**Community Facilities**

**Important Community Facilities**

1. The community takes great pride in the Parish as evidenced in the wide and diverse range of local activities and social interaction that take place.
2. These activities and social interaction are focused in community buildings that are to be found in the main villages.
3. These buildings, and the activities and services they support, play a vital role in meeting the health, welfare and social needs of the residents of the Parish and fostering, and acting as the focal point for, community spirit and pride. They also provide local employment, reduce the need to travel and generally enhance the quality of life and foster sustainable development.
4. As a rural parish with a relatively older population, availability and access to facilities is of increased importance. These facilities help the community to come together, lessen the need to travel by car and also to help to also attract younger residents into the area.
5. However, the Parish has seen a gradual decline in the community facilities, including the closure of its last shop. This has resulted in residents having to travel further to access these facilities. This presents problems, especially for those who rely on public transport to access these. There is a concern that if action is not taken, this decline will continue.
6. In the community survey, 46% of respondents felt that the Parish suffered from a lack of shops (second highest improvement priority) and 30% (fourth highest improvement priority) from community facilities. They expressed particular concern about the lack of a post office, shops such as a coffee shop and leisure facilities.
7. Indeed, there is strong support for the principle of developing more community facilities, including a farmer market. Work is underway to establish whether a farmers market would be viable.
8. The community sites and buildings listed in the Policy are the ones identified as most important to the well being of the community (list to be discussed with Steering Group).
* Royal Oak Public House
* Gate Inn Public House
* Peacock Public House
* Highwayman Public House
* Fox and Goose Public House
* Three Merry Lads Public House
* Brampton Old School
* Cutthorpe Institute
* Wadshelf Village Hall
1. They include public houses, village halls and other meeting places.
2. All of the listed sites and buildings will be protected unless a suitable alternative can be provided or it can be demonstrated that the site or building is no longer needed. Assets of Community Value

**POLICY CF1: PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF IMPORTANT COMMUNITY FACILITIES**

**Proposals that result in the loss or significant harm to the community value of the following community facilities will not be supported unless; it can be demonstrated that the service or facility is no longer viable or is no longer required by the community; or the building or facility is replaced by an equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in an equally suitable location.**

**Proposals to enhance the provision of community buildings will be supported where it can be demonstrated:**

**a) it will meet an identified local (parish) need;**

 **b) the scheme is appropriate in its location, scale and design and would not be detrimental to the character and appearance of the landscape or the built environment; and**

**c) the amenities of neighbouring properties will not be adversely affected through the nature of the use, noise or traffic generated**.

**Asset of Community Value**

1. The designation of a community facility as an Asset of Community Value provides the opportunity to give it added protection from inappropriate development.
2. The Localism Act 2011 defines an ‘Asset of Community Value’ as “a building or other land is an asset of community value if its main use has recently been or is presently used to further the social wellbeing or social interests of the local community and could do so in the future”. The Localism Act states that “social interests” include cultural, recreational and sporting interests.
3. Where an asset is ‘Listed’ the Parish Council or other community organisations will be given the opportunity to bid to purchase the asset on behalf of the local community, if it comes up for sale on the open market.
4. To date, no community facilities have been formally designated as Assets of Community Value. However, through the consultation process, the Church Hall has been identified as significant to the economic and social viability and sustainability of the community. It also identified other buildings which may be worthy for consideration for designation.
5. The Parish Council, therefore, may consider the mechanism of designating these buildings as Assets of Community Value, to further ensure that they are retained.
6. The inclusion of a specific policy in a Neighbourhood Plan with respect to Assets of Community Value provides the opportunity to give it formal recognition in the planning system. It ensures that the Listing of an Asset of Community Value is a material consideration (i.e. it must be taken into account).
7. The Parish Council, therefore, may consider the mechanism of designating these buildings as Assets of Community Value, to further ensure that they are retained.
8. The inclusion of a specific policy in a Neighbourhood Plan with respect to Assets of Community Value provides the opportunity to give it formal recognition in the planning system. It ensures that the Listing of an Asset of Community Value is a material consideration (i.e. it must be taken into account).

**POLICY CF2: Asset of Community Value Development proposals that support the longevity, appreciation and community value of an Asset of Community Value will be encouraged. Development proposals for a change of use that would result in the loss of an Asset of Community Value will not be supported.**