

# Northumberland Line site visit information

If you are planning a site visit, please make John Paul ([John.Hipkin2@aecom.com](mailto:John.Hipkin2@aecom.com)) or Joanna ([joanna.vanderveen@aecom.com](mailto:joanna.vanderveen@aecom.com)) aware.

If approached with any questions about the Northumberland Line, please refer the person in question to Northumberland County Council's (NCC) contact phone number (0345 600 6400) or the project's dedicated email address ([rail@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:rail@northumberland.gov.uk)).

Key messages about the scheme are included as an appendix to this document.

1.	Ashington .....	2
2.	MH13 – West Sleekburn .....	4
3.	Bedlington .....	5
4.	Bebside .....	8
5.	Structure - EJM 42 / EW3 (Lysdon Farm) .....	10
6.	Newsham .....	11
7.	Chase Meadows level crossing .....	10
8.	Seaton Delaval .....	14
9.	Structure EJM 36 .....	15
10.	Structure - EJM 35 .....	17
11.	Northumberland Park .....	18
12.	Palmersville Dairy Level Crossing .....	19
Appendix A Northumberland Line key messages .....		<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>

# 1. Ashington

## Sensitivities

Communications are ongoing with residents around the Green Lane level crossing regarding concerns about noise and air quality.

Residents of and around Darnley Road are also concerned about proposals to replace Hospital Level Crossing with an underpass. They have submitted objections to the related planning application and the Transport and Works Act order (TWAO).

The landowner of part of the land required to build the proposed Ashington station car park (see **Figure 2** below) has also objected to the TWAO and wants to develop a care home on the land. This land should not be accessed without prior permission. A section 172 notice was served to access the land for GI works and it is unlikely permission will be granted to access the land without powers.

## Access

Station area can be viewed from the NCC car park.

## Parking

NCC car park behind Wilko (free parking) – see **Figure 2** below.

