



Northumberland County Council

Steven C. Bridgett – County Councillor Rothbury Division
45 Jubilee Crescent · Rothbury · Morpeth · Northumberland · NE65 7QZ

Thursday 29th April 2021

Ref: ALWINTON/PLANNING/21

To whom it may concern,

I write with reference to planning application number 21NP0016.

As the local County Councillor for Alwinton, I would like to offer my full support for the application and I will set out my reasons for this below.

Under Policy ST4: Spatial Strategy, of the Northumberland National Park Local Plan, Alwinton is recognised as a named settlement where ***“Development should support the service function and sustainability of the Named Settlements by providing additional small scale housing (principal residence or affordable) and employment premises, new facilities and services (including tourism and recreation) that would be proportionate to the size of each settlement”***.

The above mentioned planning application more than meets the criteria of small scale housing at what could be argued as a very conservative pace given the previously limited development within the settlement of Alwinton.

Policy ST5: New Housing, states that ***“Development proposals will be assessed according to how well they meet the needs of those living in and seeking to move to Northumberland National Park, as identified in the most recent Strategic Housing Market Assessment and other relevant guidance”***.

The development at Alwinton will undoubtedly help meet this need while at the same time helping to ensure that those residents who currently live in the area and who may well currently reside in tenanted farming properties, can have the opportunity to continue living within the area when those tenanted leases expire. Helping to ensure that those residents who may have lived their whole lives in this area, do not have to move out of the parish when any tenancies come to an end.

It is my view that this development satisfies a raft of the strategic policies contained within both the Northumberland National Park Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. It offers small scale development that will potentially meet the need of existing residents and does so by utilising infill land that exists within the settlement curtilage.

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The scale and design of the development is sympathetic to Alwinton, the National Park and the setting of Upper Coquetdale. The proposed materials are in keeping with what is already in use both within Alwinton and the National Park and it is evident from reading the planning documents that this has been at the forefront of both the applicant and the agent throughout the planning and design process.

My only reservation is that I would not support in any way, any attempt by Northumberland County Council Highways Authority to install any street lighting columns, so as to ensure and preserve the integrity of the internationally recognised Dark Sky status of the Northumberland National Park.

I urge you to give this application your due consideration and your full support.

Your sincerely,



Cllr Steven Bridgett
County Councillor for the Rothbury Electoral Division.



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