dredging of Swinney Beck near Fire Station

Fearby Road

Leyburn Road

The whole of the Masham area

Around Swinney beck

Drainage on Silver Street/Black Bull Lane

Over Masham bridge

The river on the Holme and sports pavilion and play park

Most areas

Fearby/Leyburn Road and Silver Street

Driveways made of permeable material

Fearby Road.

Masham playground, on the recreation ground – had work done still not good enough.

Swinney Beck

Nearly all parts of Masham flood?

The Swinney and fields to the west where building is being developed and fields are lower than flood plain!

Rec and park area

Leyburn road/Fearby Road, Silver Street, Swinney Beck

All areas of park

Masham town

As necessary

Around the areas of Swinney Beck. Fearby Road and Leyburn Road.

Swinton road,

Maple creek.

Many fall pipes in Masham are surface draining – they need to go into drains – ice in winter from these pipes make pavements dangerous.

Swinney and flooding down Red lane and Silver Street.

Fearby Road – redirect Swinney beck

M8 not suitable for housing due to flooding

Over Masham bridge

Masham play park.

Swinton terrace junction -Swinburn Road

Swinton Road.

Main road before bridge entering Masham and River Ure.

Throughout Masham town.

Wherever possible to ease flooding in town.

Drainage along Silver Street

Measures to reduce light pollution of the surrounding area:

Less street lighting in town

Street lights

Street lighting to be reduced at night

Areas which you feel could form Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation:

Out-lying areas,

Areas near the River Ure & River Burn,

Behind Gun Bank.

Marfield wetlands

Marfield wetlands

Nature Reserve

Swinton Estate

Marfield Quarry

The whole of the Masham area

All areas

Marfield quarry

Around the river, the walk from the river to the bird reserve, walks around the river to l'Ansons

Hackfall and woods on the Grewelthorpe road

Local

Wetlands. River banks.

Parts of St Marys churchyards – wild flowers already started.

Where available and suitable

All Masham open spaces & green fields.

Marfield Wetlands.

Fields on Foxholme Lane.

All

Swinney Beck

Approaches to Masham.

Marfield Wetlands

River banks

Corridors of 20-30 meters along River Ure and Burn where no spraying, or ploughing is allowed, and designated as wildlife areas

Additional SINC's could be created for Parkland and Wood-pasture at Swinton Park and High Mains, on heathland at the Galloper at Moscar. As a professional ecologist I would be happy to undertake surveys of potential SINC's for the parish council in a volunteer capacity which is required to ensure that they meet the North Yorks SINC criteria. NB SINC's are designated strictly on biodiversity criteria which is independent of public access. Nidderdale AONB is currently undertaking Local Nature Recovery habitat mapping which includes a 5km buffer around the AONB which includes the whole neighbourhood plan area. Although I am employed as an ecologist at HBC (soon to be part of NYC), I am happy to assist with advice to the PCs in a voluntary capacity or to help with any ecological surveys that may be required to provide the evidence base for the neighbourhood plan.

Linking of green areas/corridors;

This should always be considered wherever possible.

Swinton Road

Marfield quarry

We are leave green spaces

Especially near new developments

Through whole development so all corridors connect

River and wet lands

As many places as possible

Local

Land leading up to Swinton

Along the banks of the Swinney Ure and Burn.

Meadows

Encourage hedges with wide edges and discourage fences without hedges.

Green areas need tree planting (parks)

The moor needs to be allowed to return to its natural state – not burning

Key green corridors are along the Rivers Ure & Burn - some of this should be designated as a SINC;

Protecting distinctive views:

From Hackfall to Masham Church

View of St Mary's from Roomer Common

Open up view of Rec from Silver Street

Over bridge towards Fisherman's hut (Masham side)

All over

The whole of the Masham area

Valley of Rivers Ure and Burn and footpath above Jamesons

The Park area

Opposite l'Ansons mill.

View from Roomer

All areas

All.

Church and central Masham

Hackfall Woods to Masham along River Ure

View from Roomer Common towards Church

From Swinton/Fearby looking back to Masham

Avoid building to obstruct views of existing residents

Local

The view down the hill (B6267) looking over Masham and the Church must be protected.

