



LESBURY PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Issue 59
July/August 2018



Resident Neighbourhood Development Plan report 7

Outcomes of Consultation on Leisure and Education

Twenty-five people joined the consultation event on 23rd June 2018 to consider the sort of facilities we need to make sure that Lesbury is a vibrant and welcoming Parish that caters for the needs of its residents.

Making the most of our green spaces

There was a general view that from the centre of the village to the most distant borders of the Parish would benefit from landscaping. This would include the creation of park areas, planting trees and possibly an orchard, in suitable places. Maintenance budgets are limited, but much has been achieved through 'village in bloom' and local environmentalists who installed owl and bat boxes and keep a careful watch over the areas around the Parish we all enjoy so much.

To make the most of what we have and may have in the future, we would need to create accessible footpaths. This would make crossing the Parish on every day journeys to the school, Church, PO and the village hall easy to do and pleasant to walk. The Bridge across Steppey Lane is seen as a major barrier to accessing our facilities for the elderly, wheelchair users and those with pushchairs and prams.

Better routes across the parish would enable us to make better provision for leisure including walking, seating areas to watch the world go by, bike trails and horse riding. Having a bird hide in the wetland area, reinstating the stepping stones, part of the former Pilgrim Trail across the A1n, re-introducing red squirrels and creating a circular route around the river were amongst the enhancements that were suggested.



A sixteen year old young man in the Parish gathered views of young people on leisure and they would love to have a place to meet after school on a couple of days each week. It would be even better if it included a tuck-shop, café, table tennis, table football and archery.

Young people are not the only ones who would welcome somewhere to meet. The elderly would like to meet friends for a light snack, or coffee during the day, as would parents and their families. They love the Shepherd's hut, but would like alternatives. Visitors to the area often ask for a café where they can sit and enjoy a welcome break. We could explore the business opportunities this might present at the station 'Our Gateway to North Northumberland', in the village, or near the school and cricket ground.

School and education

There was strong agreement that having a great school plays a key part in the growth and sustainability of our community. People were keen to find ways to develop facilities that could be shared with the school and want to do as much as they can to help and support the

school. We have discovered as we have worked on the NDP that many people in the Parish have a wealth of experience, skills and talents. We are fortunate to have such people and should make the most of their expertise to develop new clubs, societies and interests.

Other Parish matters

Consultation on Parking Proposals at Alnmouth Railway Station & Hipsburn

The consultation event created a significant amount of interest. We know from the meeting organised by Northumberland County Council on 28th June 2018, that many people were unhappy about the proposals for charging for parking. The final analysis of the submission, which will include the results of the residents' views on parking, is expected soon.



We think this is a coincidence and not related to the issues raised about parking on Curly Lane, but it looks as if the police are checking vehicles in that area.

Information from The Citizens Advice service

The service provides free, confidential information and advice on a wide range of subjects including benefits, debt, housing and employment problems.

You can get help from us in a number of ways:

- By telephoning Northumberland Adviceline on 03444 111 444 open Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm.
- By calling into our drop-in sessions – 9.30am to 3.30pm on Tuesdays
 - Alnwick office, 1st floor, Lloyds Bank Chambers, 24 Bondgate Within, Alnwick NE66 1TD
 - Amble office, Fourways Centre, Bridge St, Amble NE65 0DR
- Debt advice is also available Monday to Friday on 01670 339960 or text DEBT to 81400
- By going on-line at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/northumberland for e-mail advice or self-help

Please note that Lesbury Village Hall will be closed throughout August 2018 for refurbishment.

Parish Clerk - Mrs Elizabeth Taylor, Rivendell, Steppey Lane, Lesbury, NE66 3PU,
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Parish Council Chairperson: Douglas Hunter - 07903243362

Parish Councillors; Kym Bradshaw – 833292, Peter Cossins – 830597, Sir John Hall – 830146, Jean Humphrys – 07906146163, Dave Knowles, Vice Chairperson – 830467, Jane Norris - 830244, 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.