



Moving around

We asked if you can easily walk and cycle around Newsome using good-quality routes

“Improve walking areas around Newsome some are very untidy.”

“Local pathways need to be attended to regularly, they are very uneven.”

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- Better sign posting for local walks.
- More benches in key places.
- School paths by Newsome High and junior school could do with cementing over at the sides to stop the weeds growing as it becomes inaccessible over spring and summer.
- Land around Stirley Farm has either been closed off or made unattractive and more well publicised volunteer events to maintain and improve existing off-road footpaths.
- Some places to cycle and walk, but need more autism friendly walks.
- Newsome Centre would be an ideal place for a central position for secure storage of bikes and could link to a cafe, post office, surgery.
- Speed camera on Newsome Road South near Castle Avenue.
- More zebra crossings on Newsome Road.
- E- bike loans / hire for people to discover their benefits on hills.
- Drivers are impatient with cyclists and improved road markings / cycle lanes would signal to drivers that bikes are significant road users too. Priorities should be with improving our footpaths network and maybe more cyclists would use them and get off the busy roads.
- More safe cycle storage in busy areas needed. A segregated cycle / walking route to town / Holmfirth in Holme Valley would encourage active travel. A similar scheme elsewhere in Newsome is needed.



Public transport

We asked you if public transport meets your needs

“The bus service by day is quite good but very hit and miss after 6pm. It’s deteriorated significantly since Covid.”

“ There is no school bus for Newsome children even though a large number of them go to Honley High School.”

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- Action to address public transport that serves the needs of Newsome and wider community.
- Make buses free to under the 18s.
- Make shorter trips should be cheaper.
- The flat £2 rate is fine.
- Why can't there be a lower rate for less stops travelled?
- Cut vegetation back on the slope to Berry Brow station - this would make passengers more visible and therefore feel safer while waiting on the platform.



Traffic and parking

We asked if you can move around safely - do traffic and parking meet the community's needs?

"Too many cars not enough spaces."

"Parking in Newsome centre is terrible and also by the school and pubs. Roads not big enough for cars to park on the street in these areas."

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- Extend road widths in some areas of Newsome to allow for safe and legal parking.
- Improve central Newsome junction as gets very busy and many use it to avoid Lockwood, it would be beneficial to discourage this.
- Parking for school pick up and drop off is limited - walk children to school. Parking near the schools is very busy and sometimes dangerous, how can parents be encouraged to not use their cars?
- Explore options for funding more active travel options to present to parents and children. Huddersfield town centre needs something to draw people back into the town so e-bikes and drop off points for people could help.
- Residents parking in Stile Common Road, Cross Lane and Plane Street - disabled parking.
- More access to free parking in the area, more permits, better transport links, access bus for the most vulnerable in the area.
- More front gardens dug out to get cars off the narrow lanes and roads.
- Speed cameras or traffic calming along Newsome Road South.
- Stop big wagons coming up Newsome Road South.
- Off road parking options to be looked at around Hall Bower - increasingly busier with visitors to the clubs / matches.



Streets and spaces

We asked you if buildings, streets and public spaces create an attractive place that is easy to get around

"I feel we are a forgotten village, no planting, no getting involved."

"The street cleaners do a really good job trying to keep Newsome clean and tidy."

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- Major refurbishment and improvement of mill site with up market business such as restaurant, affordable housing or community hub.
- Refurbish the Clock Tower, it's a landmark.
- Build a hub, café / tea house for community use.
- A safe space for teenagers to chill.
- Xmas light switch on with Xmas Fayre, scarecrow walks, remembrance poppy displays.
- Community maintenance and ownership of green spaces / a group needed. Newsome in Bloom, garden visits and lend equipment to garden owners who can't afford, help for older people.
- Tree planting, hanging baskets, planters, flower beds in village centre.
- Free or low cost events in green spaces to encourage social connection.
- Less early mowing of grass to encourage wildflowers and greater biodiversity.
- Sensory things to do especially as we have schools with physical disabilities.
- Install more benches for older / infirm on local walks, in communal spaces.
- Improve skate park off Newsome Road - could be a really good asset.
- Review street lighting by train station and steps from Wain Court to Station Street shops, on footpath between Taylor Hill and Newsome.
- Wider pavements. More road crossings where pedestrians / cyclists have priority. More 20mph areas and making rat runs much less attractive. Restrict car parking, wheelie bins, cyclists, e-scooters etc from blocking / using pavements.



Natural space

We asked if you can regularly experience good-quality natural space

"Off road motorbikes are intimidating. Entrances to green spaces are not inviting, nor is litter, graffiti and vandalism."

"I am happy with Newsome's natural spaces, particularly pleased with the meadow planting and tree planting."