Looking from south side of Swinburn Road

Along the banks of the Swinney, Ure and Burn. All existing woodland areas.

Gun Bank view over bridge

Approach to Masham as seen coming down Station bank

St Mary's Church

Silver Street Gun Bank

Trees in the park next to Silver Street need lopping to half their height.

M8 field should not be developed

View of St Marys spire from all five approach roads

Market place approach from Station bank

River and public footpaths

Views towards Swinton, up hills.

Around Foxholme Lane

No building behind King's Head to protect view of Masham from Roomer Common.

Views from the Church and to the Church are important

Other areas where protection is needed;

Three Bunkers Field,

Belfield,

Along-side River Ure up from Sandy Bay should be planted with willows,

Green belts and common land.

Green spaces

Walk round the river

Whole of the Masham area

Fields around church

Present play areas.

All of Masham

The above factors should heavily influence any future plans.

Swinton Estate pasture b/w Swinton Rd and River Burn and b/w Masham Church and River Ure.

QUESTION 12: Are there any existing areas, such as Parks, Playing Fields etc which you feel should be given more protection by designating them as 'Local Green Spaces' ? (Note: Masham Allotments are already designated)

The Holme, Recreation ground

The Holme, bowling green, tennis and cricket areas and playing fields

Masham play park recreation and cricket ground

Children's play area and field behind oaks.

Maintain Swinney Beck corridor

Shooting Holme

All parks & playing fields

Marfield wetlands

All of the Recreation Ground

Play park on the recreation ground as current state is appalling

Common land.

Oak leaf trail fields

Recreation ground/Play area

Protect bridges

Shooting Holme

Maintain Swinney Beck corridor

All the Recreation Area from the bridge to the cricket pitch

Masham Recreation Ground

The Park area

Walk along the river from the sewage works onwards.

The Holme

Bowling club cricket and tennis areas, playing fields and parks.

Place green belt around present town then build outside of that

Rec and playground

Fields around Church

Masham rec

Masham recreation ground.

Masham Shooting Holme (bonfire site)

Park

Oaks play park

Maple Creek orchard

Childrens play area

Grass near the bridge and river

Recreation ground

Holme, Rec and park

The Holme and Recreation ground

Playground behind Swinburn Road

Sports and recreation ground

Masham parks

Playing fields

River bank walking areas

The Cricket field and its surrounding areas

Recreation Ground & Marfield Wetlands

Masham Rec, Park, Cricket field

The recreation area and the whole of the conservation area as marked on the map

The Holme, Playing Field, Roomer Common, Kids play areas

The Shooting Holme, rec, oaks Park.

The Shooting ground and the Sports Association field

The fields on both sides of the road between the town and Swinton to prevent urban creep up the hill.

The recreation ground and the Holme albeit flood land. All that area from Millgate to l'Ansons feed mill.

The Shooting Holme and cricket ground and surrounding land

Areas by the river, including the cricket field

Land alongside the river Ure in the town

Cricket pitch and the land where the bonfire is (rec)

Recreation ground

The large green area by the bridge on the way out of Masham towards Bedale (called The Rec I think)

The Recreation Ground and Shooting Holme, all fields adjoining the Ure and Burn

The cricket ground/playground area. The green area by the river near the bridge. The golf course.

Yes. The current park between M8 & M11 and M8 should not join M11 thus current play park should be extended between the two. Recreation ground and Shooting Holme should also be designated local green spaces.

The no overnight camping rule in the field by the river needs to be enforced.

Shooting Holme/playing fields

High Ellington green

Local park areas, areas of current recreational use and green belts providing natural breaks between urban and rural spaces.

Tittybottle Park

Recreation ground

The Holme

Candleshop Wood

Shooting Holme Rec Land around Millgate

Land around churchyard

Allotments - continued beyond 2030, market square, all children's play areas and parks and public footpaths

All parks, green spaces and playgrounds/fields should be fully protected. I cannot believe the amount of planning applications which have already been approved and which have and will completely change the Masham we have loved for so long. The larger houses are not needed at all and will serve only to bring in people from outside, rather than meeting any local need. Services are now totally overstretched, the medical practice is not functioning well, the school will be oversubscribed once all of these extra houses are completed. There are a considerable number of elderly people but the bungalows built for them are now being let to young people, why is this? There is no care home for older people who need it and we could do with an accessible health centre, not the current medical premises, which outside, are completely unfit for purpose. Heaven only knows how the sewerage etc will cope, why has all of this been allowed to happen? The only housing Masham needs are starter homes but when I talked to a representative of the site on The Oaks and asked about affordable homes, I was told that they wouldn't be building them and couldn't tell me who would, or when they would be available. They clearly were not being prioritised.