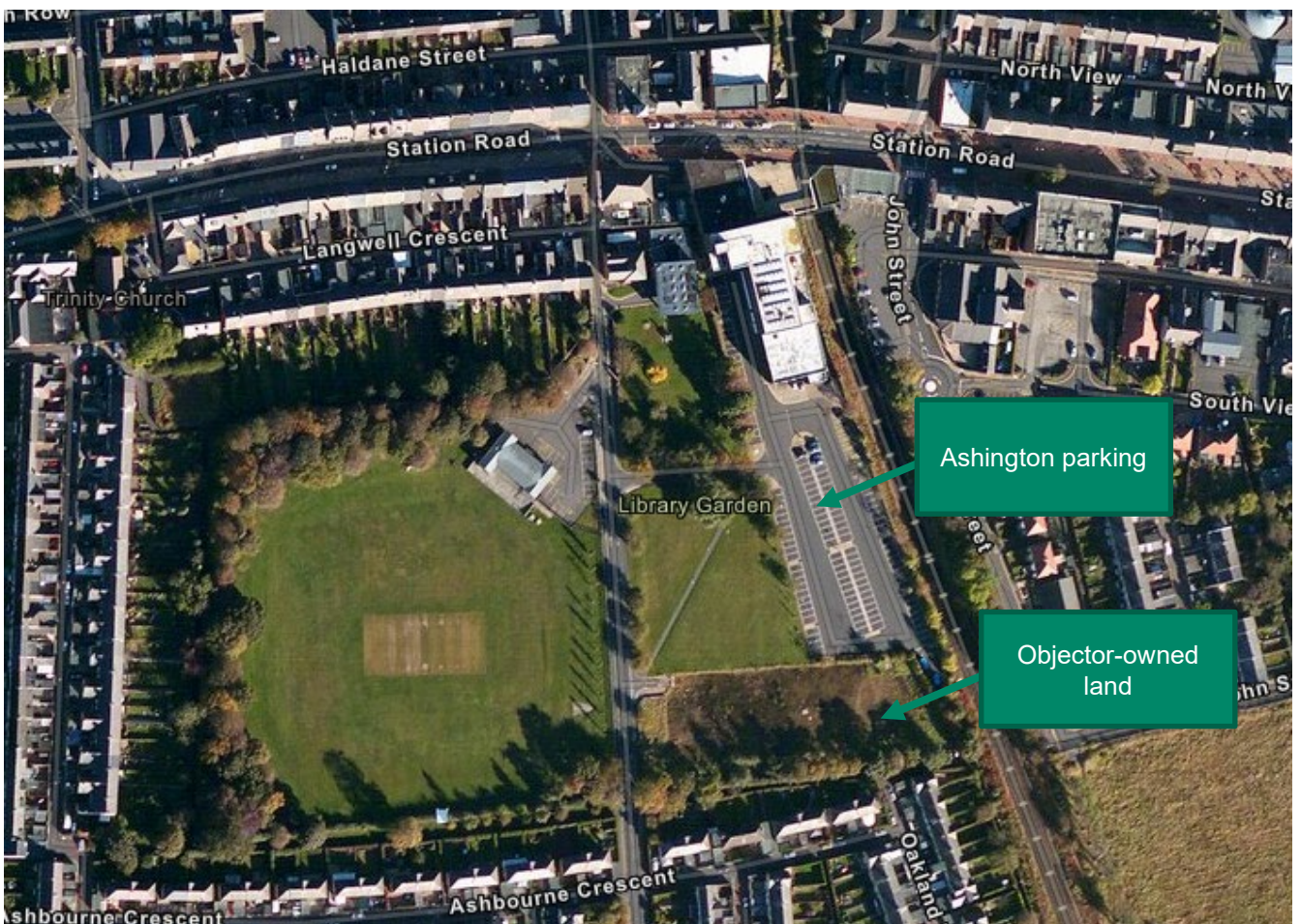


Figure 1. Green Lane level crossing





**Figure 2. Hospital level crossing**



**Figure 3. Ashington parking and objector-owned land**



## 2. MH13 – West Sleekburn

### Sensitivities

Not applicable for this area. NCC land. Site is not in the immediate vicinity of residential housing; however, care should be taken when entering the field from Wansbeck Road as turning circles are tight.

### Access

Access via entrance just to west of rail line into field.

### Parking

Parking should be on the field / site where possible. If additional car parking is required use parking on east of railway (Wansbeck Road and Church Avenue) but please ensure no vehicles are blocking any residential houses.



Figure 4. MH13 site context

### 3. Bedlington

#### Sensitivities

The owners of Sleekburn House (a retirement housing complex adjacent to the railway close to the proposed new station, see **Figure 4**) have objected to the TWAO and Bedlington station planning application. They are concerned about noise and daylight impacts. Some of the houses adjacent to Sleekburn House will also lose some of their gardens.

#### Access

Most of the station area can be viewed from street. Please use discretion in and around Sleekburn House.

#### Parking

There is a free car park just off station road, close to the tracks (see **Figures 6 and 7**), the entrance is off Melrose Villas. This area is best avoided around school drop off and pick up times.

