

# Media Release



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## Lazonby Seeks More Control Over Development

Following a series of community meetings arranged by the Parish Council, Lazonby is bidding to be the ninth area in Eden to take on their own Neighbourhood Planning powers. This reflects the continuing growth of interest, both locally and nationally, in local people determining how their towns, villages and countryside will change or be protected in the future.

Many people in Lazonby have had concerns about their lack of control over recent development proposals in the village. These new powers would give local people more ability to manage how development should take place in their parish in the future.

The 2011 Localism Act allows a parish to become a designated 'Neighbourhood Area'. This then gives them the power to create a 'Neighbourhood Development Plan' that can set out what type of development is acceptable in the future. The District Council, Planning Inspectors and even the Secretary of State must then take it into account when they take decisions on planning applications.

Designated parishes can also produce Neighbourhood Development Orders which can permit development, on individual sites, without the need for a planning application to Eden District Council.

These Neighbourhood Development Orders can also allow agreed classes of development to take place anywhere in the Parish, without the need to apply for planning permission.

The government has set up a grant programme to support the work of local communities preparing their own plans.

There has been strong interest from local communities in taking more planning control recently with similar applications from Alston, Skelton and Morland and Langwathby having been approved in the last month.

[www.eden.gov.uk](http://www.eden.gov.uk)

Chair of Lazonby Parish Council, Virginia Minihan said *“If we want to do everything we can to ensure our Parish has the development its people need and not just the development commercial interests need, we have to take the opportunity that neighbourhood planning powers give us.”*

Cllr Gordon Nicolson OBE, who is heavily involved in the Parish’s approach to neighbourhood planning said. *“It is important that future development in Lazonby meets the needs and aspirations of our residents. We can achieve that by engaging with local people to make sure any proposals produced are supported by the majority. We then have the opportunity of getting statutory backing for our wishes as the plans will be made part of the statutory planning framework against which planning decisions are made”.* As well as being Lazonby’s District Councillor, Gordon is leader of Eden District Council and national neighbourhood planning champion.

The Council received Lazonby Parish Council’s application for the parish to be designated on 9 July 2014. A copy of the application and a map of the area can be viewed on the Council’s website at [www.eden.gov.uk/lazonbyneighbourhoodarea/](http://www.eden.gov.uk/lazonbyneighbourhoodarea/) or at Mansion House, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 7YG; weekdays between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm. Copies are also available in local libraries.

You are invited to make representations on whether the area is an appropriate neighbourhood area to the Council no later than 5.00 pm Monday 17th September 2014 by email to [neighbourhood.planning@eden.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.planning@eden.gov.uk) or in writing to Communities Unit, Eden District Council, Mansion House, Penrith, CA11 7YG.

For more detailed information on Neighbourhood Planning and a step by step guide please visit our website at <http://www.eden.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplanning/>. If you require any further information contact the Neighbourhood Planning Officer on 01768 212474 or [neighbourhood.planning@eden.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.planning@eden.gov.uk).

**Information for Editors:**

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