



## LESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 54

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The **Pondfield Play Area** passed its ROSPA safety inspection and is ready for the summer holidays. We're hoping to replace the old metal swings with new equipment in the autumn.

A new **bench has been installed on Curly Lane** for everyone's benefit but particularly ensuring that we are age-friendly and any older person can take a break whilst walking up Curly Lane.



Bilton resident Jan Straughan said, 'It's important to stay active as you get older and walking is great exercise but it also makes such a difference being able to have a rest when I need to'.

We're continuing to help **Lesbury work towards becoming dementia-friendly** with monthly 'Saturday Afternoons Together' at the Village Hall. This Lottery funded programme will also involve Alnwick Playhouse and Bailiffgate Museum who will deliver dementia-friendly activities at their venues and in the village. We're hopeful that the Aln Valley Railway Trust can contribute as a project partner too.

**Speeding traffic** is always a concern regardless of where this is in the parish. We have seen traffic calming improvements near Hipsburn Primary School, on South View and Bilton Bank. We're currently taking advice on improving traffic safety at the roundabout at the bottom of South View with input from the police and local residents.

Hipsburn Steadings' resident Mal Graham said, 'Any work carried out by the Parish Council to improve the safety of children walking to school would be very welcome'.



The work of our **Speedwatch** volunteers is proving to be an excellent deterrent but needs more volunteers to increase its effectiveness. If you have concerns about traffic then you can support us to make a case for improvements by volunteering your time.

# LESBURY PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Dear resident,

We wrote to you in April to seek your views about creating a neighbourhood development plan (NDP) for Bilton, Hipsburn and Lesbury. Since that time, we have set up a steering group to take the work forward and thought you might like to know more about what we are doing.

To date we have had three meetings and trawled through all the information we can find about constructing a plan. We have had advice from NCC and have watched with interest as the Alnwick and Denwick NDP progressed to referendum. It was good to know that a reasonable proportion of people voted on the plan in the referendum and that it was endorsed by 80% of those voting.

We will not be at the referendum stage for quite a while, but we want to involve as many members of the community as possible in the work that we are undertaking to construct the plan.

These are some of the tasks we will be undertaking over the coming months:

- Setting out aims, objectives and aspirations for the future of this area (a few of you told us how you want the place to develop in the future)
- Gathering factual information about the infrastructure that exists (drains, roads, schools, services, and so forth)
- Finding out what sort of housing we need in the coming years (a housing needs assessment)
- Considering what sort of policies we need to realise our objectives
- Consultation with residents and offering opportunities for input.
- Setting clear goals for each meeting until the work is completed.

There is a great deal to do and, at the moment, just a small group of us to carry out the work. If you can help in any way please get in touch.

Pam Allen, Chair Tel: 01665 830353

Jean Humphrey, Secretary 07906146163

Adrian Vass, Steering Committee Member 01665 830467

NDP Steering Committee

**Parish Clerk** - Mrs Elizabeth Taylor, Rivendell, Steppey Lane, Lesbury, NE66 3PU,

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**Parish Council Chairman:** Douglas Hunter 07903243362

**Parish Councillors;** Kym Bradshaw – 833292, Jean Humphrys – 07906146163, Dave Knowles – 830467, Adrian Vass – 830134, Peter Cossins – 830597.

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