

**Action4Acomb (A4A) working towards a Community Led Plan**  
**Questionnaire**  
**Autumn 2014**

**Who are Action4Acomb (A4A)?**

A4A, a constituted committee with 12 members, representing Acomb Parish residents, was formed last October (2013) following a public meeting. A4A is independent of Acomb Parish council, working in partnership with a variety of other partners and organisations.

The aim of the committee is to prepare a Community Led plan which will include a 5-year action plan for Acomb to improve our community, focusing on what is important to you.

**What is a Community Led Plan?**

- A plan to improve Acomb, focusing on what is important to the people living and working in Acomb Parish.
- It provides a working document to influence local and national decision making across various organisations e.g. Parish Council, County Council, Environment Agency.
- It is a tool by which A4A can apply for funding to improve facilities and services.

**Why this questionnaire?**

Over the past year and a half, through meeting with several existing groups and having open meetings, it has been possible to analyse the feedback. 4 themes have emerged: Community; Environment; Health & Social Care; Housing & Planning. These have informed the questions within this questionnaire.

In order to ensure that **everyone** in Acomb Parish can have their say, every home is receiving a copy. If more than one person within your house wishes to complete a questionnaire, extra copies are available at Acomb Post Office.

Anyone wishing to be involved in A4A is very welcome.  
See contact as above or find us on Action4Acomb FaceBook, visit our website  
[www.action4acomb.co.uk](http://www.action4acomb.co.uk) or come along to one of our meetings.

The Community Led Plan will be made available on the A4A website, copies will also be left at the Post Office for you to access and there will be some extra hard copies too. If you would like your own copy, please indicate at the end of the questionnaire by providing your name, address with postcode.

**Why should I complete this questionnaire?**

- It will help identify the needs of the whole community and help to prioritise actions
- It will set out the vision for Acomb, identifying the actions needed to get there
- It will support the development of a 5-year Community Led Plan with clear time frames.

**What will happen to my information?**

The information you provide will be securely held by A4A Committee members for data collection. All information will be treated in confidence and no individuals will be identified. The results of the survey will be published and shared in Spring 2015.

**Just 15/20 minutes of your time.**

If you care about your community, then help by completing this questionnaire. Please let us know your views. Arrangements will be made to collect your completed questionnaire.

**If you require a large print version, or assistance in completing the questionnaire, please contact:**  
Lorna Farr, A4A Secretary  
☎ 01434 609567  
✉ [lornafarr@gmail.com](mailto:lornafarr@gmail.com)

Many thanks,



Naomi Liller, A4A Committee Chair

# ACTION4ACOMB COMMUNITY SURVEY

## Section 1: Community - Village Life

Q1 What are the most important things that you like about living in Acomb? *(tick all that apply)*

- Local school/nursery
- Relatives
- Friends
- Work
- Being close to Hexham
- The countryside
- Village life
- Community Spirit

Other important things *(please write in box below)*

Q2 What are the most important problems for you living in Acomb? *(tick all that apply)*

- a) I have no problems
- b) Lack of community facilities and activities in the village for:
  - Children and young people
  - Young Mums
  - Older people
- c) Lack of support for :
  - Young mums
  - Vulnerable people (e.g. elderly, those with disability)
- d) Isolation:
  - Nowhere to meet friends
  - Being frail and living alone
  - Lack of transport

e) any other important problems for you *(please write in box below)*

Q3 Are there any new/revived village/parish events you would like to see happen regularly?

For example: *(tick those you would support)*

- Mayday Maypole
- Coach outings
- Summer carnival
- Christmas play or panto
- Halloween Party
- Village Bonfire & Fireworks
- Carols around the Christmas Tree
- Dances/discos in the village hall

Any other ideas? *(please write in box below)*

Q4 How often do you or other members of your family use the following facilities? *(tick all that apply)*

	A few times a year	Most months	Most weeks	Never
The Village Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
St John Lee Church Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Methodist Chapel Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acomb School Hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mobile Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sports Pavilion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Playing fields/playground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acomb Post Office Shop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hairdresser's	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acomb Pubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acomb Tandoori Takeaway	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sea Chef Chip Shop	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ridley's Fish and Game	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are there any other local facilities you use, based in Acomb? *(please write in box below)*

Q5 How do you rate the following services in Acomb?

	<i>(tick all that apply)</i>			
	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Not Good
Royal Mail postal deliveries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Electricity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TV and radio signals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Telephone (landline)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mobile signal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Broadband service	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Refuse collection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Litter picking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Road maintenance e.g. potholes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sewage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Road Gulleys maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other services? *(please state in box below, indicating whether Excellent; Good; Satisfactory or Not Good)*

Q6 If you have children/grandchildren.....Where do they play?