Do not build on green belt - Masham is big enough you will destroy the surrounding countryside and habitats for animals and plants

School playing fields, the Auction mart, agricultural land needs to stay in production. What we need is more emphasis on traditional mixed farms that employ crop rotation to keep soil healthy. Large mono crop tree plantation should be stopped in its tracks. Monoculture forests are the enemy of bird life, soil quality and are extremely harmful to biodiversity.

The Rec, if not already designated. Roomer Common. New open space to be created between the Westholme Lane and Swinton Road developments and existing play area.

The Rec and Shooting Holme

The recreation ground.

The Rec

Children's play area, Shooting Holme, cricket fields should be all protected

All existing parks and recreational/sports areas. Any sites of historical significance.

Shooting Holme, Recreation ground.

The Holme

Shooting Holme.

Masham rec and cricket field

Marfield wetlands River bank from fisherman's hut to the Burn bridge

Land beyond Jameson out to Fearby road (maintain farmland and footpaths across to golf club)

All current Parks, Playing Fields etc should be designated as "Local Green Spaces"

Masham recreation ground. Banks of the River Ure in the Masham area

Play parks and Recreation ground.

QUESTION 13: Would you support the following being located here to boost tourism, providing that their impact on landscape, habitat and biodiversity was acceptable?

Put more support into campsites, caravan sites and camping pods that already exist.

QUESTION 14: Would you support renewable energy sources such as the following being located here, providing they are on a proportionate scale and their impact on landscape, habitat and biodiversity was acceptable?

QUESTION 15: What additional measures do you feel could be taken locally to help tackle climate change?

Solar panels on all new houses

Solar panels – on all commercial building roofs only

Wind turbines on the common up towards Grewelthorpe which could service local area need

Listed buildings to be exempt from restrictions such as allowing double glazing and solar panels.

Larger home recycling bins

Bus service etc include Northallerton and Thirsk (to connect to trains)

Access to information about upkeep and maintenance of old buildings

Limiting the movement of HGVs with diesel fuel emissions through Masham – danger to public health

Are there grants around for solar?

Info/financial assistance for retrofit of home and community buildings

Cycle lanes for residents

Not needed

Improve public transport to decrease reliance on cars

Reduce use of cars and use more public transport

Easier access to residential solar panels and insulation schemes

Better recycling access for larger items e.g., white goods and furniture,

Better bins for recycling both residential and street side

Stop building on green field sites

Stop quarrying at Marfield

Listed buildings to be exempt from restrictions such as double glazing and solar panels

Develop more areas for tree/shrub planting to encourage indigenous species to flourish

Better recycling facilities

Water storage

Don't build more houses

Hydro scheme on the Ure

More public transport – can only use my car to get to where I want to go

Insulation of existing properties

Grants

Extension planning – energy saving

More recycling bins around town

Local wind turbine or solar for the village

Turn off street lighting at Midnight

Place all Masham in 20 mph zone

Borrowed energy! – such as water powered wheels in the river on rafts to generate electric

Public transport improvements

More EV charging points

Traffic speed reductions

Planting trees/maintaining woodlands

All new builds should have renewable power systems of some description (solar panels, air or ground source provision)

Not to build houses or less houses on green belt land

Better public transport

Unnecessary – plant more trees!

