



Newbald Parish Council (NPC)

Annual Report – May 2017

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In line with custom, tradition and practice, it falls upon me as Chairman of your Parish Council to briefly highlight some of the achievements, goals and near misses we have achieved over the past year.

Reduction in Meetings

This year we have once again managed to restrict our meetings to one per month, almost all of which have finished on time without compromise to the agenda, proving that your councillors are working diligently and efficiently on your behalf to resolve matters.

New Councillors

Over the year we welcomed one new Councillor into our midst, Simon Dongray-Burke, thereby bringing us back up to full strength. We also said farewell to Mamta Joshi and would like to thank her for all her hard work.

Finance & Banking

In line with ERNLLCA and other financial recommendations, NPC has established a healthy financial asset base, which, with the input of the Sober Hill Wind Farm donations, puts us in a strong financial position for the future.

The News Letter, Website and Social Media.

With her usual efficiency, our Clerk to the Council, Suzanne Smith, has regularly produced the wonderfully informative newsletter which I believe is the main way we can access our Parishioners on a personal basis. Also, to encourage further public involvement in NPC activities, Suzanne continues to develop the website (www.newbald.com) and has intensified our use of email and social media. These channels not only keep people informed about the Parish Council but also other village news.

High Speed Broadband

Unfortunately, after many months of endless lobbying, badgering, and promises of coverage by several high speed broadband providers, to date only a certain number of streets in the village have received it. Therefore to further highlight our plight NPC has just conducted a survey to demonstrate that there is demand in those streets still not covered by superfast broadband, the results of which will shortly be presented to KCOM.

If KCOM still refuses to supply those streets, the same register of demand will be used to find other potential suppliers – either BT or wireless broadband solutions.

The Cemetery

Various works apart from the regular grass cutting have been undertaken including general pest control to maintain the pristine format of the Cemetery.

The Church

Apart from the regular grass cutting and general maintenance of paths and fencing throughout the Churchyard, we have closely monitored the trees & shrubs and taken advice from both a Tree Consultant and ERYC. This has culminated in the instigation of recommended tree surgery to sympathetically open up the area.

Health & Safety + Risk Assessments

Health & Safety along with Risk Assessments form a major part of our duties in respect of all NPC owned or controlled areas and I can confirm that these have been undertaken thoroughly and efficiently on all occasions where they have been a legal requirement.

Sober Hill Wind Farm

Donations from the Sober Hill Wind Farm have made a big impact on the village as a whole and on NPC in particular, whose duty it is to administrate and distribute the funds within the legal parameters. These funds, which total index linked £24,600.00 each year, have been fairly and justly allocated, with the following amounts having been awarded during the 2016-17 financial year:

- 1) Newbald Playing Field Association (NPFA) - £6,633.99 towards new playground equipment and maintenance for the football team
- 2) Newbald Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC) - £6,000.00 towards the installation of audio-visual facilities and internet access.
- 3) Newbald Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC) – £10,071.00 towards the replacement of tables and chairs
- 4) Newbald Young People's Project (NYPP) - £2,000 towards the sustainability of the Church Rooms.

In May 2017, NPC also awarded the following grants from the Sober Hill Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund income received in November 2016:

- 1) Newbald Playing Field Association - £7,238.94 for 'General Maintenance and Football Away Kit'
- 2) Newbald Village Hall - £1,190.00 for 'Planning Approval and Design and Access Statement'
- 3) Newbald Village Hall - £1,213.00 for the Project 'Electricity Disconnect/Reconnect'
- 4) Newbald Village Hall - £4,113.00 for the Project 'Phase 1 Part Funding', which relates to the re-development of the toilets and improvements to the kitchen.

Charles Stather and William Gill Charities

These charity funds were set up many years ago primarily to provide coal and shoes to the poor of the village. However, due to the charities not being utilised over the past few years, they had lost charitable status leaving several thousand pounds in their coffers. It was therefore decided to withdraw the funds from the accounts and distribute them equally to the following village charities: Newbald Village Hall, Newbald Young People's Project (Church Rooms) and Newbald Playing Fields Association. Each received £2,291.16.

The Mires & The Becksies

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust has been employed to maintain the Eco-environment and general maintenance of both The Mires & The Becksies, both of which I believe have done admirably.

The Green

The Green and general surrounding area is a constant issue with regards to traffic, parking and speeding, all of which NPC have discussed at length with ERYC and the Police, but this remains an ongoing consultation process.

However, on a more positive note, the recently installed defibrillator in the telephone box continues to be invaluable to those parishioners and visitors requiring speedy medical assistance. The telephone box will be refurbished during summer 2017.

Planning Permissions

We have naturally been involved in the approval or otherwise of planning applications, and whilst I believe we have always made our decision in the best interest of the village, there is always the odd one which gets overruled. One example is the proposed pig farm near Moor Farm, Cliff Road, which we vehemently

fought against. Unfortunately the planners at ERYC came to a different conclusion and granted outline planning permission.

The Village Hall

During the year NPC has been in close contact with the Newbald Village Hall Management Committee primarily via our representative, Ed Openshaw, who has worked closely with the newly formed vibrant Village Hall Committee to formulate the upgrading and extending of the existing facilities for the benefit of the community as a whole.

