



Newsletter

March 2024

www.nevillresidentsassociation.org

Joint Chairs: Sarah Neels
Suzy Nelson

Treasurer: Kia Makepeace

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Members of the Nevill Residents Association committee, set up in May last year, have been very active. In summary: 1. All grit bins have been filled with salt. 2. Letters have been written to Highways asking for the primary gritting route round the estate to be extended to include the bus route. 3. New snow shovels have been distributed. 4. The Festive Fair raised money for NRA and charity. 5. A social evening was held in December for residents. 6. A new web site has been set up, address above. 7. A new noticeboard for Nevill Green has been ordered to replace the one damaged by contractors. 8. Enough money has been raised to install a defibrillator. 9. A local 'Speed Watch' group has been set up. 10. A new local bus timetable has been financed and distributed by NRA.

Please let the committee know in advance if you would like to become a committee member or help in other ways (e-mail: lesleyhealey@gmail.com). **NRA Annual General Meeting on 25 April 2024, 7.30 pm, St Mary's Social Centre, Christie Road.**

Report on NRA Open Meeting Monday 5 February 2024 held in St Mary's Church Hall

Preventing Flooding. There was a presentation by Rachel Paget and Peter King from Ouse and Adur Rivers Trust. The Trust together with LDC have developed a project to try and reduce flooding in local areas. Rachel explained that the excess rainfall from Nevill drains down into the town, then the river and may result in flooding. To slow this process down they are offering free SuDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems). These are planters that are placed below a down pipe and retain the water releasing it slowly into the ground. Thirty free planters have been offered. Seventeen people have already taken up the offer, so there are some left. If you are interested contact: Rachel.paget@oart.org.uk.

Other suggested measures to absorb rainwater were green roofs. A shed or garage roof covered in sedum. The use of water butts. Driveways should either have permeable surfaces or drain to soakaways. For new drives this is Building Regulation requirement.

East Sussex Highway's Stewards

Dominic Ward and Rebecca Kirby attended the meeting to discuss the problems the committee was having about road gritting and drainage. Unfortunately, they are employees of Balfour Beatty who are contractors for ESCC and therefore unable to answer for decisions made by the council, but they did agree to pass on our queries. Firstly, we wanted to know why the bus route was not a primary route, and why some secondary routes were not gritted. At the moment, the primary route only goes as far as the shops. The committee had written to ESCC Highways Department, and had a very unsatisfactory reply.

The committee also wanted to know why the price of the salt for a grit bin has varied so much. In October it was £392. At the beginning of November £108 and by the end of the month £266.92. NRA paid £108 for each of the two bins it owns.

As road maintenance was part of the Highway Stewards remit, gully clearing was discussed as many of the road gullies are blocked. The Stewards said gully maintenance is scheduled according to flood risk. Nevill Road/ Green gullies are on a regular schedule to reduce the flooding problem on Nevill Road. It was

pointed out that grass clippings from the verges were not collected and allowed to wash into the drains and block them. Last July the streets cleaner came before the grass was cut. It was suggested that more co-ordination was needed between the operators.

Further Action on Icy Roads

Extra Grit bin. NRA has been offered a new grit bin by ESCC. Since the meeting the council has decided that this will be outside the shops, and confirmed that it will take responsibility for refilling it.

Petition on Gritting. The committee feels it is very important to get more of the estate gritted in icy weather conditions because of the steep roads. It has set up a petition which it hopes all residents will sign. There are 195 signatures so far, and there will be a paper copy in the shop. Closing date: 30 April 2024, when it will be presented to the Lead Member for Highways. <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/p/Gritthenevill>

Snow Shovels. Of the ten snow shovels NRA bought in 2011, only three remain. Nine more have been donated to the association and distributed to representatives in most roads on the estate to share with residents.

11 Firle Crescent – Felicity-Ann
52 Hamsey Crescent – Jane
5 Caburn Crescent -Steve
10 Windover Crescent – Sarah
34 Highdown Road -Maria
9 Mount Harry Road – Carole
4 East Way – Mike
73 North Way – Sue & Derek
18 Crossway – Graham
50 Middle Way – Mairead
38 South Way – Suzy
2A Hawkenbury Way – Carolyn & Derek

They are the property of NRA. Please use only on snow and not on ice or for grit/salt.

