Policy Area 10 - Community Facilities (Delivering Objectives 1 and 4)

Policy Intention: To protect important community assets for the benefit of the community (land and buildings)

NPPF:

Core planning principles in paragraph 17:

• take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all, and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs

Chapter 3: Supporting a prosperous rural economy states:

• promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages, such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.

Chapter 8: Promoting healthy communities states in paragraph 70:

To deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:

- plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments;
- guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs;
- ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and retained for the benefit of the community

Within Chapter 8 (Promoting Healthy Communities) the following policy is given with regard to green spaces:

Para 76: Local communities through local and neighbourhood plans should be able to identify for special protection green areas of particular importance to them. By designating land as Local Green Space local communities will be able to rule out new development other than in very special circumstances. Identifying land as Local Green Space should therefore be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development

	and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.
	Para 77: The Local Green Space designation will not be appropriate for most green areas or open space. The designation should only be used: • where the green space is in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;
	 where the green area is demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and where the green area concerned is local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.
	Para 78. Local policy for managing development within a Local Green Space should be consistent with policy for Green Belts.
Local Planning Policy:	EXISTING POLICY:
NNPA Core	Core Strategy Northumberland National Park (2009)
Strategy	Policy 8 Community Facilities Policy 8 - Community Facilities
	In order to encourage and support the provision and maintenance of community facilities to serve the needs of the Park's population the National Park Authority will:
	a. Support the creation of new and the extension of existing community facilities where they are located within or adjacent to an identified settlement; and
	b. Safeguard existing facilities which are demonstrably important within a community
	Tynedale Planning Policies
	There are no community facilities outside the National Park area so these policies are not relevant, although they do support the retention of community facilities.
Engagement:	Community Questionnaire: People were not asked specifically about the value they placed on community facilities, but there were a number of specific responses which are being collated, which showed a high level of support for retaining facilities such as the Holly Bush Pub.
Evidence:	List of Community Facilities in the Parish