



LESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

(Issue 49 - March 2016)

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

Parish Council- At last we are pleased to announce that we have a full complement of Councillors on the Parish Council. At our last meeting Kym Bradshaw was co-opted on to the PC by a vote of councillors. Kym and his wife have recently moved to the Parish and live in the Townfoot area. Originally he was born in Australia but moved to the UK in 1977. He has a working background in finance and is semi-retired. Kym volunteers 3 hours a week at Northumberland Hedgehog Rescue and hopes to coach at Lesbury Cricket Club. Most of all they and their Black Labrador, Bess, love the beach at Alnmouth! Welcome Kym and Ros (who has recently joined the Northumberland in Bloom group) and thank you for wanting to become part of the community.



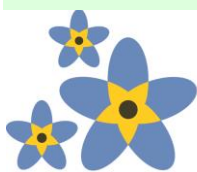
Lesbury Post Office, Newsagents and Village Store- Update on the Future -
Please read this note from Carol and Roger.

You may recall that about a year ago we put out an article in the Parish Council Newsletter asking for anyone with an interest in taking over the Post Office, Newsagents and Village Store, to have a conversation with us. This was about planning ahead and securing the future of the business. We are pleased to let you know that Jill Le Marquand is currently working through the necessary formalities with the Post Office with a view to taking over the business in a few weeks' time.

We don't have a precise date for the changeover but anticipate it may be sometime in May. We said at the time that we hoped for someone with the energy, enthusiasm and community focus to take the business into the next phase. We believe that Jill will meet these expectations.

A message from Jill Le Marquand - I cannot express how excited I am to be involved in this business venture which for me will be a total life-change. I have many ideas for this business over the coming months and whilst retaining the post office and newsagents my vision is to develop the village store in some different ways. I will also be extending business opening hours as well as the seating area for al-fresco teas, coffees and a sweet treat. I have a passion for good food and produce and believe that Northumberland has a lot to offer. I believe in promoting local businesses and cottage industries and would like to introduce quality artisan goods and produce for the benefit of both the community and visitors to this beautiful county. It will be such a privilege to work in such a lovely village and surroundings and I hope to become an integral part of village and community life. I will be spending some time with Carol leading up to hand over and I am looking forward to meeting you all to discuss my plans and listen to your thoughts and suggestions for the future. So pop in and say "hello!" *Carol, Roger & Jill.*

From the PC - The Parish the Council would like to thank Carol and Roger for taking on this venture a few years ago. I am sure that you will all agree that it has gone from strength to strength due to their expertise and innovations.

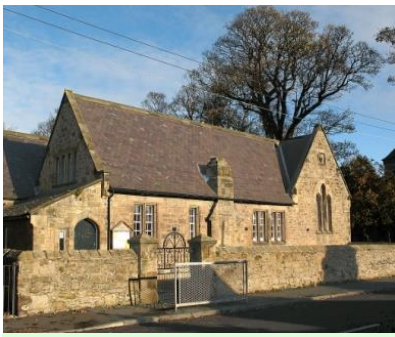


Working to become
**Dementia
Friendly**
2015-2016

Lesbury Parish - A Dementia Friendly Community - Update

The Lesbury Dementia Action Group has been working hard to gather views from across the Parish about becoming a Dementia Friendly Community. We have held whole family events, coffee mornings and meetings with local businesses. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. The Action Group now has an action plan and we have now been recognised by Alzheimer's Society as 'working towards becoming a Dementia Friendly Community'. *At the present time we are one of only seven communities in Northumberland to have achieved this status.*

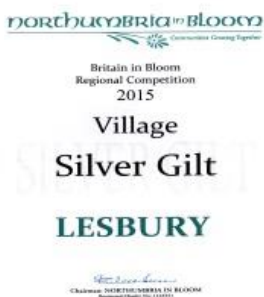
Look out for information on further developments and events through the newsletter, on Parish Council notice boards and in the Post Office. Information can also be found on the Parish Council website via the DFC tab on the left of the Home page. In the meantime, if you want to know more, you can talk to any member of the action group: Allison France, Douglas Hunter, Anne Malloy, Libby Morrison, Carol Southam, Claire Vass, Julia Whitney, Allison Wort and Hilary Wynn. Our next event is Saturday Afternoon Together in the Village Hall on 9 April.



Lesbury Village Hall Committee would like to invite you to a social evening in the Village Hall on Friday 8th April at 7pm. The evening will be an opportunity to meet friends and neighbours in a relaxed atmosphere and to see some of the work local people have been doing to capture stories about Lesbury in the past. We will provide wine and nibbles and will play extracts from the interviews of those who agreed to record information about some of their earliest memories of village life.

On a different matter, you may have read in The Bridge in March that we hoped to acquire a number of free 'smart meters' to monitor use of electricity in your home. We now have these and will be pleased to hand them out at the meeting. If you are unable to attend but would like a meter please contact Roger Styring (830531)

Defibrillator - the box and electric supply have been installed and hopefully the first training session on how to use it will have taken place (Tuesday, 5 April). Our thanks go to the Stephen Carey Fund for offering it to the Parish and the Village Hall Committee and in particular Roger Styring for managing the installation.



Northumbria in Bloom - The Parish has entered NIB again and we will get an early visit by the judges on Friday, 29th April - not long now! Ian August arranged the first meeting of volunteers some days ago to plan out the strategy for the year. As usual our NIB group is looking to keep it simple, have a tidy Parish but with areas of colour such as the Lealands Garden. This year volunteers will develop the patch of land at the top of Curly Lane, opposite the Station entrance around the bus stop. Already the signage has been rationalised by NCC and the PC will sponsor a planter similar to the ones on the Station platforms. There is plenty to do before the judging and even if you don't have time to volunteer just keeping your house fronts and footpaths tidy will help. If anyone would like

to join the volunteers to help in this rewarding task please contact Ian August (833737).

Neighbourhood Development Plans - England has a plan-led system of development. This means that every local planning authority in England has to prepare a Local Plan or Core Strategy. This plan includes all of the local planning policies for that area, and any planning applications have to be decided in line with it unless material considerations indicate otherwise. This core strategy will provide the overarching planning policies that will guide where future development takes place. NCC has been slowly developing the Northumberland Core Strategy and consultation on a pre submission document took place between 14 October 2015 and 25 November 2015. The comments received during the consultation have been reviewed and it is considered appropriate that the document should be amended before it is submitted for independent examination and Government. A further consultation on proposed major changes to the Core Strategy will take place for a six-week period during June and July 2016. The Core Strategy, together with any Neighbourhood Development Plans, provides the basis for determining planning applications and future development in any area. At the moment Lesbury Parish does not have a Neighbourhood Development Plan (although it developed a Parish Plan in 2009) and so is has little input as to where we might see future building work taking place. The PC is considering if it would be worthwhile to produce an NDP; this could be a lengthy, perhaps costly exercise and would need volunteers from the community to form a Steering Group. It may be possible to do this in conjunction with neighbouring Parishes. More on this in the coming months.

PS- Recently some of the waste bins / dog bins have been full to overflowing. Anyone can report these issues to the County Council and ask for them to be emptied. Call 01665 660733

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; Kym Bradshaw - 833292, Gareth Breese - 830195, John Gebbie - 830642, Douglas Hunter 07903 243362, 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.