

Newton Parish Council – Pedestrian Crossing Survey Report (July 2025)

1. Background

Newton Parish Council (NPC) conducted a survey of **250 households** on behalf of **Suffolk Highways** to gauge support for the installation of a signalised pedestrian crossing on the A134. The proposed location was at the **bus shelter adjacent to Rectory Road** in the centre of the village. Responses were collected via email, post, hand delivery, and online through the Newton PC website.

2. Response Rate

- **Households surveyed:** 250
 - **Responses received:** 90
 - **Response rate:** 36%
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3. Support for Proposed Location

When asked whether the proposed location at Rectory Road Bus Stop was the most suitable:

- **Yes:** 76 households (**84%**)
 - **No:** 14 households (**16%**)
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4. Anticipated Weekly Usage

Respondents were asked to estimate the number of crossings their household would make weekly using the proposed crossing:

- **To Saracen's Head / Village Shop / Golf Course:** 544 crossings
 - **To Rectory Road:** 384 crossings
 - **To Village Hall / Playing Fields:** 454 crossings
 - **From Area E to Areas A–D:** 39 crossings
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5. Responses by Area

Responses were received from all parts of Newton. Distribution by area:

- **Area A:** 22 households
 - **Area B:** 27 households
 - **Area C:** 17 households
 - **Area D:** 17 households
 - **Area E:** 7 households
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6. Alternative Locations & Comments

Of the 14 respondents who did not support the proposed location, the following alternative locations or comments were recorded:

1. Saracen's Head (multiple mentions).
2. Closer to Village Hall & Playing Field.
3. Links View to Village Hall.
4. End of footpath next to Links View; safer waiting area.
5. Area A – to slow traffic when entering the village.
6. School Lane end of village + speed bumps.
7. Bus stop across to Saracen's Head.
8. No pavement at Area A; difficulties accessing the bus stop.
9. Spend money on road repairs in Links View instead.
10. Crossing not needed; too dangerous.
11. Closer to Village Hall and playing fields.

7. Conclusions

- **Strong support:** A clear majority (**84%**) support the proposed location at Rectory Road Bus Stop.
- **Usage evidence:** The survey demonstrates significant potential weekly usage, particularly for access to the **Saracen's Head / Village Shop / Golf Course** and **Village Hall / Playing Fields**.
- **Minority concerns:** 14 households suggested alternative sites, with Saracen's Head and areas near Links View and Village Hall mentioned most frequently.

8. Recommendations

NPC should submit this report and accompanying charts to **Suffolk Highways** as evidence of local demand and support for the crossing. Consideration could also be given to reviewing the alternative sites mentioned by respondents, especially if funding allows future infrastructure projects.

Prepared by: Newton Parish Council, July 2025

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