More litter bins around and on the Rec

Less traffic through the town

Less HGVs going through Masham

More planting or hedges to sustain wildlife and assist drainage

Reduce street lighting after certain times i.e., 10pm – 6am

More trees to be planted

Promote local grown foods and encourage using more of what we have on own doorstep

Renewal and extension of drainage system to accommodate increase in housing

Flooding is the main danger from climate change - we have a brownfield site (the old auction mart) that is begging to be built upon, the overflow from Swinney Beck is planned to be incorporated into the plan when the quarry moves to the north/west side of Leyburn Road. This never seemed to be a problem before the beck was dug wider and the side banked up in the pre-1990's (W. Wise), and has only ever since been a problem when it flooded as a result of a round bale being dropped in the beck near the bridge just outside Masham on Fearby Road

Consider possibility of Biomass facility using waste products from local farms, and /or wind turbine, to provide free electricity for Masham residents. New build housing builders and planners should have a mandatory obligation to install heat exchange pumps, solar panels, and provision for wild life such as bats, swifts, swallows and martins in all newly built housing in Masham

Solar panels above on buildings, not on productive agricultural land bio mass, community initiatives on waste recycling

Top rate public transport facilities. Educate builders and home owners of heritage buildings on how to sustainably make insulation changes that don't damage the property. Make the planning &

conservation area consents much easier and cheaper for installation of solar panels and heat pumps. The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings have lots of advice on their website <https://www.spab.org.uk/>

Separation of clean and dirty water in sewers, prevention of sewage being dumped to rivers. Make use of sewage waste locally by treatment and deployment to land as fertiliser, reducing transport mileage, importation by sea/road. Suitable deployment plan required to include Nitrate Vulnerable Zones if appropriate

Public Transport promoting its use more, every bus I see is virtually empty. Some kind of park and ride system to popular tourist places to keep cars out of Masham. Have jobs and housing and leisure facilities in Masham so people don't have to travel so much for the basics. Smaller houses suitable for the amount of people living in it

Already too many

Encourage people to use public transport, especially visitors

Improve insulation of homes, allow double glazing in listed houses amongst other things. I have recently moved to a traditional looking house built four years ago. It's 5 beds and I need only put on the gas heating for two hours per day to keep rooms adequately warm - I feel strongly that the negative effects of so-called green power are too high and that insulation of homes delivers a higher benefit for less input. It is easy to forget how many tons of concrete etc so-called and the carbon footprint of setting up all these green schemes and then decommissioning them impacts the overall lifetime benefit of these schemes. Working with the fossil fuels we have but using them sparingly until a proper national and truly green system is developed gets my vote

None. The earth's climate is an ever-evolving phenomenon as scientific history has shown. While I agree that we should be more careful about how we live and treat the planet, some of the measurements being brought into force are opinion driven without proper research and are an unnecessary knee jerk reaction.

Siting of a small-scale plastic and paper recycling area to be used by businesses/locals. At the moment it all goes to landfill

Ensure all new buildings including total refurbished buildings have solar panels, water reclamation and energy efficient/green heating

Regenerative agriculture

Work with farmers to change and diversify to move away from meat production and practices which pollute the river. meat production accounts for a significant proportion of carbon and net zero cannot be achieved without a move away from current arrangements. also farm practices account for more river pollution than sewage release by water companies. work with local game industry notably Swinton estate to move away from grouse and pheasant shooting which is environmentally destructive especially burning heather and impact on other species. focus on clay pigeon shooting and tourism offer which supports rather than destroys local wildlife e.g., bird of prey watching, dark skies, etc. the local tourism offer could be so much better in terms of supporting nature and there is a growing market for this

On commercial buildings only, roof solar panels on Jamesons, l'Ansons, Black Sheep Brewery and Theakston's roofs.

Further encouragement to allow operation of electric vehicles by residents without drives.

Infrastructure upgrade - local travel services i.e., bus and rail service upgrade and consideration of 'local' food related retail outlets to provide a 'local' competitive service eliminating longer distance travel, (by road) to cover basic living requirements. Alternative power generation is far from only a 'local' consideration and is best considered under a combined or centralised plan of regional / national action. Localised home improvements to increase, (for instance) home insulation values to make the most efficient use of existing power source.

It's not climate change that we need to be concerned about, its litter especially plastic, it's in the food chain something must be done now!!!

Harness wind and water to provide local electricity

All of the areas currently being built on could have been required to use ground source heat pumps. A great opportunity has been lost. Reverse or deny some of the planning approvals so that even more of our beautiful town is not continuously being despoiled. Clean out Swinney Beck. I see that it has silted up again along Westholme Road and that will only make major flooding more likely. The whole of Masham needs protecting from those who wish to turn it from a small town to a huge housing estate. Transport is totally inadequate, particularly so if anyone needs to get to Northallerton or Middlesbrough hospitals.