Nevill Road 'Speed Watch' Group

Following Kevin Moore's 'Living Streets' talk at the NRA open meeting in September, a local 'Speed Watch' group has been set up. There are now four fully trained people, and one person who has

completed the online course. The scheme is very effective as anyone clocked for speeding receives a letter from the police. The group are keen for more residents to join them so more sessions can be organised to stop speeding on Nevill Road. Contact Suzy Nelson if interested.

Progress on Defibrillator

NRA has successfully applied for a defibrillator through the Sussex Heart Charity. NRA will be required to donate £900 towards the funding and will have costs for fitting, electricity, and replacement parts. A huge 'Thank you' to Angela Brinkhurst who has donated £775 from the quiz nights that she runs. The next quiz night will take place on 15 March at St Mary's Supporters Club, 7pm for a prompt start at 7.45. NRA have raised further funds, £240, through donations from local businesses and residents. Thank you for everyone's generous donations and to Mark Greenwood from Galaxy Technical Solutions Ltd who has volunteered his time to fit the device.

Local Buses

Nevill now has its own local bus timetable! This shows the buses in each hour down to town and back, including estate buses and the ones on Nevill Road. Thanks to Sarah O'Kane who led the project, Fiona Griffin who did the design, Mark Maidment who checked the times, and others in the Bus Group. It's been distributed all over the estate. If yours is missing, contact Sarah on sarahok@btinternet.com. Let's use the buses and not lose them!

There have been problems with Compass's new buses that have been unable to squeeze their way past badly parked vehicles on the estate. To keep the buses in good condition the drivers have been told not to mount the pavement. Parking enforcement will be increased, including officers riding on buses, to ensure there is a clear route. Make sure your car does not get booked!!

Drains and Sewers

There have been a number of incidents over the last year where sewers have been blocked by wipes and sanitary products that should not be flushed down the toilet. This has happened twice in Hamsey Crescent within a month and resulted in soiled water flowing down the road and freezing as it ran across Highdown Road. Highways had to be called out to grit the road and put up signs because the road was so treacherous. Please only put paper, pee and poo down the loo. Please do not put wipes (even flushable ones) or any sanitary products down the toilet as the sewage system is nearly 100 years old and very delicate. There is a poster on NRA website and Facebook page from Southern Water about protecting your home and the environment.

NRA Festive Fair and Poppy Competition

On the 11 November NRA held their Festive Fair. There were over 20 stalls full of arts and crafts from local makers, a raffle, and refreshments. The fair was well attended and £357 was raised for the Royal British Legion and the Poppy Appeal and a further £345 raised

for the Nevill Residents Association. A big 'Thank you' to all the stall holders, volunteers, and bakers for making this event such a success. At the event entries of our Poppy Art Competition were displayed. Well done to everyone who entered, it was difficult to choose a winner as all the artwork was outstanding. First place winners were age 2-7 Cottage Pre-school, Age 7-11 Sylvie Larribeau Wade and Age 11-16 joint winners Erin Smithyes and Wren Thompson. NRA is planning to make this an annual event and this year's date has been booked for the **23 November 2024**.

News from Nevill Good Neighbours

Nevill Good Neighbours are in regular touch with a number of Nevill residents who live alone, often by weekly phone call, sometimes more frequently if they have concerns. Usually they have a pleasant chat, but last month they were involved in two potentially lifesaving incidents. Within the space of two weeks, after calls to two neighbours went unanswered, they visited to check on them and found the neighbours in need of urgent medical care. They called 999 and waited while the ambulance arrived. Both were admitted to hospital and are now safe. Thankfully these are rare occurrences. It is a reminder to all of us to look out for our neighbours, especially if they live alone. Please do check on them by ringing or popping round, especially if you haven't seen them recently. It does no harm if all is well, and could be a life saver in other circumstances. And, if you live alone, it may be worth thinking about how you would get help after a fall or medical emergency. Nevill Good Neighbours can be contacted on 07548069063. Their website is: www.nevillgoodneighbours.org.

Nevill Juvenile Bonfire Society's Easter Egg Hunt



The Next NRA AGM, Thursday 25 April 2024 at 7.30 pm. All residents welcome.
St Mary's Social Centre, Christie Road.

Contact numbers:

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