

NEWBALD PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



NEW! COUNCILLOR SURGERIES

You now have the opportunity to come along and talk to Councillors informally and one to one about any issues or concerns relating to the Village. Councillor surgeries will take place monthly before each full Council meeting. This will normally be the first Monday evening of every month, though the date is subject to change. Please check on our website for a list of meeting dates. Details on venue and time will be published on the notice board on the Green and on the website 3 days before the meeting. Meetings are also always open to the public.

THE VILLAGE SURVEY WILL SHAPE HOW WE SPEND YOUR MONEY

When the Village survey drops through your letter box in the next few weeks, **we hope that you will be inspired to fill it in.**

We are looking to find out your aspirations for Newbald. Where would you like to see money being spent and what sort of changes and development would you like to see taking place here?

Maybe you feel improving

the Village Hall is all important, or perhaps you think traffic calming would be a better way to spend money. It could be that you are interested in developing the Green or you may feel that we need more street lighting or sports facilities.

The possibilities are endless.

The Parish Council not only raises money via your

Council Tax, it can apply for grants from many sources, including the recently formed Sober Hill and Sancton Hill wind farm community benefit funds.

Getting your views through the Village Survey is really important, because they will directly influence what appears in our new Village Plan. In turn, we will be able to apply for grants towards developments listed in the Plan.

So your opinion can directly impact on how the Council raises and spends money in the Parish. Please help us to reflect your wishes in the choices that we make.— fill in your survey!

If you do, you will be entered into a draw and may win a cash prize.



Newbald celebrates the Diamond Jubilee in style with a street party (see over)

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE—NEWBALD VILLAGE

NEW COUNCILLOR

In May, the Council welcomed new Councillor—Paul Weatherstone on board. *"I have a very firm belief in local democracy and public service. I am keen to get involved and contribute to community life to make a difference for the better. I think that the skills and knowledge I have could be of benefit to Newbald and I'm keen to use them for public good".*

THE WEBSITE IS THERE FOR YOU. LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK!

You can access the new site NOW at newbald.com. Log on for up-to-date information about Newbald events, groups & services.

Each of the charities in the Village—NPFA, Church Rooms, Village Hall etc will have their own page which will be kept up to date. You can also check out a list of supplies and services that are available in the village.

Log on for details about the Parish Council

You can
-find out when and where meetings
-access agendas and minutes
-see our newsletters
-find contact details for individual Councillors and the Clerk.
-subscribe to our email and/or Twitter service to be kept up-to-date.

Help us to keep the site up-to-date and tell us what else you would like to see on there.

Although we can ensure we keep the Parish Council information current, please help us with the other content by providing information. We want this site to serve the Newbald community as best it can. Contact: clerk@newbald.co.uk

NEWBALD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT



CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW 2011-12



Newbald Parish Council's Chairman—
Chris Waite

During the last year, Newbald Parish Council has continued to perform its statutory duties, including those in respect of planning applications; the churchyard and the cemetery. In addition it has worked hard to settle the issues surrounding Spring Lane and to tackle other matters that are important to our village, such as those surrounding highways and public safety. Indeed the last year has been particularly busy as it has considered and implemented many changes to the manner in which its business is conducted.

COUNCIL STRUCTURE

In recent times NPC has seen significant increases in its workload. This, together with its accreditation as a Quality Parish Council and added responsibilities arising from new government legislation, led it to consider how it could conduct its business in a more streamlined and efficient manner. Late in 2011 the Council voted to adopt a committee and working party based structure, where various aspects of its business could be conducted outside the regular monthly full council meetings.

This has allowed matters to be given increased focus and

it means that parishioners have more opportunity voice their opinions.

This is an important element in NPC's aim to improve how it engages with villagers and canvases their opinion.

Three Committees and three Working Parties were created, covering matters such as council governance, community development and planning.

BACK LANE

As ever, access to the playing field via Spring (Back) Lane remains a major issue for the Village and the Council. During this year we have seen some significant headway towards guaranteeing public access. In January 2011 and as part of a wider strategy, we applied for a Public Footpath to be declared along the Lane. A little over a year later, an order was made for a footpath measuring between 3.8 and 5.0m wide to be designated over the whole of the Lane's length.

This would enshrine the public's right of access to the Lane in law and require ERYC to protect that right. Unfortunately and despite much support including that of the Playing Field Association (NPFA), several objections were raised. Consequently, the matter will now most likely be referred to the Secretary of State and possibly to an inquiry.

Despite this, we are confident that the footpath will become a reality in the not too distant future.

Our strategy also entails working with the NPFA to support them in asserting their ownership of the field. and their Private Rights of access over the Lane.

Furthermore, in order to ensure the matter continues to receive the attention necessary, a Spring Lane SEC was created as part of the Council's reorganisation, to monitor and react to developments as well as to develop future strategy.

HIGHWAYS

NPC continues to monitor the condition of our roads and make representations to ERYC where it believes action is required.

Despite severe budgetary restraints, we were successful in gaining approval for a 20mph speed limit to be put in place on Beverley Road in front and either side of the School.

We also persuaded ERYC of the need for improvements for pedestrian safety at the junction of South Newbald Road and Trundlegate, incorporating a new footpath. This together with the signage that has been put in place, will help to ensure better safety for pedestrians walking to and from Monkton Rise.

Whilst the winter of 2011 / 2012 was not as severe as was expected, NPC continued to hold stocks of sand and grit to improve access to untreated roads and footpaths. We remain in readiness to act next winter.

