



LESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

(Issue 43 - February 2015)

Erratum - issue 42 should have been dated "December" and not "October!"

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



The Northumberland Estates

14/03236/FUL - Development at Townfoot, Lesbury- full application for 10 affordable homes/outline planning for 10 self-build homes.- This application was presented by Northumberland Estates in October 2014 and reviewed by the PC at the 24th November, 2014 meeting. Five concerned residents were in attendance and given the opportunity to put forward their views. In summary the main concerns with this proposal are, with regard to the full application, the building materials proposed, safety to children and lack of play area for the children. With reference to the self-build units the greatest issue is that of flood risk not only on-site but particularly to adjacent properties in Meadowlands and Croftlands. Additionally self build plots could take many years to complete resulting in noise and disruption for existing residents. The need for dwellings to be built in the vernacular and loss of privacy were other areas of concern. Further information can be found in the PC November minutes currently on the noticeboards or the PC web site and by going to the NCC web site and searching the Planning area.

Proposed development, Lesbury Main Road, Ref. No: 13/03037/FUL -The application, by Northumberland Estates, to build 8 houses behind the cottages in Lesbury which was turned down by the NCC Planning Committee has gone to appeal. The appeal commenced on 19th January 2015 and any representations to the Planning Inspectorate must be received within 5 weeks of that date. Letters have been sent to concerned parties by NCC.



14/03497/FUL | Extension of existing west station car park. | Alnmouth Railway Station Lesbury Alnwick Northumberland NE66 3QF- It is understood that an objection from Aln Valley Railway has been resolved however NCC is still waiting final permissions from Network Rail before they can go

ahead and start the development. The "yellow lining" of Bilton Hill should be started shortly together with the installation of electronic speed warning signs at the top and bottom of the area.

Speed watch- It is here at last! We now have 5 trained Community Speedwatch Volunteers and a laser speed gun kindly bought by Councillor Heather Cairns. Volunteers will be out and about within the Parish soon. If you are found to be exceeding the speed limit you will be sent a warning letter by the Police. Any persistent offenders can expect a visit from police officers; if necessary, further action may be taken which could result in prosecution.



Dog fouling- as usual in winter this problem has got worse and the PC has had several complaints from residents. The NCC Dog Warden has agreed to investigate particularly in Hipsburn South View, the Square, Lesbury and Alnmouth Roads and late at night and early morning. Some of the owners of dogs which appear to be causing the main problems are known to the community. Incidents can be reported on line or by telephone to NCC. (01665 660733)

Precept- the PC has proposed an increase of in the precept equivalent to £4.37 on a Band D property. This will raise our total income to £12000 per year and is in line with other surrounding parishes (and less that many!). Much of the extra will go towards Parish maintenance. A recent example of the type of maintenance work we now pay for can be seen at the lower end of the Post Office car park where Robert Maitland (Penny Royale) has made an excellent job

in taking out the old gravel topping, reclaiming the weed barrier, topping with new gravel and finally planting a selection of bushes.



Northumbria in Bloom- Now is the time to be thinking ahead to warmer times and Ian August and his splendid group will be planning their year with a view to retaining (or improving on?) our Silver Gilt Award. Amongst areas for discussion are; - 1) Involve children at Hipsburn School in the design of a scheme around the School and plant it out. 2) Look at developing a simple planting scheme for the Memorial Garden. 3) Investigate the possibility of a small, colourful project in the Village Hall yard to lift the appearance of the building hopefully by involving user groups. 4) Potential development of a planting scheme within the Square at South View.

Defibrillator- Lesbury village has been offered a defibrillator by the Stephen Carey Fund. It is planned to install it outside the Village Hall in the very near future. The Stephen Carey Fund will also arrange a training session for those interested to gain a basic knowledge in the technique involved. This unit will be in addition to one at Hipsburn School and Alnmouth Village Golf club so our parish will be well covered.

Owl box- It appears that one of the owl boxes behind Townfoot Steadings has been interfered with recently. This box has been home to barn owls in recent years and a number of chicks raised in that time. Our resident ornithologists believe that barn owls are prospecting the area for nesting sites at the moment. It is best to leave it well alone at this sensitive stage of their breeding cycle.



Folk night- A taster folk song night will be held at *The Coach Inn*, Lesbury on **Thursday 19th February** at 7.30pm. Guest singers Ann Lamb and Peter Burnham will be there and all are welcome to come and listen and to join in. Joe Robson of *The Coach* has welcomed the event and hopes it could become a regular feature. For more information call Mary Hollins, 830330.



Messy Church- The next Messy Church sessions will take place in the Hindmarsh Hall, Alnmouth on Friday February 13th starting at 3.30pm and on Friday March 20th again at 3.30 pm. Please remember that children need to bring an adult (who can join in the fun.)

SHAK- On behalf of SHAK dog rescue, I would like to thank everyone who donated to and attended the Fayres we held in Lesbury Village Hall over the last year. From November 2013 and through 2014 an amazing £2362.54 has been raised at the 5 Lesbury events for neglected, abused and unwanted dogs cared for locally. I would encourage you to keep up to date on our dogs via www.shak.org.uk and of local fundraising on Facebook 'SHAK Supporter's Sales' group. (Jill Amery)



Northumberland Citizens Advice Bureau- Alnwick Office, 1st Floor, Lloyds Bank Chambers, 24 Bondgate Within, Alnwick NE66 1TD. Drop-in sessions are held every Monday, Wednesday & Friday, 9am to 1pm. You can also get help with debt or money problems by emailing us at: debt@northumbriancab.cabnet.org.uk

Parish Council Contacts.

Parish Clerk - Mrs Elizabeth Taylor, Rivendell, Steppay Lane, Lesbury, NE66 3PU, Tel: 01665 830040, e mail 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 usually held in Lesbury Village Hall on the 4th Tuesday of the month. All residents are welcome to attend.