



# Newbald Parish Council (NPC)

## Annual Report – May 2018

### 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.

#### **New Councillors**

Over the year we welcomed one new Councillor into our midst, being Terry Bowater, thereby bringing us back up to full strength. We also said a sad farewell to Paul Weatherstone and would thank him for all his hard work and contribution.

#### **Finance**

In line with ERNLLCA and other financial recommendations, over the past year 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. We have also installed and implemented a new software accounting system during 2017-18.

#### **The Newsletter, Website and Social Media**

With her usual efficiency, our Parish Clerk, 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. NPC also continued to support and promote village events via its website, social media and email, providing information about anything we felt would be of interest to residents.

#### **High Speed Broadband**

Following endless drawbacks, NPC campaigned hard for the rollout of superfast broadband to include the roads currently excluded by both KCOM and BT. This culminated in Mr Graham Stuart MP and our Clerk Suzanne Smith holding a meeting attended by the media and resulted in them appearing on Radio Humberside to put forward our case.

As a result of NPC's campaign, KCOM have committed to including the previously excluded roads in their rollout and have provided a schedule of deployment for 2019.

#### **The Cemetery**

Various works apart from the regular grass cutting have been undertaken including general pest control to maintain its pristine condition.

#### **Memorial Garden**

NPC is still considering how best to deal with the burial of cremated remains: one of the options being considered is housing plaques inside the cemetery building. I would also confirm that the ivy has been removed from building to keep it smart and well maintained.

NPC has also been approached by an ex-resident who has close relatives buried within the cemetery to provide a decorative arch over the proposed restored gate to the entrance. This is currently awaiting further details for consideration.

### **Footpath**

NPC fought to get a dog friendly stile on footpath No. 1 but unfortunately agreement could not be reached with the landowner whose boundary it crosses.

### **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, having taken advice from both a Tree Consultant and ERYC.

### **Health & Safety + Risk Assessments**

Health & Safety and Risk Assessments form a major part of our duties in respect of all NPC owned or controlled areas and I would 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 £24,600.00/year (index linked) have been fairly and justly allocated, with the following amounts being awarded this past financial year:

- 1) Newbald Playing Field Association (NPFA) - £1,368.00 for Phase 1 of a proposed Bump Track.
- 2) Newbald Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC) - £3,000.00 – for Architects Fees.
- 3) Newbald Village Hall Management Committee (NVHMC) – £1,758.00 towards the Staging
- 4) Newbald Young People's Project (NYPP) - £5,114.00 for the repair and replacement of major windows.
- 5) St Nicolas Church - £3,013.35 for Electrical Upgrade & New Lighting
- 6) Newbald Primary School - £3,000.00- towards 'Seed to Plant' Outdoor Learning

### **Grants**

NPC also awarded the following grants:

- 1) £250.00 was awarded to Dove House Hospice, as it was felt that many of the residents, friends and/or relations had used the services of this deserving charity.
- 2) £646.80 was awarded to the Village Hall for a new notice board.

### **Agricultural Holdings (formerly called allotments).**

Following the death of one of the allotment holders and the discovery of unofficial subletting, NPC made the decision to relinquish the agricultural holdings back to ERYC. Retaining them would have required NPC to renegotiate contracts with the tenants. This would have cost hundreds of pounds and, as the holdings only provided an income of less than £300 a year, it did not make commercial sense to do so.

## **Traffic and Parking**

NPC have badgered ERYC about speeding on Burgate following a serious accident involving a cyclist. They did eventually do speed checks but decided that until a possible mortality occurred, the situation was not bad enough to warrant any action by ERYC. NPC also looked at funding a chicane on Burgate Hill but this would have had to be undertaken by ERCC who quoted £20,000 for the works which was far too expensive.

Members fought more generally for help with the many parking and traffic issues in the village, even sending a map detailing all the hotspots to ERYC requesting that traffic wardens and the Police patrol the village on a regular basis to enforce the Highway Code. We also wrote to the companies, whose lorry drivers regularly take shortcuts through our village in the hope that their consciences would prevail, plus created a 'Traffic and Parking Supplement' to go out with the December 2017 newsletter.

NPC is actively considering taking part in Community Speedwatch, and is one of the first places registered to try it out once the scheme goes live.

## **The Mires & The Becksies**

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust has been employed to maintain both The Mires & The Becksies, whilst conserving their eco-environments. I believe they have done this admirably. John Trail of YWT recently came to a parish council meeting to report on The Becksies and its management.

## **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, I am pleased to confirm that the defibrillator within the existing telephone box has been, and will continue to be, invaluable to our parishioners and visitors alike, and that we are currently in negotiations to introduce another defibrillator in South Newbald.

We are also pleased to confirm that the telephone box was restored back to its former glory by volunteer David Burton, with materials being supplied at Parish Council expense.

## **Old Photo Display**

Following a successful display at Newbald Natter, NPC created a display of old photographs of the village on its website and on the noticeboard under the lime trees.

## **Parish Transport**

Councillor Elsie Huntington became the 'Parish Transport Champion' for Newbald and is teaming up with other parish councils to fight for improved public transport for the village.

## **Christmas Tree and Lights**

Once again NPC provided a magnificent Christmas Tree and looked at ways of getting mains electricity supply to The Green to support brighter lights. After much consultation it proved impossible due to huge expense. Instead NPC, under the guidance of Councillor Terry Bowater, bought new lights and

two large leisure batteries to power them all of which worked well to make Christmas 2017 a very bright sparkly event.

### **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, e.g. the Pig Farm near Moor Farm, Cliffe Road, the application for which we vehemently fought: the planners at ERYC totally disregarded our plea without any in depth discussion. We also took issue against the development of the land east of the A1034 at Sands Top and would confirm that retrospective planning has been refused.