The Council is in consultation with ERYC to address several areas of concern, such as speeding along the A1034, traffic movements across the Green and parking trouble spots.

VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall continues as a vital hub for the village, providing a venue for many

activities and events. It is vital that it should continue to fulfil this vital function, as well as developing as a key asset for the benefit of future generations.

With this in mind, the Council has inaugurated discussions with the Village Hall Management Committee with a view to developing a strategy for The Hall that will ensure its continued security and relevance within the structure of the village.

BURIAL GROUNDS

The maintenance of the churchyard and the cemetery, as well as matters relating to health and safety within them, remain the responsibility of NPC and we have carried substantial works and improvements this year.

Trees in the churchyard have been inspected and pruned where necessary and safety notices drawing attention to potential hazards for those walking in the grounds have been placed at all the entrances.

In the cemetery, the pathway has been completely resurfaced, whilst in both, monuments have been inspected and where necessary remedial work has been carried out to ensure public safety is maintained.

BENCHES

Newbald's benches are an important feature of the village. The Council arranged for a local tradesman to repair and preserve them, whilst maintaining their character. They are now ready to be used by villagers and visitors alike.

/Continued overleaf..

Our Commitment to Electors: Newbald Parish Council will continue do its utmost to ensure Newbald retains its character, as well as remaining a safe and positive environment in which to live, work and play. With this in mind, the Council will work hard in its role as the parishioners' representative, liaising with ERYC and other bodies to promote Newbald and ensure that its views are clearly heard and its needs addressed.

CHAIRMAN'S OVERVIEW (CONT.)

QUALITY COUNCIL & VILLAGE PLAN

NPC continues to hold 'Quality Parish Council' status and as the time comes for us to renew this designation, we are working to meet the necessary requirements.

One of these is to have an up to date Parish Plan in place. Our current plan was completed in 2005 and we are now in the process of updating it. As part of this exercise we will be conducting a Village Survey, giving the whole parish the opportunity have its say and to help shape the way it develops in the next few years and beyond.

This will be undertaken in the next few months and is being spearheaded by our new Community Development Working Party.

WEBSITE AND IT

Indeed, this initiative is part of a wider one which is considering how NPC can better communicate with the parish and gauge the opinion of our residents. This will see improvements to our on-line presence, beginning with a new website that is being rolled out very soon.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Although we are a small community, reliant upon outside emergency services, NPC recognises that it has an obligation to plan for major incidents that may affect our village. The Council is currently developing a strategic plan, which will be implemented in an emergency situation.

DOG FOULING & BARKING

Dog ownership is one of the joys of living in a rural setting. Yet the problems associated with it are an ever recurring theme at our meetings. During the year NPC and members of the community have again taken steps to address these issues.

As well as frequent appeals to dog owners in our newsletter, a poster and leaflet drop was mounted by campaigners, which attracted much attention both inside Newbald and in the press.

In support of these efforts, this year NPC has installed additional litter bins that can be used for dog waste and has secured the services of ERYC wardens, who are empowered to issue fines in respect of dog fouling.

It is hoped that these and other initiatives championed by our newly inaugurated Community Support Working Party, will be highly effective in combating these problems in the longer term.

In the meantime, we can only reiterate our plea to dog owners to act responsibly and keep our village clean.

NEW MEMBERS

During the year two Councillors have resigned due to changes in personal circumstances. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Nigel Tomlinson and Nigel Hildyard for their hard work and commitment. However, we welcomed a new Councillor, Linda Slough, who joined us in January 2012 and is already very active in supporting Community initiatives.

2010/2011		2011/2012
£	RECEIPTS	£
15000.00	Precept	28917.00
1180.04	Allotments	1086.94
3960.37	Cemetery	1315.00
286.68	Grass Cutting PFA	299.63
2.48	Interest	2.48
0.00	Clock Donation	500
0.00	HMRC Refund	1038.6
1000.00	Severe weather grant	0.00
872.62	VAT recovered	1350.93
22302.19	Total	34510.58
	PAYMENTS	
6430.88	General Administration	11274.56
0.00	Section S137 Payments	75.00
1820.67	Legal Fees	136.47
	Running Costs:	
1795.50	Allotments	1197.00
400.00	Grants- Village Hall	0.00
4190.03	Cemetery	4600.04
155.00	Clock	3236.00
573.35	Grass Cutting PFA	599.26
1489.04	Street Lighting	1489.04
430.50	Severe weather	0.00
1109.00	Church Wall repairs	0.00
1650.00	Noticeboard	0.00
0.00	Election Expenses	1767.01
0.00	Tree work churchyard	1113.50
0.00	Safety inspections	840.00
0.00	Bench restoration	970.00
0.00	Ground safety work	1490.00
0.00	Paving	3333.33
0.00	Signs	155.00
0.00	HMRC Refund	1038.60
1358.02	VAT	2184.87
21401.99	Total	35499.68
900.20	NET PAYMENTS/RECEIPTS	-989.10

WWW.NEWBALD.COM

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NPC COUNCILLORS

John Barrett	827662	Linda Slough	828099
John Hatfield	827351	Beccy O'Sullivan	827175
Elsie Huntington	827479	Mick Richards	827215
Mike Jackson	827229	Gavin Steward	801174
Mamta Joshi	828994	Chris Waite	828880
		Paul Weatherstone	828325

To receive this Annual Report in larger print, please contact the Clerk on 01430 828919.