

MISCELLANY

First, the good news: Contrary to some scaremongering claims before we started work on Newick's Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council's costs for producing it never were going to be very great. Most of the costs will be met initially by Lewes District Council and, unless Newick fails to adopt a Neighbourhood Plan, those costs will be largely reimbursed by a government grant. Now we hear that it will cost us even less, as some of our costs can be reimbursed too, under a further grant scheme the government has just announced.

Second, the even better news: Under recent government proposals, if the Parish Council is successful in developing a Neighbourhood Plan and having it adopted, it will receive 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) that will be collected by Lewes District Council from the developers of all new housing constructed in Newick. That money can be spent only on local infrastructure, such as our various sports facilities, public buildings, open spaces and footpaths. If Newick fails to adopt a Neighbourhood Plan, a maximum of 15% of the CIL will be received and that will be capped, perhaps resulting in less than 15%. Some may call this an incentive, others a bribe, but either way it will pay us to adopt a suitable Neighbourhood Plan.

Work is continuing to programme on the Neighbourhood Plan. A meeting has been held with representatives of Newick's clubs and societies, to help us to determine what aspects of our public infrastructure are likely to need protection, improvement or replacement during the period to 2030, using the CIL cash mentioned above. All younger residents of the Parish are being invited to a meeting in the Sports pavilion on 13th April 2013, to give their views on the future needs of Newick.

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has had meetings with landowners interested in having some of their land considered for development, and developers interested in building housing on particular sites. The next Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Day will be on Saturday 8th June 2013 in the Village Hall, and you are encouraged to come along and give your views on the merits of each such site. Please put that date in your diaries.

Turning to another subject, our Clerk is receiving an increasing number of complaints about general litter, especially in the bus shelter on the Green, and dog mess on pavements and verges and in the twittens, including bagged waste thrown to one side. Leaving litter is a punishable offence! Please help to keep our Village and the surrounding area attractive by taking your litter home or leaving it in the nearest bin, encouraging children to do so, and having a word with any offenders you spot. You've had this message repeatedly from the Parish Clerk; now you've also had it from the Chairman. Please pass it on to those who don't read or ignore these appeals. *John Lucas (Chairman)*

Councillors:

Mr. John M. Lucas Tel: 723607

johnmlucas@btinternet.com

Mr. Christopher H. Armitage Tel: 722728

krizarmitage@aol.com

Mr. Cris Allen Tel: 724264

Cris.allen@o2.co.uk

Mr. Nick Berryman Tel: 722713

nick@berryman.uk.com

Mr. Ross Houghton Tel: 722393

rossandchristine@yahoo.com

Mr. Chris Jago Tel: 721282

jagoc@btinternet.com

Mrs. Jean Sheppard Tel: 724478

jcsheppard3@btinternet.com

Mrs. Jenny Smerdon Tel: 722583

jennysmerdon@btinternet.com

Mrs. DJ Sprackling Tel: 07881720503

cldr.dj.sprackling@gmail.com

Mrs. Melanie Thew Tel: 724494

melithew@yahoo.com

Mrs. Cathy Wickens Tel: 723347

cathywickens@hotmail.co.uk

District Councillor is: Cllr. Jim Sheppard
Tel: 724478

jim.sheppard@lewes.gov.uk

County Councillor is: Cllr. Mrs. Meg Stoude
Tel: 01273 488117

cldr.meg.stroude@eastsussex.gov.uk

Published and printed by

Newick Parish Council

Mrs Sue Berry

18 Newlands Park Way, 01825 722135

Email: newickpc@newick.net



Your Newick Parish Council Spring Newsletter 2013



LEWES DISTRICT COUNCIL'S CORE STRATEGY

In the Winter Newsletter, the Parish Council advised that it would be objecting to Lewes District Council's Core Strategy Submission Document that proposes to build a further 124 homes in Newick over the 20 years from 2010. To meet Government targets, Lewes District has to build 9% more homes over this period yet Newick is being allocated 12.3%, without any justification being given. Our argument is that we recognise that with a growing national population, there is no legitimate case for Newick accepting less than its fair share within the District, but not more. Based on the 1,011 houses in Newick in 2010, the village should not be forced to have an increase exceeding a further 91 homes from then of which 24 have already been accounted for over the last 2 years.

The full text of the Parish Council response can be viewed on our website and a greater rationale will be given at the Annual Parish Meeting on 17th April. *Chris Jago*

CANCELLED—NEWICK VILLAGE FUN DAY 25TH AUGUST 2013

The Parish Council has regretfully decided to cancel the proposed Fun Day owing to the general lack of interest shown in participating in the event.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE

There were a few incidents of crime in Newick in February. On the 3rd a generator was stolen from U.K. Power in Jackies Lane. There was also a burglary that same evening in The Rough. Entry was gained through an insecure back door overnight. On the 4th a motorbike was stolen in Cricketfield. It was later found damaged.