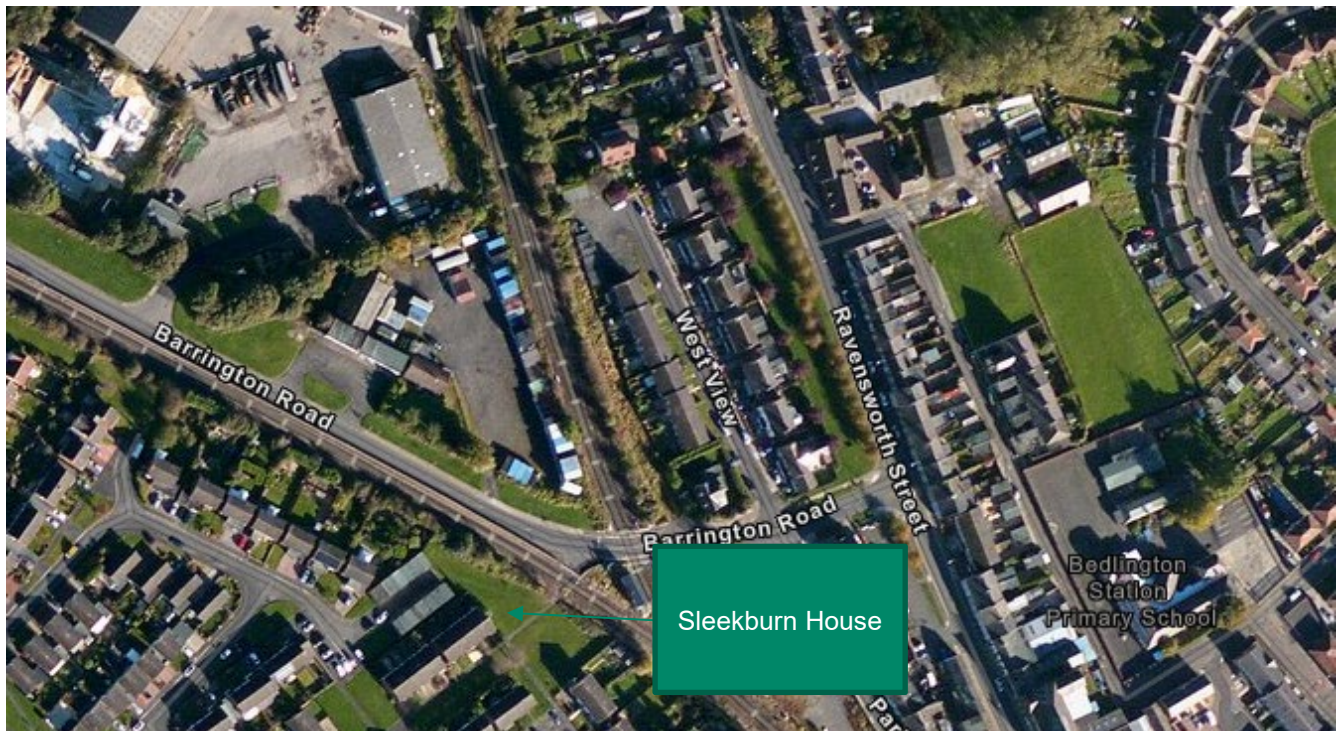


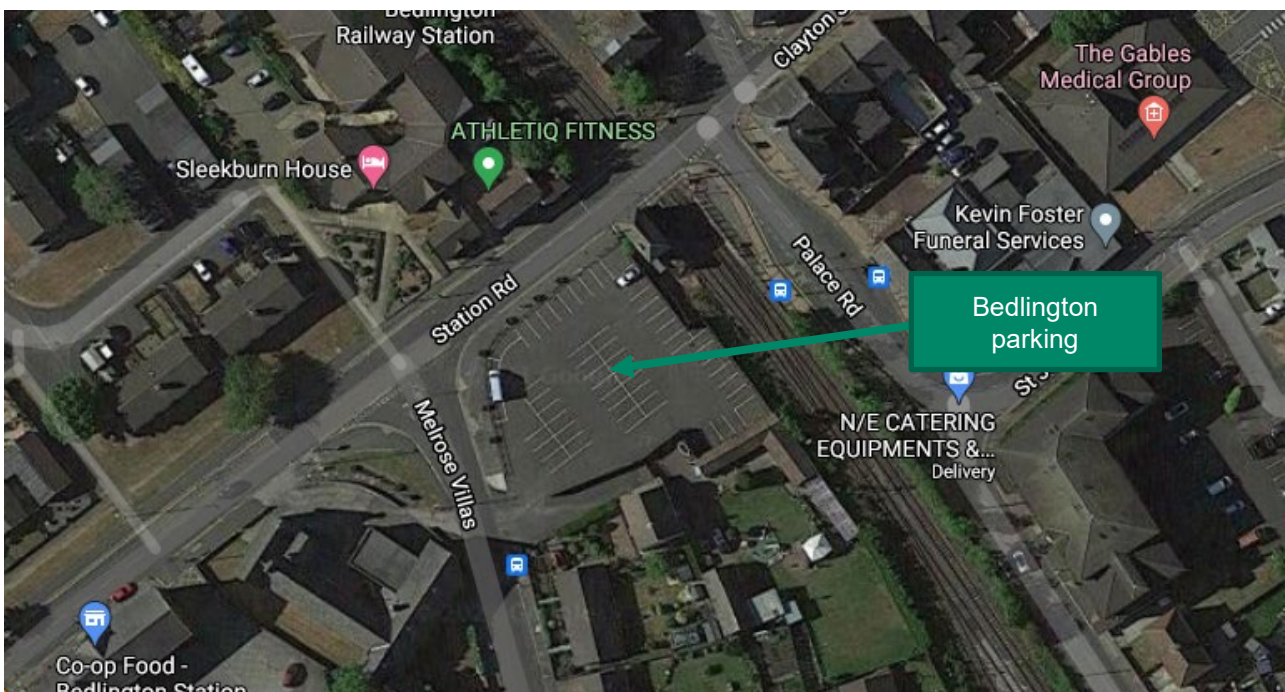
Figure 5. Sleekburn House





Melrose Court –  
access to sidings

**Figure 6. Melrose Court**



Bedlington  
parking

**Figure 7. Bedlington parking**



**Figure 8: Bedlington parking**



## 4. Bebside

### Sensitivities

There are ongoing communications with the businesses on Errington Street with regards to concerns about access as a result of Blyth Bebside station proposals.

There is land currently used by a horse rescue charity that needs to be acquired to construct the foot and cycle bridge to Blyth Bebside station.



**Figure 9. Bebside sensitives**

### Access

An area of land at the Bebside station location has already been purchased by Northumberland County Council and can be accessed from Errington Street to view the location. This area is highlighted in orange in **Figure 9**.

### Parking

Parking is available just past the level crossing on Front Street across from the Bebside Inn (see **Figures 10 and 11**).





**Figure 10. Bebside Northumberland County Council land**



**Figure 11. Bebside parking location**



**Figure 12: Bebside parking location**



## 5. Chase Meadows level crossing

### Sensitivities

Some residents adjacent to the proposed footbridge are concerned about overlooking of their properties.

### Access

The level crossing is publicly accessible (on foot)

### Parking

There are limited options for parking close to the proposed footbridge site. One option is to park in the Asda car park and walk down the path to the east of the railway, but Beaufront Walk residential road is closer, though parking should be sensitive to residents' needs.