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- Protect open green spaces.
- Utilise existing green space as outdoor space for residents.
- Create a 'better' park for young people in central Newsome.
- More teenager play equipment and more sports equipment in natural spaces. Install natural play options in local parks.
- Convert the church grounds into a park.
- Diversify available green space, create small parks, more biodiversity. Install raised planters.
- Install natural features (eg, ponds hedges and trees / fruit trees).
- Set up an action group to utilise derelict space.
- Reduce council vegetation cutting to support wildflowers.
- Improve disabled access at local green spaces.
- More regular litter picking.
- More cutting back of trees and vegetation / better maintenance of parks.
- Create autism friendly green spaces.
- 'Spruce up' Castle Avenue Recreation ground.
- Cut the grass at Stirley Farm twice a year and engage more with residents.
- Install allotments on Edale Terrace.
- Create a riverside walk, more promotion of local walks, install a map/info board and improve Greenway signage.
- Create some dog free spaces.
- Improve air and water quality.
- Complete the fence around Newsome Junior School.



Play and recreation

We asked if you can access a range of spaces with opportunities for play and recreation

“Some lovely open spaces and local play areas but lacks a lot of youth provision during the term time.”

“Lots of outside spaces to enjoy. However, far more limited options inside. The Newsome Centre will be a welcome addition to indoor space.”

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- A dog friendly shuttle bus up and down from the bottom of Lockwood Scar and Newsome Road to Castle Hill, stopping off up the hill would be great for access. Parks and Councillors to promote more widely on the status of play area improvement scheme, so residents can see how they are prioritised, and which ones are being consulted on, and when funding is in place to improve specific ones.
- Could outdoor gyms and seating be a consideration to future designs?
- A playpark could be made at Fanny Moore on the area of land leading into the wood - there is a picnic table there and it could be made into a lovely safe place, plus would deter motorbikes from entering the wood there.
- Identify opportunities to improve the feeling of safety at the skate park area and deliver facilitated sessions from the site by youth providers.
- Identify opportunities for off road parking at key sites such as rugby, cricket club (Hall Bower) to alleviate parking pressures for residents and visitors.
- Identify new opportunities to better promote, in different ways, what is available to access in outdoor spaces and in buildings, sites and schools across the area for all age groups.
- Have a wide variety of social, learning and fun activity based opportunities, being delivered out of the new Newsome Centre for all ages groups.



Facilities & amenities

We asked you if facilities and amenities meet your needs?

“Growing Newsome are doing terrific work to encourage and support growing and enjoying plants and produce in this area.”

“Limited social offer and no cafe's or places to meet to have a bite to eat and drink in and around the centre of the village.”

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- Create a tearoom / café at the new Newsome Centre to offer a place for people to eat and socialise all through the week.
- Maybe the old Kirkwood charity shop could be transformed into a bar / restaurant.
- We have a really strong local food growing community in Newsome. It would be great to take the next step and see more locally grown and locally produced food on sale regularly in Newsome.
- A village food and drink festival could be a good way of starting this off, perhaps promoted in tandem with the Stirley food festival.
- There are too many take aways and not enough day time eateries. It would be great if Newsome had a café!
- What about a shop for local goods / produce, from crafts to veg.
- Identity opportunities with Stirley Farm to better promote across the community what activities are on throughout the year – given a number of residents felt they don't get to hear about their timetable of events on a routine basis. Establish a free book swap in the new Newsome Centre given there is no library in the village.



Work & local economy

We asked you if there's an active local economy and the opportunity to access good-quality work

"Newsome is in poor condition and does not seem to be thriving, nothing to go to the village for."

"Opening the church building as a community centre will bring people in."

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- The new Newsome Community Centre in the church to offer home workers a different venue to work, have a coffee and see people.
- A job club, a cafe as a site for training / work placement, good internet access, volunteering opportunities like the Aspire group at Berry Brow, room hire.
- Local services supporting employment and training.
- Support for people wanting to change direction in work life.
- Castle Hill hub to be a high profile service.
- Schools to offer training.
- Local library / training venue.
- Free or cheap adult education for all.
- Easier access to benefits advice.
- More investment and opportunities for young people in the local area. Apprenticeships for young people.
- Government scheme with living wage while people train or start up a new, sustainable business.
- Conservation and green industry innovation.



Housing & community

We asked you if the homes in your area support the needs of the community

“If estates were cleaned up and crime and anti social behaviour reduced, Newsome would be a more appealing place to live.”

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- There is a good range of housing locally, but we need more opportunities and help with renewable energy sources, such as grants and advice.
- Need more green initiatives such as solar or insulation schemes and solar tiles, heat pumps.
- Having more eco built homes in the area would be great especially at Newsome Mill.
- Restrict student and HMO accommodation in favour of affordable family homes. Properties could do with insulating more so that energy bills are not as high, rent is getting higher, so it needs to be considered.



Social contact

We asked you if there are a range of spaces and opportunities to meet people

“I’ve lived here 22 years and don’t know what’s going on – Newsome Centre will be good for more community activities, but need things on a weekend and evenings.”

