

## Ebenezer Chapel – Public Consultation Summary

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### 1.0 Overview

Drop-in session – Monday 6th March to Friday 10th March at Prudhoe Community Hub, 61 Front Street, each day between 10am and 4pm and again on Saturday 11 March 10am to 12pm. Consultation boards displayed at the Hub.

23 visitors in the Hub spoken to, with a further 165 ‘window watchers’ – people who have stopped by, sometimes in groups, discussing the plans. Many more will have looked at well, without been observed or recorded.

### 2.0 Summary

Overall, the designs have had a very positive response. People felt that they are pleased that something positive is being done with the site and ‘affordable homes’ is a good outcome. People also liked the links to the history of the building and the fact that it is still recognisable as Ebenezer Chapel.

Some concerns residents raised were as follows:

- Flooding problems – some people said that the area regularly floods following heavy rain. The gentleman currently living in the closest flat is worried that this will cause damage to his property. This concern was raised by 12 people.

*This issue is addressed in the Design and Access Statement, outlining information from the Environment Agency Flood Maps data, as well as what is planned to combat any potential flooding problem.*

- Planting – the overall planting is seen as positive but some concern over the trees being planned and if these will block the light/sunshine from the close-by houses. Also, some people raised the question on who will maintain for the planted areas. These concerns were raised by 11 people, but the planting it was mentioned by everyone at some point.

*This issue is addressed in the Design and Access Statement, with a planting scheme to be developed accordingly, in consultation with the Local Authority Ecologist. Maintenance will be by Karbon Homes, with a maintenance charge on residents for the upkeep.*

- Being over-looked – Some residents asked about what was being proposed for the windows, and whether frosted glazing was going to be installed, especially those facing existing housing. This was raised by 3 people, but was a real concern for one person who lives very near.

*This issue is addressed fully in the Design and Access Statement. The design of the windows, their height and opening size has been carefully considered to avoid any overlooking and security issues. Furthermore, the overlooking distances between proposed and existing properties is in accordance with the Local Authorities design guidelines.*

- Loss of local history – this was just one person who would like to see the church re-opened.
- Parking – mixed messages in the responses, but the main concern is around increased traffic and traffic management, with some asking whether the parking will be available for local residents.

*Parking is for the private use of the residents of Ebenezer Chapel only.*

- EV charging points – no concerns, however, some people asked if these would be public for use by surrounding residents.

*EV charging points are for the private use of residents of Ebenezer Chapel only, with 1 allocated parking space and EV charging point included per property.*

- Green issues – solar panels welcomed but more information about biodiversity and 'green credentials' would be welcomed.

In addition, many of the people that were spoken to said they would complete the on-line questionnaire.