



Newbald Parish Council

Annual Report – June 2019

Chairman's Overview of Council Achievements

Election

Following the recent election, NPC welcomes new Members Cllr. Sarah Milner and Cllr. Michael Bushby.

It is with sadness that NPC says goodbye to Cllr. Edward Openshaw and Cllr. Elsie Huntington, both of whom made a very valuable contribution. We would like to say thank you to both of them for their time and efforts.

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.

The News Letter, 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 feel will be of interest to residents.

High Speed Broadband

Following endless drawbacks, NPC has campaigned hard for the rollout of superfast broadband to include the roads currently excluded by both KCOM and BT. As a result of NPC's campaign, KCOM have committed to including the previously excluded roads in their rollout. However, although they initially said the rollout would be complete between 1 April and 30 September 2019, they have not been very forthcoming with updates and we continue to press for further information.

The Cemetery

Various works apart from the regular grass cutting have been undertaken including general pest control, repairs to the cemetery building and the current refurbishment of the entrance gates (due soon), to maintain its overall pristine format.

Memorial Garden

NPC decided that it would provide opportunity for residents to display memorial plaques in the historic building at the back of the cemetery. They also have the option to scatter ashes in the cemetery, providing they inform the Parish Council beforehand.

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. We are currently obtaining quotations for the repair and upgrading of the paved area directly outside the Church.

Health & Safety + Risk Assessments

Health & Safety together with 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 by Councillor Ed Openshaw.

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, awarding the following amounts totalling £27,209.00 this past financial year:

1	Newbald Junior Football Club	Club set up - balls/training equipment, kit goals, coaching	£2,240.00
2	St. Nicholas Church	Organ blower	£4,640.00
3	Newbald Village Hall	Kitchen refurbishment	£2,637.00
4	Yorkshire Wildlife Trust	The Beckies: project to enhance & protect	£3,950.00
5	Beverley Community Lift	Provision of bus services to Market Weighton and Pocklington	£1,772.00
6	Newbald Young People's Project	Complete the Church Rooms' garden	£4,000.00
7	Newbald Playing Field Association	Renovation of the lane	£7,970.00

Grants

NPC also awarded the following grants totalling £10,015.80:

1	Church	Grant for exterior lights	£600.00
2	Village Hall	Grant for Architects fees-Phs2	£1,254.00
3	Playing Field Association	50% of 2017 grass cutting costs	£1,132.80
4	Playing Field Association	Grant for 2018 grass cutting	£1,250.00
5	Village Hall	Grant for Phase 2	£5,779.00

Sancton Hill Wind Farm

NPC is represented on the Board of the Sancton Hill Wind Farm, and though the applications were often not well received, we are pleased to report that all of our village charities and The Church received either their full or a major percentage of their funding requests.

Traffic and Parking

NPC have relentlessly badgered ERYC about speeding on Burgate, especially at the junction with The Green, but we were advised that until a possible mortality occurs they believe that the situation was not bad enough to warrant any action by ERYC.

Members fought more generally for help with the many parking and traffic issues in the village requesting that ERCC provide 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, but it would appear that economy of time and satnavs take precedence over common sense and courtesy.

Through the endeavours of Councillor John Howard, NPC is still actively involved in Community Speedwatch, and are one of the first places registered to try it out once the scheme goes live.

The Mires & The Becksies

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust have been employed to maintain the Eco-environment and general maintenance of both The Mires & The Becksies, both of which I believe have been undertaken to a high standard.

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 apart from the Defibrillator within the existing Telephone Box, we have now installed one at Monkton Rise, South Newbald, and I am confident that both will continue to be invaluable to our Parishioners and visitors alike. We also organised some training for members of the public on how to use a defibrillator.

Parish Transport

Councillor Elsie Huntington became the Parish Transport Champion for Newbald and teamed up with other Parish Councils to fight for improved public transport for the village. With the help of the not-for-profit organisation Beverley Community Lift, they have established a weekly community bus service which runs between Hotham, Newbald, Sancton and Market Weighton. This service is aimed at helping the elderly and vulnerable access transport, hopefully ensuring that they feel less socially isolated.

Christmas Tree and Lights

Once again NPC provided a magnificent Christmas tree with wonderful bright lights, which the guidance of Councillor Terry Bowater and his big red button served as a fund raising event for NPFA via a raffle to switch the lights on.