There have also been a lot of incidents of cold calling lately. A Talk Talk cold caller was spoken to by the police and told to contact them before canvassing. I received several phone calls on the 23rd concerning a man who was knocking on doors asking questions. I went and found him knocking on a door in Badens Close. It turned out he was a legitimate canvasser with I.D and was carrying out a survey for a data collection provider called Kantar. I spoke to him and explained that Newick was a No Cold Calling village but of course this is not legally enforceable so I had to let him continue.

Should you ever have any concerns about cold callers please ring the police on 101.

I have been told by the police that if you are elderly or you feel vulnerable you should dial 999.

Jean Sheppard. N.H.W.

Newick Now to 2030

Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Day 17th November 2012 Conclusions of Report

(Note: Registered users of Newick.net can read the full report on the website)

The consultation day was well attended by all sectors of the community except for “young people”, i.e. those of secondary school age and up to about 24 years old.

A considerable number of those who attended live West of the village, outside the Parish boundary, and most of these live in North Chailey but consider Newick as their village. Yet the feeling was also expressed that the boundary between Chailey and Newick should be preserved. The two potential development sites near this boundary that had been identified in LDC’s SHLAA, Mitchelswood Farm in Newick and the corner of Oxbottom Lane in Chailey, received relatively little support from attendees because they wished to preserve the separation between Newick and Chailey.

There was also an overwhelming feeling that the A272 is a problem both in terms of volume and speed of traffic and consequently safety. Therefore the two possible development sites mentioned above and the Newick Hill site, which is another of LDC’s SHLAA sites, were all considered to be poor options as they would exacerbate the already known problems on the A272. It should be noted however, that otherwise the Newick Hill SHLAA site did receive positive comments due to its location. A number of attendees felt there was a need for a roundabout at the junction with Newick Hill and the A272 but a similar number stated that Newick should continue not to have street lighting.

The need to preserve the village green and a proposal that the pond be reinstated were both mentioned by significant numbers of attendees. A similar number stated a need for more parking to be provided on or near the green, albeit sympathetically.

There were five potential development sites which received in the main positive feedback. These were the field by the telephone exchange and 55 Allington Road, both of which are LDC SHLAA sites, the open space between Vernons Road and The Rough, the field opposite the telephone exchange, and The Rectory and its grounds. The reasons cited for support for these sites were proximity to the green/central facilities and/or the school, relative lack of impact on the appearance of the village, improvement of under-used or poorly maintained pieces of land and less need for local car use than would be the case for the other potential sites. Overall there was little negativity about further development, but the need to phase development over the next eighteen years was mentioned, as was the need to ensure that new housing is of designs that blend in with the existing character of Newick, and provide adequate off-street parking.

Continued

The profile of attendees clearly showed that once living in Newick, residents like to stay in Newick even if moving house, tend to stay in Newick into retirement, and wish to preserve the village and rural feel of Newick. Overwhelming expression was given to the view that more affordable homes, downsize homes (or warden assisted) and starter homes are needed and that large executive style homes should be avoided. A need for housing for people whose services the Parish needs was also mentioned.

Comments regarding the adequacy of facilities and environmental considerations were also numerous. The most frequently mentioned needs were for allotments, play facilities for the very young, facilities for Youth, and modern and suitable facilities for sports clubs.

There was a mixed response about services and amenities in the village. A surprising number of attendees work either in or near Newick but it was hard to establish if, for example, the frequent comments in support of better bus services, maintaining the existing shops especially the post office, parking, need for a cafe, more local employment, a cycle path, Broadband and a greengrocer came from this group or were generally held feelings. There were many responses concerning the local environment (including verges, footpaths and orchids).

The above conclusions take account of the written submissions made by those who could not attend on the day or wished to make additional comments. The comments collected appear to indicate that the Neighbourhood Plan Vision Statement, which had been approved previously by the Parish Council, is broadly in line with the wishes of the majority of the attendees at this Consultation Day.

The two sessions run by LDC’s planners proved popular, with their brief presentations being followed by many questions. Due to the timing of the event, many questions concerned LDC’s Draft Core Strategy, as opposed to Neighbourhood Planning, but all questions were answered.

Ways forward: It is also concluded that to make further progress the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group now needs to:

1. Organise a way of capturing the opinions of the age range 11 – 24
2. Gather responses from local businesses
3. Write to Chailey Parish Council about the Oxbottom Lane site.
4. In order to reduce the future incidence of uninformed or irrelevant comments, provide some factual information to residents before the next consultation day, such as: The school isn’t full (or wouldn’t be if it took fewer children from outside the Parish), Street lighting will be needed if we have a roundabout, the adequacy of all services, e.g. water, sewerage, energy supplies and health centre, to cope with additional housing has already been established by LDC, and The Green is a protected area.
5. After the next Consultation Day, give consideration to developing policies on the following: Sports and recreational facilities, The Village Green and the local environment, Housing needs, Allotments, Shops and services, Traffic and parking, Public transport, Employment and business, and Community facilities.

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group