Support with renewable energy

Less heavy lorry traffic through the town.

More/better bins for public use including recycling.

Mankind is not contributing to Global Warming. The world is not in crisis. Without CO2 there would be absolutely no life as we know it on this planet. The Climate Change Mantra is one of the most egregious pieces of population control ever created. Do you not realise ULEZ, Local Traffic Zones, '15-minute cities' are all about people control. They are being promoted as better for the planet. So, no. I do not think further measures need to be taken

Nature based solutions e.g., tree-planting, creation of natural habitats and slow the flow measures on flood-plains

Support for modernising/insulating older properties. There are national and regional schemes but any houses that are listed or in a conservation area are not considered, which is our whole area

Encourage installation of solar panels on domestic properties. All new build should be mandated to have solar panels and heat pumps

Additional tree planting, attempts to harness hydro-electricity from the river

Allow heritage double glazing in listed buildings

Reliable regular electric public transport. Allowing/encouraging use of solar/wind/hydro technology. Insist at least one of them is included on planning app for 2+ properties

Better public transport. Safer footpaths. More pavements. Designated walkways between nearby villages & towns (at present you have to walk on the roads without pavements, therefore its easier & safer to go by car). Better more convenient recycling including public facilities

Provision of useable and reliable public transport. Restriction of nonessential outdoor lighting of buildings and Xmas lights

Improve local transport services to reduce the reliance on, and use of, cars

Reasonable access to charging points for EV's, bearing in mind that many local houses do not have off road parking

Plant trees around the Wet Lands. Re- establish green meadows to encourage and welcome more insects and butterflies etc.

Farms using bio fuel, more EV chargers, more public transport to reduce reliance on cars

Stop building unaffordable houses for the people of Masham. There should be a priority to keep the younger generation living in Masham by letting and selling affordable houses. Restricting holiday lets.

Please complete Q16 and Q17 if you are a farmer or operate a rural business or work in the countryside:

QUESTION 16: Which planning policies would you like to see revised to enable you to improve your business?

New school and Doctors

Imperative to have good/reliable mobile telephone and broadband. Everyone is being coerced into using mobile communications and yet in rural areas there is very poor or non-existent reception. With the impending stopping of landlines what emergency method will there be for people in large areas where mobile connection is very poor or non-existent? Android /Skype types do not have emergency capability. It is not realistic to walk around a farm to try and find some sort of reception

Parking outside town

Permitted Development rights in the AONB - more support for renewable energy installations

Barn conversions made easier to obtain planning for

QUESTION 17: Are there any other issues you wish to bring to our attention especially related to your business?

Take off agricultural ties that are implemented on farmers homes

No cars in market place to make Masham more attractive

More electrical points on the market place and public wi-fi

Provision of litter/dog poo bins. Masham Litter busters sometimes get dumped litter after wild camping

The local market is declining – there needs to be a plan for growth for all the retail businesses in the town

More variety of visitor accommodation. B n B's in Masham reduced recently

Car shares, more use of pushbikes in the actual town. There are basically too many cars for such a small space and more to come!

All new houses to have solar panels for both solar PV systems and solar thermal systems.

Set aside a field on Thorpe Road / Leyburn Road for visitor/tourist parking, perhaps with a park-and-ride shuttle to the Market Place, to ease the pressure on town centre traffic and thus reduce emissions. Spaces dedicated to EV parking (in addition to the charging spaces) Double yellows (or 20-minute waiting) on Silver Street and Church Street, to allow free movement of traffic in both directions. HGVs prohibited between 8-9.30am and 2.30-4.30pm to allow schoolchildren to walk / cycle in more safety, and move towards in the medium term only allowing vehicles over 7.5 tons in town centre if electric.

Better more frequent regular provision of public transport.

Farming, as many businesses, is particularly hard. It is starting to turn into large factory farms rather than traditional. It's nearly impossible for new starters to join the industry and scary for people already farming. It is going the opposite way to the current ethos of nature, sustainable, nurture environmentally friendly and good husbandry. More intensive, factory, pushing stock and land hard. Vets are no longer accessible and affordable, meaning animals are not given the best care that they used to have available.