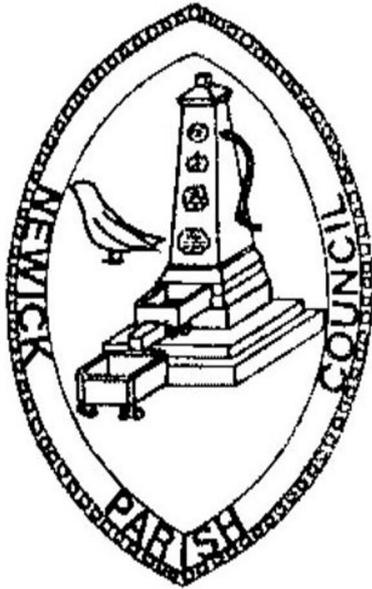


NEWICK PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER



WELCOME

The first six months of office have been busy and productive for Newick Parish Council. We have had two further Parish Councillors join which leaves just two remaining vacancies. We have recently received two applications for those vacancies so we may have a full complement soon. This increase in Councillor numbers means that two Committees have been restarted - an 'Environment & Recreation' and a 'Finance & General Purposes Committee'. These Committees really make a difference on how much progress the Parish Council can make as they focus on specific areas.

Thank you to so many of you who attended the 'Meet Your Councillor' event at the end of August. It was wonderful to hear your views which will shape the work of the Parish Council going forward. If you were unable to attend but would like to share your views or ideas please email the Clerk.

If you need to contact or see the Clerk please do not knock on the door of her home address, please email or call to make an appointment to meet her in her office in the Community Centre.

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS;

Mr Chris Armitage (Chair)
Mr Brian Deacon (Vice Chair)
Mr Brian Hodge
Mr David Marchant
Mrs Victoria Marchant
Mrs Kim Tibbs
Mr Phil Tibbs
Mrs Melanie Thew
Mrs Cathy Wickens

All correspondence should be sent to the clerk;
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Mr Roy Burman
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Your County Councillor;
Mr Jim Sheppard
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DOGS

We have recently been asked if dogs should be on a lead on the Playing Fields. KGVPF and the Manwaring Robertson field are for everyone to enjoy and for that reason dogs are always required to be on leads. Not everyone is a dog lover, especially younger children who may be wary of dogs. There are footpaths and woodland very close to the playing fields so lots of alternative spaces for canines with more energy to burn, who need off leash exercise.

There is an ongoing issue with dog waste in the village and unfortunately some of the Sports Clubs have had to clean up dog waste before matches and training. No-one wants poop on the pitch, especially for youth training so please keep your dog on a lead.



ENVIRONMENT AND RECREATION

The purpose of the E&R committee, which meets every quarter, is to preserve and enhance the quality of life through the protection of the environment and promoting recreational activities in Newick. One new project is the potential redevelopment of the Sports Pavilion. I have had the pleasure of attending a recent meeting where the committee of volunteers are working hard on the plans and future of the building. This project won't happen overnight, but we are lucky to have people willing to give up their time to work towards a building fit for the future enjoyment of so many people in the village.

Also, on King George V playing field, some of you may have noticed that the picnic bench that was located at the far corner has been removed. The Parish Council undertakes a weekly safety inspection of the equipment and it was deemed to be unsafe due to damage. Whilst the bench has been there it has been vandalised with graffiti, set alight and parts broken off it. The previous bench met a similar fate. There are no immediate plans to replace it but we would welcome ideas as to what users of that area would like to see there instead – indeed the committee is looking at all the facilities on the playing fields, their uses, the layout and how the field as a whole can be better utilised to offer everything that the village needs.

A new project we are looking to launch very soon is a Litter Picking group. Whilst our village handyman does a wonderful job keeping Parish Council owned areas tidy on a day to day basis, we are planning to start a Litter Picking group and hold clean up days to get Newick as litter free as possible. It is hoped that we will have volunteers of all ages, and that it will be a chance to encourage some of the younger members of our community to understand importance of tidying up and the wider impact of litter on our environment.

Cllr. M Thew



A huge thank you to Tom Stovold and Southern Events for arranging and sponsoring the Christmas Tree on again The Green this year. If anyone has a tree on their land or farm that they would be willing to donate please do not hesitate to contact newickpc@newick.net



PARKING

Space is at a premium – and it would appear, Parking Spaces even more so. But we would ask that drivers respect other residents and local infrastructure when parking their car, even for a short period of time. Pavements are for People. Many of our residents have mobility issues, poor sight, young children in tow or in a buggy. Avoid blocking dropped curbs that pedestrians use to cross. This is particularly applicable at the junction of Oldaker Road and Church Road and by the shops on the Green, where cars, vans & 4x4's have been seen seemingly abandoned on the junction or up on the pavement. It may only be a few minutes to the driver – but it could force a vulnerable pedestrian to walk in the road. Especially risky during the dark winter evenings.

On the subject of parking – would residents please note that the grass verges are not their property. We've had a dry summer and the verges are primarily in good condition. The occasional visitor probably isn't a problem; however, some residents have taken to parking with one side on them daily – and in one case parking their entire car onto it every day. With winter coming, the verges would be rapidly turned into mud once the rain starts.

Before parking your car – please just take a moment to consider if it will be in the way of someone else.

Cllr. P Tibbs



This financial year has seen successful grant applications for a number of local organisations. These include £1000 for Newick Primary School who are fundraising for a new library resource and £625 granted to Newick Life which documents life in Newick through imagery and artwork. The Parish Council also gave a grant of £165 to Newick Rootz to fund their hire of the Sports Pavilion for their meetings where they review and plan their workdays maintaining and improving public footpaths in the Parish.

Some of you may remember some significant works being undertaken at the Village Hall nearly 10 years ago. To fund this, in 2010 a loan was received from the Public Works Loan Board at an annual rate of interest of 4.45% to be repaid over 25 years. The sale of the land adjacent to Vernons Road/The Rough resulted in a capital sum and therefore some of these funds have been used to repay the remaining balance of the loan. The remaining balance may only be used for a capital project and the village will have a say in how it is spent.