



LESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

(Issue 53 - April 2017)

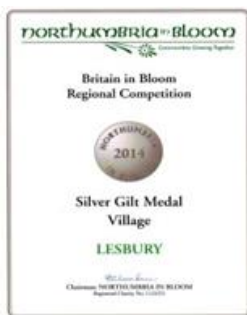
The Parish web site is www.lesbury-pc.org.uk



Council elections - The 2017 County Council elections, to be held on Thursday, 4 May 2017, will be combined with local elections in all Parishes across the County, including Lesbury. Not all of these Parish elections will need to be contested. Where candidates do not exceed available council seats, 10 in our case, then new councillors will be co-opted without the need for a poll. If more than 10 candidates wish to be considered as Parish Councillors then a full election will take

place on the 4th May. Anyone who wishes to be a candidate should contact the Parish Clerk who will explain the process and how to obtain nomination forms; the nomination period will begin on the 20th March and last until Wednesday 4 April. If the Parish Council is below strength after 4th May then it would be able to fill the vacancies by directly co-opting new councillors.

Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) - we are pleased to say that we now have 6 volunteers and 4 Parish Councillors who have agreed to form a working group (WG) to look at how the Parish should proceed with developing an NDP. The first meeting of the group will be on Wednesday, 12th April at 7.00 pm in Lesbury Village Hall when there will be a presentation by David English, the NDP coordinator for Northumberland County Council. He will help the WG to understand where the focus of an NDP should be and define the processes needed to successfully develop the finished article. If you would like to be part of this please contact the Parish Clerk - E- Mail lesburyparishclerk@googlemail.com. Tel. 01665 830040



Northumbria in Bloom - Spring is springing and within the month we will have the first visit from the NIB judges on Thursday, 27th April starting at 10.30. As ever our NIB group is looking to supplement the group of volunteers to help bring the parish up to scratch on the day. The group is looking to improve on the Silver Award won in 2016 (previously we managed a Silver Gilt). The first tidy-up will be at 10:00 am on 19 April at the Lealands Garden. If you would like to assist please call the group organiser, John Malloy on

01665 833147. Prior to Judgement Day the PC together with Lesbury WI is organising a litter pick on Saturday morning, 22nd April. It is planned to have groups targeting specific areas and the PC will organise to have bags, gloves and grabbers available from the County Council. Watch out for details on the noticeboards and the Parish Website and come and give YOUR parish the once over. On this theme you may or may not know that Hipsburn roundabout has made it to Facebook! Local photographer George Taylor has managed to capture the daffodils on the roundabout in their full glory, with the magnificent background of the Aln Estuary and clouds. George is well-known for his photographs of the area and especially Alnwick, many of which can be found on Facebook. Thanks go to Billy McKnight and Mick McMahon for their horticultural endeavours for NIB on the roundabout.

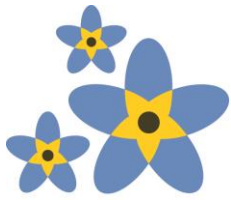


GT Photos

Hipsburn looking towards Alnmouth.

Just shows how a roundabout can look with a few flowers planted.

Timeline Dphoto - Saturday at 07:18 - 0%



Working to become
**Dementia
Friendly**
2015-2016

DAG - Congratulations to Lesbury WI who have become the first organisation in the parish to evidence their commitment to Lesbury becoming a Dementia Friendly Community. The WI undertook three actions to be granted use of the 'working to become Dementia Friendly' logo. They identified a named person (champion) to have contact with the Dementia Friendly Programme in Lesbury, supported

the Champion to undertake the Dementia Information session and held a Dementia Information session with the WI as part of their regular activities in February. The WI will now be able to use the logo on their communications. The Dementia Action group will be working with other organisations over the coming months to support them to become Dementia Friendly. For more information contact; Carol Southam on 01665 833176

Awards for all - the Local Government Act 2000, set by the Government, using section 137 powers which apply to parish & town councils, allows PC's limited discretionary spending for community benefit and give local charities some funding. The section 137 limit on town & parish councils takes the form of an amount per registered elector. For 2016 this amount was, in our case, £7.36 per registered elector and our self-imposed cap is £850 given out as small sums. The PC has been looking at an alternative method of making grants to organisations, one that is of direct benefit to the community and which may lead to generation of extra cash from external funders that can be used by both the receiver and the PC. The first successful application has resulted in a £10,000 grant from the Awards for All funds. The core of this money will be spent on DAG projects and to "partners" who can bring services into the community as part of this project.

Nature Notes, March 2017 - Whooper Swan. March is the time to say good-bye to some of our winter visitors, and most noticeable at the moment, with their deep honking calls, are the Whooper Swans. In flocks of up to 70 they can be seen in fields next to the estuary feeding in rape and stubble, and perhaps hoping for a left over potato to build up their energy levels for the long flight back to their breeding grounds in Iceland. They are distinguished from our mainly resident Mute Swans by the bill colour, yellow with a black tip, as opposed to orange. The shape of the bill too, is more elongated and without the noticeable knob at the base. Neck posture also differs with Whooper Swans holding theirs straight whereas the Mute Swan has that graceful curve. Of course when they're feeding it's anybody's guess as they are approximately the same size. A record holder in the avian world they have been recorded flying at 8,200m in temperatures of -40c and passing aircraft. So wish them well the next time they fly over your head on their arduous journey home. *(Muriel Cadwallender - photo Tom Cadwallender)*



Citizens Advice Northumberland is looking for members to join the Trustee Board. The service would particularly welcome applications from people with a good understanding of communities throughout Northumberland. We are a local charity working as part of the national Citizens Advice network. Through our advice work we promote people's rights and responsibilities particularly in the fields of welfare benefits, housing, employment and money advice. We particularly want to hear from people who have a background in business, charitable and community work or public services. We are looking for people who support our aims and principles. If you would like to find out more about Citizens Advice Northumberland and the role of volunteer Trustees before you apply we can arrange an informal telephone discussion or meeting with a current member of the Trustee Board.

Closing date for applications is: **Friday, 28 April 2017**

Parish Clerk - Mrs Elizabeth Taylor, Rivendell, Steppey Lane, Lesbury, NE66 3PU, Tel: 01665 830040,

E- Mail lesburyparishclerk@googlemail.com.

Parish Council Chairman: Bob Dutton; Tel. 01665 830801

Parish Councillors: Kym Bradshaw - 833292, Gareth Breese - 830195, Douglas Hunter - 07903243362, Jean Humphrys - 07906146163
Dave Knowles - 830467, Roger Styring 830531, Adrian Vass - 830134, Peter Cossins - 830597, Kevin Franklin - 830122.

Parish Council meetings are usually held in Lesbury Village Hall on the 4th Tuesday of the month. All residents are welcome to attend.