## 6. Newsham

### Sensitivities

Discussions are ongoing with the residents of Railway Cottages over alternative resident parking and the detailed design of the stations. Please do not park adjacent to these properties (see **Figures 13 and 14**).

There is a residential property immediately to the east of the railway and south of the A1061 that is in the process of being purchased by the project. This land cannot be accessed at present without landowner permission.

A welfare container was placed on the unregistered plot of land by Network Rail sub-contractors (MRSC). They are undertaking works on the railway signal box directly opposite but these have not yet been completed. The container was removed for the GI works but will be replaced when the land is available.



Figure 13. Newsham sensitivities



Figure 14. Disputed parking area

## Access

Station location can be viewed from South Newsham Road.

## Parking

Parking is limited, but there is a car park at Blyth Football Club just off Sandringham Street (please check for any restrictions before parking). No vehicles should park in the residential estate. There have been complaints from residents about this in the red area in **Figure 14**.



Figure 15: Newsham Parking



## 7. Structure - EJM 42 / EW3 (Lyndon Farm)

### Sensitivities

Land to east of rail line is tenanted by Mr John and Mrs Janet Greenwood. They use the land for tending to horses. There is a Public Right of Way which can be used to view the area.

### Access

Access can be taken from the access track at the end of Mountford Road. Access beyond the structure should be taken on foot.

### Parking

There is an area of hard standing just before the structure. Access beyond this point should be done so on foot.