(tick all that apply)

- At home
- In the street
- At the Pant
- On the playing fields
- Grassed areas of the village
- Play Park/Playground
- School Common
- They are taken to Hexham e.g. to Football, Scouts, Brownies
- Other areas they play? (please state in box below)

Q7 How important to you or your family, are the following Acomb clubs and societies? (tick all that apply)

	Very Important	Important	Not Important
Local History Society	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Monday Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Women's Institute	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wives Fellowship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acomb Floral, Horticultural and Industrial Society	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing Club	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Footpaths Group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mother and Toddler Group	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other clubs and societies not listed? (please state in box below and say how important they are)

Q8 Are there any new activities, clubs or sports facilities that you would like to see set up in Acomb?

(tick as applies)

Yes  No

If Yes, please state what these would be in the box below.

## Section 2: Health, safety and the environment

Q9 How much of a problem to you or your family are each of the following in Acomb?

*(tick all that apply)*

	Big problem	Minor problem	Not a problem
Anti-social behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vandalism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drunkenness	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Drug taking and dealing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Graffiti	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Litter/fly tipping	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flooding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other problems? *(please state in box below and say whether they are a big or minor problem)*

Q10 Did you know that a dog fouling campaign has been promoted within the village? (tick as applies)

Yes  No

Q11 Do you think the dog fouling situation has improved? (tick as applies)

Yes  No  Not Sure

Q12 What would help to address the problem?

*(tick all that apply)*

	Yes	No
Extra bins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Identifying those who do not pick up dog mess	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Naming and shaming	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More posters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Free bags	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ask for a Dog Warden to visit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other options you would suggest? *(please state in box below)*

Q13 Did you know that you can contact the Dog Warden on 0845 600 6400 to report any incidents of dog fouling? *(tick as applies)*

Yes  No

Q14 How safe do you feel when walking in Acomb after dark? *(tick as applies)*

Always feel safe

Usually feel safe

Don't feel safe

Q15 Is it important to have any of the following?

*(tick all that apply)*

Increased police visibility

Neighbourhood Watch Schemes

Farm Watch Schemes

More street lighting

Measures to curb anti-social behaviour

Do you have any comments you would like to make about community safety and crime? *(please state below)*

Q16 Is it important to you to have the following in Acomb?

*(tick all that apply)*

	Very important	Important	Not Important
Doctor's Surgery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Health walks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Publicised cycle/walking track	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Keep fit sessions in the village hall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More litter bins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
More recycling facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Anything else you would like to see in Acomb? *(please state in box below)*

Q17 Which of the following would you like to see in the countryside around Acomb? *(tick all that apply)*

	Yes	No
Community Energy Generation Scheme	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Domestic wind turbines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wind farm	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solar panel arrays	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expansion of the wetlands as part of the flood plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Provision of a pond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bug hotels/ Bird hides	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wildlife trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other ideas or concerns? *(please state in box below)*

**Q18 Flood and emergency planning**

*(tick all that apply)*

- |  | Yes                      | No                       |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Is your home at risk of flooding?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Did you know that Acomb has a Flood Plan and 12 Flood Wardens?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Are you involved in the Village Flood Plan?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Do you think more needs to be done to prevent flooding?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Did you know, information about where sandbags are located, is on village notice boards?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| If a flood is happening now or imminent do you know the emergency number, 0800 80 70 60 to call (this will also ensure our local Flood Wardens are alerted)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Any other ideas or concerns relating to flooding? *(please state in box below)*

**Section 3: Community - Communications**

Q19 Is there enough information for you about what is happening in Acomb? *(tick as applies)*

- Yes  No  Don't know

Q20 How important for you are the following ways of finding out about events or meetings in the village? *(tick all that apply)*

- |  | Very important           | Important                | Not Important            |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Village notes in the Hexham Courant  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Post Office Notice Board   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Village Hall Notice Board  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pant Notice Board  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Acomb School   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Little Oaks Nursery  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Via family and friends   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Village pubs   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Church notices   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| St John Lee Church Outlook Newsletter  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A4A Facebook   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| A4A Web – <a href="http://www.action4acomb.co.uk">www.action4acomb.co.uk</a> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Any other ways that would help with communication? *(please state in box below)*

Q21 Does communication need to improve in Acomb, for example? *(tick all that apply)*

	Yes	No	Don't know
Village newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do you know about A4A Website, <a href="http://www.action4acomb.co.uk">www.action4acomb.co.uk</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Village directory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you have any other suggestions on how to improve communications? If so, tell us in the box below.

Q22 Do you have access to the Internet? *(tick as applies)*

Yes  No

Q23 If No, what is stopping you from having access?