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 by the Planners at ERYC who totally disregarded some of our opinions without any in depth discussion

The Village Hall

During the year NPC has been in close contact with the Newbald Village Hall MC 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. These are currently progressing well and it is hoped that they will be completed by the end of the Summer. Phase 3 will be to re-clad the main hall exterior (walls and roof) and the Village Hall Management Committee are currently in the process of obtaining quotes for this.

Newbald Playing Field Association (NPFA)

Following concern over the future of the Newbald Playing Field, NPC started to work more closely with the NPFA in order to support them in securing the future of the playground and football pitch. Our representative on the committee, Cllr. Lewis, is happy to report that, while they are still short of new members, the future is looking brighter. We look forward to the gala in June and intend to have a stand there so that we can engage with the community.

Newbald School

This year we agreed with Head Teacher Morag Sinclair to forge a closer working relationship with the school. NPC members presented information about the Parish Council and how it works at two school assemblies.

Neighbourhood Watch and No 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 completed the setting up of a No Cold Calling zone on Galegate, with view to expanding out across the village when ERYC re-open the scheme.

Resident complaints.

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

Water Voles (Protected Species)

We are pleased to report that following a diesel spill in the beck in 2017 by an unknown person, many sightings have been reported along both The Beck and The Mires confirming that this wonderful little animal has once again re-established itself in our waterways. We will however still keep a watching eye on the situation.

General Maintenance

This is an ongoing part of the Council's remit and therefore throughout the year we have regularly overseen and maintained The Beck and The Mires which are an endless source of discussion as well as the many Benches, Notice Boards, and the Centenary Bench. The Centenary bench was restored this year and we negotiated with the owners of Hall Farm to do some repair work to the perimeter wall.

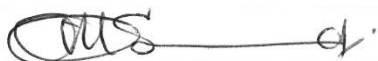
Unfortunately there are always some items which fail to get resolved to the satisfaction of all, even though we as a council have tried our best.

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 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.

Last summer, the Parish Council held a poster competition for children at Newbald Primary School. We offered a cash prize for the best anti-dog fouling poster and smaller prizes for all entries. The best posters from each class were displayed in prominent positions around the village. The children were very engaged in the process and we had some great entries. The Pocklington Post was impressed with the idea and covered the story in their publication.

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



Gavin Steward
Chairman
Newbald Parish Council

WWW.NEWBALD.COM



Parish Council Meeting Dates
Monday 1 July 2019 – Village Hall
Monday 5 August 2019 – Village Hall
Monday 2 September 2019 - Village Hall
Monday 7 October 2019 - Village Hall
Meetings are preceded by an Open Forum at 7.30pm at which parishioners are welcome to come along and talk about any local issue.
Agendas are published on www.newbald.com.

<u>OFFICE CONTACT</u>		<u>NPC COUNCILLORS</u>	
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Newbald Parish Council Current Year

Summary Receipts and Payments for Year Ended 31st March 2019

Last Year Ended 31st March 2018		Current Year Ended 31st March 2019
	Operating Income	
34,623.45	Income	42,814.71
23,167.84	Sober Hill Wind Farm	21,373.22
1,709.82	VAT Data	2,187.42
<u>59,501.11</u>		<u>66,375.35</u>
	Total Receipts	
	Running Costs	
27,869.20	Sober Hill Wind Farm	31,348.19
27,050.99	Administration	29,635.91
4,946.43	Council Activity	3,923.04
3,382.00	Cemetery	3,112.23
598.50	Allotments	0.00
1,937.89	Churchyard	2,173.19
2,187.42	VAT Data	1,995.85
<u>67,972.43</u>		<u>72,188.41</u>
	Total Payments	
	Receipts and Payments Summary	
<u>55,365.95</u>	Opening Balance	<u>46,894.63</u>
59,501.11	Add Total Receipts(As Above)	66,375.35
114,867.06		113,269.98
67,972.43	Less Total Payments(As Above)	72,188.41
<u>46,894.63</u>	Closing Balance	<u>41,081.57</u>
	These cumulative funds are represented by:	
21,396.66	NPC Unity Current Bank A/c	25,736.23
0.00	NPC HSBC Current A/c	0.00
0.00	NPC HSBC Deposit A/c	0.00
22,972.75	Wind Farm Current A/c	12,771.58
2,434.25	Wind Farm Deposit A/c	2,442.35
90.97	Pocket Card	131.41
<u>46,894.63</u>		<u>41,081.57</u>
	Reserve Balances are represented by:	
-8,471.32	Current Year Fund	-5,813.06
32,532.85	General Reserves	36,092.57
22,833.10	EM Reserve - Wind Farm	10,802.06
<u>46,894.63</u>		<u>41,081.57</u>