General Maintenance

Throughout the year we have regularly overseen and maintained the Beck which is an endless source of discussion as well as all the benches which have been re-varnished.

Unfortunately there are always some items which fail to get resolved to the satisfaction of all, even though we as a council have tried our best.

Dog Fouling

Like many other Parish Councils the problem of dog fouling is constantly being raised on our agenda, and we as a council are dedicated to try and resolve this matter as a priority. However, we can only be successful if those offending get a conscience. We were pleased to be approached by some local entrepreneurial Year 6 children who formed 'Poo Busters' and raised £328 to purchase four Dog Waste Bag Dispensers. These were installed outside the school, at the bottom of Dot Hill, next to the Playing Field and near the Village Hall. NPC has adopted them and continues to fund their maintenance and the ongoing provision of dog waste bags.

In conclusion I believe that we as a Parish Council have acted responsibly, pro-actively and effectively to resolve all manner of issues for the good and wellbeing of our village, whilst always adhering to the legal and financial constraints to which we are bound.

**Cllr. Gavin Steward
Chairman, Newbald Parish Council**

Newbald Parish Council Attendance Register 2016-2017

Attendance Newbald Parish Council Full Council Meeting	09.05.16	06.06.16	04.07.16	01.08.16	05.09.16	17.10.16	07.11.16	05.12.16	09.01.17	06.02.17	06.03.17	04.04.17
John Barrett												
Becky Clarke			A					A			A	
Simon Dongray-Burke												
John Howard												
Elsie Huntington					A							
Mamta Joshi		A	A		A		A					
Geoff Lewis					A		A					
Edward Openshaw												A
Beccy O'Sullivan		A			A			A			A	
Beverley Smith		A	A		A		A		A		A	
Gavin Steward				A				A				
Paul Weatherstone												

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2017

2015/2016		2016/2017
£	RECEIPTS	£
29,364.00	Precept	29,358.88
49,276.88	Sober Hill Wind Farm fund money received from developer	24,998.00
20.89	Bank Interest -Newbald Parish Council	14.43
20.11	Bank Interest - Sober Hill Wind Farm	15.99
1,249.20	Allotments	1,488.36
2,347.00	Cemetery	1,798.00
697.52	Grass Cutting Contribution from the Playing Field Association	360.01
1,270.00	ERYC Grant for the defibrillator	0.00
55.41	Former charity money ring fenced for good causes	2,188.68
832.36	VAT recovered	1,404.04
0.00	Money raised by village initiative for dog poo bag dispensers	368.29
0.00	Refund of bank charges	4.00
85,133.37	Total Receipts	61,998.68

	PAYMENTS	
19,470.97	General Administration	24,644.74
509.95	NPC Grants	350.00
0.00	Charity money paid out as grants	6,874.71
24,127.60	Sober Hill Wind Farm Grants	24,704.99
152.50	Training	72.00
334.30	Centenary bench project	0.00
625.00	Welcome to Yorkshire' Event Expenses	0.00
2,020.00	Defibrillator installation	0.00
295.00	Christmas Tree	340.00
0.00	Purchase of dog bag dispenser units and refills	364.70
1,415.28	VAT	1,709.82

	<u>Running Costs:</u>	
1,795.50	Allotments	1,197.00
789.03	Cemetery maintenance costs	668.59
140.00	Clock	155.00
503.36	Grass Cutting - Playing Field	1,440.04
3,666.63	Grass cutting churchyd+cemetery	3,625.97
1,342.29	Street Lighting	1,369.14
0.00	Severe weather	0.00
625.60	Churtyard maintenance costs	890.00
3,739.50	Maintenance - Mires, Green, Village Hall	700.00

61,552.51	Total Payments	69,106.70
23,580.86	NET PAYMENTS/RECEIPTS	-7,108.02

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY

38,893.11	BALANCE brought forward at 1st April 2016	62,473.97
23,580.86	Add Net Income/deficit for year as shown above	-7,108.02
62,473.97	Fund Balance carried forward at 31 March 2017	55,365.95

These cumulative funds are represented by

NPC Unity Current Account Balance	23,823.85	
NPC HSBC Current Account Balance	436.40	
Less unrepresented cheques	0.00	
add unbanked receipts	0.00	
NPC HSBC Deposit account balance	3,571.24	
Sober Hill Wind Farm Current Account Balance	25,102.91	
Sober Hill Wind Farm Deposit account balance	2,431.55	
	55,365.95	

at end of March 2017
at end of March 2017

at end of March 2017
at end of March 2017
at end of March 2017

Fund Balances	General	Wind Farm	Charity	Total
	£	£	£	£
Balance 1.04.16	32,618.54	25,169.39	4,686.04	62,473.97
Receipts in year	34,796.01	25,013.99	2,188.68	61,998.68
Payments in year	-37,527.00	-24,704.99	-6,874.71	-69,106.70
Balance at 31.03.17	29,887.55	25,478.39	0.01	55,365.95

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of Newbald Parish Council as at 31st March 2017 and reflects its Receipts and Payments during the year.

N P C C O N T A C T D E T A I L S & C O U N C I L L O R S

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