*(tick all that apply)*

My choice   
No access to a computer   
Lack of knowledge

Other reasons *(please state in box below)*

Q24 Would you use an Internet café in the village? *(tick as applies)*

Yes  No

## Section 4: Environment - Roads, footpaths and public transport

Q25 Do you use footpaths and bridleways in and around Acomb? *(tick as applies)*

Yes  No

Q26 Would you like more footpaths and bridleways within Acomb Parish? *(tick as applies)*

Yes  No  Don't know

Q27 Would you like more cycle trails within Acomb Parish? *(tick as applies)*

Yes  No  Don't know



Q28 Are there areas that you consider to be traffic danger spots? *(please state in box below)*

Q29 Have you encountered any of the following with footpaths and bridleways? *(tick all that apply)*

	Yes	No	Don't know
Cars parked on pavements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog fouling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Overgrown hedges	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aggressive animals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Broken stiles/gates	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor signposting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Litter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Speeding traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are there any other problems? *(please state in box below)*

Q30 Does the approach to the village along the A6079 (from A69 towards Wall) need to be improved? *(tick all that apply)*

	Yes	No	Don't know
Because of the speed and volume of traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Because pedestrians have difficulty crossing the road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Because pavements are too narrow	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To make the village more attractive	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
To tidy up signs for the industrial estate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
By speed warning signs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
With new village signs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Are there any other suggestions? *(please state in box below)*

Q31 Does the village need more bus shelters? *(tick as applies)*

Yes

No

Don't know

If yes, where should these be? *(please state in box below)*

Q32 Do you or your family rely on public transport as your main means of travel? *(tick as applies)*

Yes

No

If Yes to Q31, what applies to you or your family?

*(tick as applies)*

Yes

No

Travelling to and from work

Travelling to and from school

Your only means of travel

Occasional journeys

Q33 If you use the present bus service, does it meet your family's needs? *(tick as applies)*

Yes

No

If No, why not? *(please state in box below)*

Q34 Would you consider joining a car sharing scheme? *(tick as applies)*

Yes

No

Don't know

## Section 5: Housing and Planning

Q35 Did you know that Main Street, Acomb is a Conservation Area? *(tick as applies)*

Yes

No

Q36 Do you think Acomb needs more housing? *(tick as applies)*

Yes

No

Don't know

Q37 If there is more housing development in the future, what would you like to see? *(tick all as apply)*

	Yes	No
Individual conversions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small scale in-filling between houses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development in gardens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small estates (under 12 houses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Large estates (over 12 houses)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sheltered housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Affordable housing to buy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Affordable housing to rent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Executive housing to buy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Executive housing to rent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other comments? *(please state in box below)*

Q38 Are you or anyone else in your home seeking somewhere to live in the village? *(tick as applies)*

Yes  No

If Yes, what size and type of property is needed, e.g. 3 bed house? *(please state in box below)*

Q39 Do you think the village would benefit from other types of development? *(tick all as apply)*

	Yes	No
Light industrial properties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Small business development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leisure developments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other examples? *(please state in box below)*

Q40 Do you have any concerns about current development in and around Acomb? If so, *please state in box below.*

Q41 Would you rent an allotment should one become available? *(tick as applies)*

Yes  No

## And finally .....

Q42 How would you rate living in Acomb? (please tick, with 10 being the highest rating)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q43 Would you recommend Acomb to family and friends as a place to live? (tick as applies)

Yes  No

Please say why you said Yes or No? (please state in box below)

Q44 If you have any further comments about living in Acomb, please record them in the box below.

## Section 6: Household

We would be grateful if you would answer the following questions about your household as this will help us to understand the different needs of people living in the village. (This information will be used for statistical purposes only and is NOT linked to your address.)

Q45 How many people are there in your household? (please state number in each box)

Female  Male

Q46 How old are those living in your household? (please state number against age bracket)

	Number in household		Number in household
0 - 2 yrs		40 - 50 yrs	
2 - 5 yrs		50 - 60 yrs	
5 - 9 yrs		60 - 70 yrs	
9 - 13 yrs		70 - 80 yrs	
13 - 18 yrs		80 - 90 yrs	
18 - 30 yrs		90 and over	
30 - 40 yrs			

Q47 About the person completing this questionnaire:

How old are you? Are you, male or female?

Thank you for completing this survey. Your participation is much appreciated. Your questionnaire will be collected within the next fortnight. Meanwhile, should you have any queries, please contact, as shown, at the beginning of this questionnaire.

Want a hard copy of the Community Led Plan when it is available? Then add your details below, include postcode too.

Name: .....Address:.....

Postcode:.....Telephone number (optional):.....Mobile(optional).....