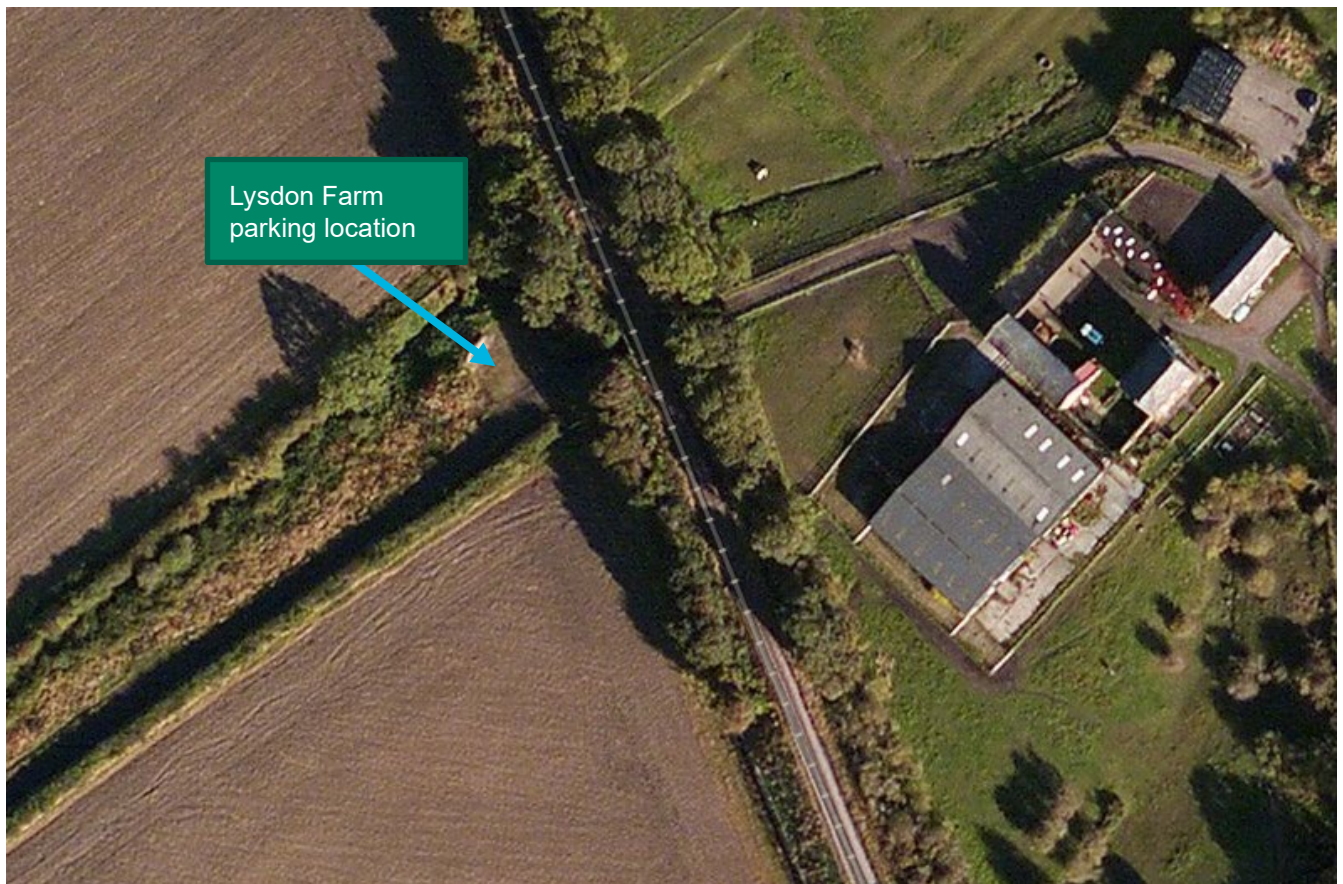


Figure 16. Lyndon Farm Parking

## 8. Seaton Delaval

### Sensitivities

Residents at Seaton Delaval have formed a residents' group. Whilst mainly supportive of the project they have some concerns with regards to the proposed parking near the Wheatridge Estate and Whytrigg Close, impacts on flooding, anti-social behaviour and noise.

Residents on Delaval Court have raised concerns with regards to the project, please avoid this area if possible.

### Access

A Public Right of Way runs next to the railway and the proposed station location can be viewed from there.



Figure 17. Seaton Delaval sensitivities and access

### Parking

Parking is available at the Lakes and Dales Co-Op; please check restrictions before parking.

The Hasting Arms have previously noted that they are happy for us to use their car park; please use as a last resort if during opening hours as it is a small car park.



## 9. Structure EJM 36

### Sensitivities

No known sensitivities. There is a Public Right of Way that can be used to view the area; however, permission must be obtained from Northumberland Estates to gain access to any of the fields.



Figure 18. EJM 36

### Access

Access can be taken from Fisher Road off Backworth Lane. Permission must be obtained from Northumberland Estates for vehicular access.

