



# LESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

(Issue 42 - October 2014) The Parish web site is  
[www.lesbury-pc.org.uk](http://www.lesbury-pc.org.uk)

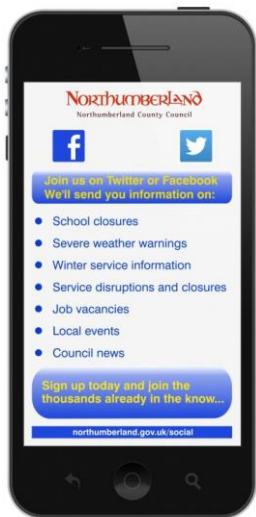


The Northumberland Estates

**14/03236/FUL Development Townfoot, Lesbury-** Northumberland Estates have submitted a planning application to build on land to the north of the affordable housing and east of Meadowlands /Croftlands. The scheme is a full application for 10 affordable homes behind the existing row and outline planning permission for 10 self-built units on the rest of the site. The application was discussed at the November PC meeting with Councillors and residents in attendance. It was felt that the application was not without

issues especially those related to drainage on the site and the potential for flooding on the site and surrounding houses. Other areas of concern include the layout of the site and proposed materials for the affordable houses all of which should be compatible with the existing dwellings in this designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. These and other concerns of residents and the PC, have been submitted to the County Council to be considered within the planning application.

**Replacement of customer service ask@ mailbox-** In order to provide a better overall service to customers, the council's customer service mailbox [ask@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:ask@northumberland.gov.uk) will be decommissioned in early November. In future,



customers using this email address to contact the council will receive an instant response explaining that this mailbox is no longer in use. It will give a selection of links to council web pages where they can report a problem, apply or pay for a service online, with e-forms for the most frequently raised issues being displayed directly on the Council website's home page. Should a customer wish to speak to the council at this point, the automated response will also include a list of our local dial numbers for the council contact centres as well as the 0845 600 6400 number.

The County Council have also developed a mobile phone based system to pass on information quickly on winter alerts, school closures and service disruptions. More information can be found on the NCC website - Online Communities and Social Media.

**Northumberland LED Street Lighting programme** -All street lights in the County will be replaced by energy saving LED lights and redundant columns renewed. Unfortunately for us the process will begin next year in the south west of the county and reach Lesbury in 2 1/2 to 3 years' time!



**14/03497/FUL | Extension of existing west station car park. | Alnmouth**

**Railway Station Lesbury Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3QF.** This application is for the extension of the west car park in a northwards direction to provide 42 extra parking spaces to alleviate parking issues on the surrounding roads. The Parish Council had no objections to this proposal.

**Launch of the "Pride of Aln" St Ayles Skiff-** this has been built by The Alnmouth Bay Community Rowing Association (ABCRA) and was successfully launched on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The ceremony was performed by her



Grace, the Duchess of Northumberland and a blessing performed by the Rev Ian Mackarill. After that it was all hands to help push the boat down the shore for its first dip in the sea; a fine sight on a beautiful, sunny afternoon. The design of the boat is based on a Fair Isle skiff, which was descended from the smaller Viking skiffs. Today St Ayles skiffs are popular for community groups to build from kit form and to race,



especially in Scotland; others have been built locally at Amble and Blyth.

Innumerable local people have been involved in the project for over a year. For more information - [www.alnmouthrowing.org](http://www.alnmouthrowing.org).



**Years to remember Concert-** This was held on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> October in Lesbury Village Hall to mark 100 years since the start of World War 1; the show played to a capacity audience, tickets having sold out in 5 days. A range of performers showed off their skills in music, dance, song, prose and juggling contributing to a varied programme of entertainment such as would have been familiar to an early 20<sup>th</sup> century audience. "Great night", "Loved it all", "Let's have more of these evenings" were some of the comments made by audience members as they left. The organisers are grateful for the support they have received from Newcastle Building Society, Co-op Funeral Care, Joe Robson of the Coach Inn and members of the Village Hall Committee. The photo is "Mouthing Off" - a trio of mouthie players (LtoR: Jim Smith,

Jimmy Little, Peter Hollins).

**What's been going on here?-** Those of you using the footbridge at the bottom of Steppey Lane will have noticed a couple of shelters at either end of the bridge and a Northern Gas Networks crew working inside them. It came as a surprise (to me) that the pipe actually carries our gas supplies across the Aln. It is inspected every year for damage; this year it underwent routine maintenance, mainly on the joints which were sandblasted and coated with an anti-corrosion paint. Apparently it should be good for another 30 years now.



**St Oswald's Hospice -** Christmas shopping fair in the Lesbury Village Hall on the 5<sup>th</sup> December in the evening between 7-9pm. Entry is £2.50 (under 12's free) which includes a glass of Christmas fizz. There will be various stalls providing a unique Christmas shopping event.

Finally many thanks to our volunteers who deliver the Newsletters, to Dougie for cutting the grass in the Memorial garden and the Northumbria in Bloom group with Ian August who obtained a Silver Gilt award for Lesbury Parish this year.

#### **Parish Council Contacts.**

**Parish Clerk -** Mrs Elizabeth Taylor, Rivendell, Steppey Lane, Lesbury, NE66 3PU, Tel: 01665 830040, e mail [lesburyparishclerk@googlemail.com](mailto:lesburyparishclerk@googlemail.com).

**Parish Council Chairman:** Bob Dutton; Tel. 01665 830801

**Parish Councillors;** Gareth Breese - 830195, John Gebbie - 830642, Douglas Hunter 07903 243362, Dave Knowles - 830467, Roger Styring 830531, Adrian Vass - 830134.

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