“There are groups trying hard to engage, but I don’t see the community actively engaging.”

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- Stirley farm to put out more timely info on events.
- Newsome desperately needs a dedicated community centre that is spacious, modern interior and amenities. This should not just be open during the day, it should have evening use. Including youth groups etc.
- A designated 'ring and ride' on set days and times that could bring people to a community space to socialise who were unable to get about easily.
- There are no running initiatives for car share, bikes etc. This could be improved. Perhaps the new church centre could offer food swaps to reduce food waste. While there are events, these are fixed and limited. The Newsome Centre could provide a better balance and flexibility.
- There are very limited evening activities for the community. Newsome Centre, I hope, fills that gap with cinema evenings, talks, music, and events. Hopefully, the church plans will go ahead.
- I would love to see more classes that include a mix of exercise and non-exercise options for people of all ages.
- A local bottle bank is needed.
- More information on what can be recycled.



Identity & belonging

**We asked you if this place has a positive identity
- do you feel you belong?**

“I feel like I belong and get involved, for example volunteer at The Bread and Butter Thing at Berry Brow.”

“I think there is work to do to better integrate minorities into the community.”

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- More celebration of heritage please.
- Could have a history walk or trail round Newsome.
- A lot of groups maybe just need promoting more.
- I think there is a sense of belonging in Newsome, but more could be done to bring the community together- young and old.
- I am not sure that the history of Newsome is currently being celebrated, although the proposed development of the mill may help with that.
- We could develop a community recycling area that could generate income for the community through the likes of The Newsome Centre (a community benefit society). The Newsome Centre could facilitate this.
- Opportunities at the new Newsome Centre to bring people together from all ages through various events and activities throughout the year
- The development of a café on site at the Newsome Centre will be a welcomed asset in the area.



Feeling safe

We asked if you feel safe here

“Newsome feels typically safe during the day but as with any area as a woman I feel unsafe waking around in the evening.”

“I generally feel safe in Newsome but sometimes feel intimidated by young people on motorbikes.”

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- Less litter and clearing up derelict buildings will add to a feeling of safety and tougher action / policing of antisocial behaviour.
- More police on the beat.
- A police officer at the school - this needs to be brought back.
- Hall Bower Lane and Lady House Lane the cars use as a cut through route, need a sign to reduce speed and a proper footpath down Lady House Lane. There is nearly a path there just needs cutting brushes back and tarmacking.
- A youth club would be good.
- Community Safety days to raise awareness of key issues and importance of reporting any incidents to the police.
- Identify funding to ensure throughout the year, especially in term time there are more facilitated activities for young people to engage in at the skate park, detached on the street activities, activities in the new Newsome Centre.



Care & maintenance

We asked you if buildings and spaces are well cared for

“Sadly the streets in Newsome are generally looking quite scruffy these days.”

“Litter and dog fouling is a real issue although the local street cleaners do a great job where they can.”

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- Explore model used at Blagden Lane re charging resident £25 per year to employ a company to sort the communal areas out – could this model be rolled out further if residents support it?
- Community recycling facilities - for example, there's no glass recycling facility that you can get to on foot.
- Lack of accessible glass recycling points, have these been proposed on any of the new developments?
- Just get the mill sorted please.
- Better waste management for flats and shared buildings with lockable bins. There are very few seating opportunities on Newsome village itself - might be nice to offer more.
- Bin collection point on Falcon Street. It is often messy and litter all around.
- A waste bin on Edale Avenue car park would be good.
- More bins (allowing dog poo disposal) and signs to remind people to pick up after their dogs.
- Regular street cleaning to pick up the leaves so drains do not become blocked. Cut the church yard grassed areas to demonstrate it is being looked after.



Influence & sense of control

We asked if you feel able to take part in decisions and help change things for the better

"I doubt anything will come from this survey."

"There is a strong community spirit, it is inclusive."

You made lots of suggestions, including:

- As part of their commitment for local neighbourhoods to be shaped by the people who live in those places, I'd like to see Kirklees Council backing the aspirations of people in Newsome.
- I think the councillors do work hard but their budgets are too small.
- As a business never been asked - but recently cllrs asked if i would like to get involved in the church project.
- One resident report that Caldercliffe Road has barrier in place but no notices about it and I hit my head on it – it needs a safety notice.
- I try to support local, go to local beer festivals like hall bower beer fest, plant swap at the scout hut and Berry brow carnival, but there's not much goes on here to be fair and if there is, it's not advertised enough.
- We used to have a free local paper years ago, but that's disappeared.
- Some residents would like opportunities to raise key issues and have a voice through the new Newsome Centre – Cllrs to consider holding a regular surgery with key partners eg police, housing etc. I do think that some thought could be given to finding a way of gathering the thoughts of people who frequent the pubs, as I would hazard a guess that a large portion of those people do not make the effort to share their views, but have them nonetheless.