### Parking

There is parking available at the start of Fisher Rd before the gates. Access can be taken by foot from there. Small stopping areas available further down the Public Right of Way; however, permission must be obtained from Northumberland Estates.



**Figure 19: EJM 36 parking location**



## 10. Structure - EJM 35

### Sensitivities

No known sensitivities; however, there is evidence of anti-social behaviour in the area.



Figure 20. EJM 35 location

### Access

Access can be taken from the footpaths from Shrewsbury Drive

### Parking

There is lots of parking available in the housing estate along Shrewsbury Drive. Please park sensitively and do not obstruct residential properties.

# 11. Northumberland Park

## Sensitivities

Residents of Fenwick Close have objected to the TWAO, based on concerns about the temporary acquisition of some land as part of the TWAO and impacts of Northumberland Park station. Negotiations and discussions with these residents are ongoing. Please do not park on Fenwick Close and use discretion when visiting the area.

Previously concerns about the project have also been raised by a resident at Deleval Crescent.



Figure 21. Northumberland Park sensitivities

## Access

Area can be viewed from the road and existing station.

## Parking

Parking is available in the retail park to the north-east of Algernon Drive



## 12. Palmersville Dairy Level Crossing

### Sensitivities

There have been reports of anti-social behaviour at the crossing, with TWAO notices on the site vandalised.

There are a number of objections to the planning application for a new underpass in this area from local residents.

Residents of Ashcroft Drive have complained about contractors parking on their streets to facilitate ground investigation works.

### Access

Access can be taken from the Public Rights of Way in the area. From the southern side there is locked bollard belonging to Network Rail.

### Parking

Parking should avoid residential streets and aim to use the industrial estate to the south of the railway.

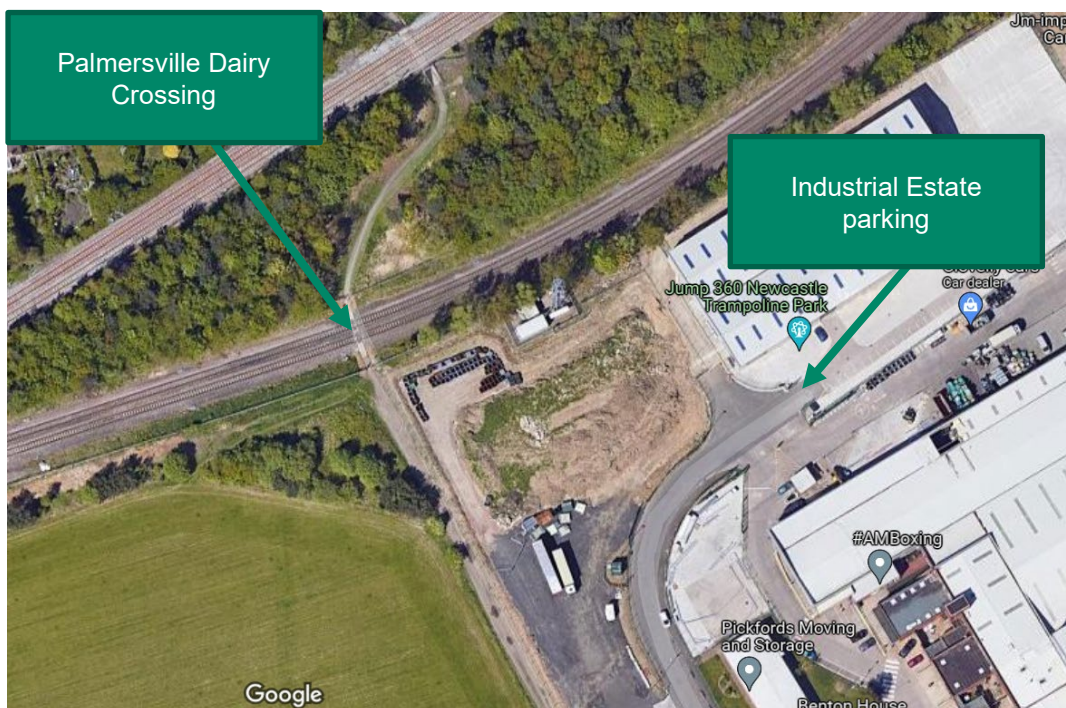


Figure 22. Palmersville Dairy site context