### **The Village Hall**

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

### **Neighbourhood Watch and Cold Calling Zone**

NPC agreed to establish and run a village wide Neighbourhood Watch scheme, with the Parish Council using all its usual community engagement channels to keep residents informed of any important matters relating to crime in the area.

NPC has also initiated the setting up of a Cold Calling zone on Galegate, with view to expanding out across the village should it prove worthwhile.

### **Resident complaints**

NPC dealt with numerous resident concerns related to traffic, parking, the beck, vandalism, residential issues, footpath concerns and the cemetery, all of which have been resolved to the best of our ability within the bounds of our remit.

### **Water Voles (Protected Species)**

Following a diesel spill in the beck by an unknown person, NPC worked closely with the Environment Agency and ERYC to establish the extent of the damage and fight for action to be taken to clean up the beck.

NPC also paid for specialist care of The Mires to protect the voles and formulated plans with YWT to re-introduce water voles to the environment should it prove that they had not survived the spill. We will however have to wait until this Spring 2018 to see if there are any in residence, but early indications are good with a couple of recent sightings.

### **Fly Tipping**

NPC liaised with ERYC and the Environment Agency over several incidences of unlawful fly tipping, most of which have been resolved, with one exception being at Hall Farm which, though addressed in some depth, is still ongoing.

## General Maintenance

Throughout the year we have regularly overseen and maintained the beck, which is an endless source of discussion, as well as the notice board and benches, which have all been regularly maintained.

*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, but we can only be successful if those offending get a conscience. We would confirm that NPC has also adopted an ongoing fund for the provision of poo bags and maintenance of the dispensers, in the hope that it will go some way to resolving the problem.

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 2017-2018

Attendance Newbald Parish Council Full Council Meeting	09.05.17	04.06.17	03.07.17	01.08.17	11.09.17	17.10.17	06.11.17	04.12.17	08.01.18	05.02.18	05.03.18	09.04.18
John Barrett			A		A				A			A
Terry Bowater											A	
Becky Clarke	A		A			A					A	
Simon Dongray-Burke									A			
John Howard			A									
Elsie Huntington						A						A
Geoff Lewis												
Edward Openshaw												
Beccy O'Sullivan											A	
Beverley Smith		A				A		A	A			A
Gavin Steward									A			
Paul Weatherstone					A	A						



Present



Absent



Not on Council

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2018**

<b>Last Year</b>		<b>Current Year</b>	
<b>2016/2017</b>		<b>2017/2018</b>	
£	<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>	£	
35,580.65	Income (includes fee for administering Sober fund)	34,623.45	
25,013.99	Sober Hill Wind Farm Income	23,167.84	
1,404.04	VAT recovered	1,709.82	
<b>61,998.68</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>59,501.11</b>	
	<b>RUNNING COSTS</b>		
24,704.99	Sober Hill Wind Farm	27,869.20	
25,081.44	Administration	27,050.99	
11,228.89	Council activity	4,946.43	
2,735.39	Cemetery	3,382.00	
1,197.00	Allotments	598.50	
2,449.17	Churchyard	1,937.89	
1,709.82	VAT Data	2,187.42	
69,106.70	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>67,972.43</b>	
<b>-7,108.02</b>	<b>NET PAYMENTS/RECEIPTS</b>	<b>-8,471.32</b>	
	<b>RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS SUMMARY</b>		
62,473.97	BALANCE brought forward at 1st April 2017	55,365.95	
-7,108.02	Add Net Income/deficit for year as shown above	-8,471.32	
<b>55,365.95</b>	<b>Fund Balance carried forward at 31 March 2018</b>	<b>46,894.63</b>	
	These cumulative funds are represented by		
	NPC Unity Current Account Balance	16,576.93	at end of March 2018
	NPC HSBC Current Account Balance	0.00	Account closed
	Less unpresented cheques	0.00	
	add unbanked receipts	4,008.72	Cheque from HSBC
		361.00	Cemetery payment
		450.01	NPFA Cheque
	NPC HSBC Deposit account balance	0.00	Account closed
	Sober Hill Wind Farm Current Account Balance	22,972.75	at end of March 2018
	Sober Hill Wind Farm Deposit account balance	2,434.25	at end of March 2018
	Pockit Card	90.97	at end of March 2018
		<b>46,894.63</b>	

<b>Fund Balances</b>	<b>General</b>	<b>Wind Farm</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Balance 1.04.17	29,887.56	25,478.39	55,365.95
Receipts in Year	36,333.27	23,167.84	59,501.11
Payments in year	-40,103.23	-27,869.20	-67,972.43
<b>Balance 31.03.18</b>	<b>26,117.60</b>	<b>20,777.03</b>	<b>46,894.63</b>

The above statement represents fairly the financial position of Newbald Parish Council as at 31st March 2018 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**

<b>Suzanne Smith</b>	Cllr. John Barrett	827662	Cllr. Geoff Lewis	801128
Clerk to Newbald Parish Council	Cllr. Terry Bowater	801009	Cllr. Ed Openshaw	827589
Sandalgrove, Townside Road	Cllr. Becky Clarke	N/A	Cllr. Beccy O'Sullivan	827175
North Newbald, YO43 4SL	Cllr. Dongray-Burke	828568	Cllr. Beverley Smith	827153
Tel: 01430 828919	Cllr. John Howard	828932	Cllr. Gavin Steward	801174
E-mail: <a href="mailto:clerk@newbald.com">clerk@newbald.com</a>	Cllr. Elsie Huntington	827479		