



Newsletter

April 2017

<http://nevillresidentsassociation.weebly.com/>

Chairman: Alan Chapman
Co-Chair: Sarah Neels
Executive Officer: Vacancy
Treasurer: Daphne Wyatt

Minutes Secretary: Vicki Trenhaile

Editor: Carole Kirby

NJBS 50th Anniversary Celebrations.

As part of Nevill Juvenile Bonfire Society's celebrations to mark its 50th year since its formation another Extravaganza is being held on Saturday 8th July at Nevill Green. The Society organised its first Extravaganza in 2011 and followed this with four more, including last year's event at Nevill Green.

This year's Extravaganza will consist of an afternoon fair from 12 noon until 4.30 pm with stalls, activities, displays, and games. The entertainment will be ladies and men's bonfire Tug-o-War competition for the bonfire cups, a torch-making competition and other arena events. There will be a wide variety of exciting refreshments and a Harvey's Bar. Starfish Youth Music Project will showcase local young musicians. Many of the stalls will be provided by local community groups and other Lewes Bonfire Societies. Admission to this part of the event is free with lucky programmes. There are a limited number of stalls available, contact Peter Earl for an application form, e-mail pgearl@tiscali.co.uk, or tel 01273 472621.

The second part of the event is to provide live music from 6 pm to 10 pm. The headline band this year is 'Full House', an accomplished and popular four-piece rock band, reputedly one of the finest rock and pop covers bands with experienced professional musicians. They will be supported by senior Starfish bands. This part of the event is ticketed with tickets priced at £4 in advance and £5 on the day. Advance Family tickets will be available at £15 (2 adults & up to 3 children). These will be available at local Lewes outlets in due course. Further details and further attractions will be announced in due course. There will be a limit of 500 tickets.

It would be great if as many residents as possible from the estate would come along and support the Society and the other community groups that attend the event.

Report from Residents Association meeting: 27 March 2017

Parking at Wallands School

Following the public meeting with the Parking Manager of ESCC at Wallands School on 2 November 2016, Jackie Bishop wrote a letter to him confirming the issues raised. Most of the problems were caused by all day parking, leaving no spaces for parents to deliver and

collect children. Since then ESCC has run an online consultation about increased parking restrictions in the Wallands area. Jackie has now heard that double yellow lines will be painted at the end of Christie Road, there would be no change to the rest of the area, but they will look at the parking problems at the junction of Highdown Road and Nevill Road. A final review of the parking situation will take place in fourteen months time.

New Play Equipment on Nevill Green

After consultation, the committee decided to use the grant from Tesco's plastic bag surcharge to provide a role play boat on Nevill Green. It will have lots of activity features.

- 3500mm x 1800mm role play boat with a maximum 1000mm high deck area
- Inclined access net
- Vertical climbing wall
- Log ladder with hand rail
- Central mast with fixed steering wheel
- Stainless steel telescope
- Open under deck area
- Carved parrot secured to mast

A carved crocodile and treasure chest will also be included. So, the children should be able to have even more fun. Installation has now started.

Virgin Media – Work on Nevill

Contractors for Virgin Media who have been burying optic cables in the pavements of Nevill Estate have almost completed. Virgin will guarantee the work for two years. If you have any problems with the work contact ESCC Highways Dept on 03456080193 or Virgin Media 08708883117.

Hedges

Now spring is underway and everything is growing fast, we would like to remind everyone to check their front hedges to make sure they are not obstructing the pavements. The pavements on the estate are narrow, and in places hedges overhang the pavements so far it is impossible for pedestrians to walk, let alone allow space for mothers with buggies and the elderly with walking frames.

Litter picking groups

Lewes District Council will support local litter picking groups by providing refuse bags, litter 'pickers', protective gloves, and will arrange to collect the bags at the end of the litter picking session. If you want to

organise a litter pick, or community clear up event, contact LDC so they can arrange to collect bags, lend you equipment if needed, and help you carry out a risk assessment.

E-mail customer.services@lewes.gov.uk or call 01273 471600.

Rain Gardens

Transition Town Lewes held a meeting in March to promote the provision of rain gardens. These are a type of sustainable drainage system, that can be created in existing green spaces, to help reduce the flood risk from heavy rainfall events, a phenomenon that is increasing with climate change. A shallow depression is filled with absorbent, yet free draining soil and planted with vegetation.

At the meeting, Aimee Felus from the Brighton Chalk Management Project (CHAMP) told the meeting that rain gardens were being used not only to manage surface flooding, but to tackle dangerously high levels of nitrates and other pollutants in the local aquifers. Jo Carter of Wild Flower Lewes also confirmed how they could complement her group's work to foster corridors of biodiversity across the town. So, there were plenty of reasons to introduce rain gardens to Lewes.

Six sites were identified from the meeting, and after inspection, Bell Lane recreation ground and Nevill Green were the most promising. Professional feasibility studies, planning permission, residents' agreement, and funding arrangements had to be completed before work can begin. It was also hoped that residents should use this method in their own gardens, as although they are required to have porous drives, rainwater was still a problem.

Closed Footpaths and Bridleways

Have you tried to use the bridleway past Lewes racecourse buildings since June last year and found most of it fenced off? Or are you concerned to read that it has been fenced off? Now you can help get the route reinstated by completing an evidence form saying how you used the route. You can download the form at <http://travelloglewes.co.uk/index.php?page=don-t-lose-your-rights-of-way>. Please fill in the evidence form and post it to the address on the bottom (the council will not accept emailed versions). The route with the problems is just north of the racecourse buildings, on the route that runs between Mount Harry at one end and Lewes Town Centre, or Lewes Prison, at the other. It used to be very wide, up to 11 metres across. If you were going to or from the prison direction you just kept straight ahead. In June 2016, the landowner erected fencing which corrals walkers and riders into a narrow strip, which will get very churned up and unpleasant in winter, so we want to get the old, wider route put back. For more details see <http://restorethebridleway.info/>

Pot Holes

If you are frustrated by the number of potholes on the roads, report them to ESCC on their website <http://www.eastsussexhighways.com/enquire/find/217>

and they will send someone out to inspect, or ring ESCC Highway Dept.

Nevill Residents Good Neighbour Scheme Launch May 15th

We are delighted to announce that the NRGNS will be launched on Monday 15th May. An enthusiastic team of Disclosure and Barring Services (DBS) checked volunteers are all ready and willing to lend a hand and will meet at 7.30 pm at St Mary's Church Hall, Highdown Road, to celebrate the occasion. Please join us if you're free that evening to help us mark the occasion: light refreshments will be served.

Our Good Neighbour scheme will be able to provide day-to-day support for Nevill residents who may need help on an occasional or regular basis. Our volunteers will be able to complete practical tasks such as driving, shopping, putting out bins, collecting prescriptions, helping with computers and paperwork, or popping in for a chat or cup of tea. All services are free, other than a 45p per mile charge to cover any petrol costs.

How to make contact:

The telephone number will be published in the Parish Pump section of the Sussex Express, the week of the launch, and displayed in the shop on Highdown Road. Alternatively, come and meet us at our stall at the Extravaganza on Saturday 8th July.

Please Help the Skylarks on Landport Bottom and Keep your Dog on the Main Paths between April and July.

The three fields that comprise Landport Bottom behind Nevill, managed by Lewes District Council are home to a small population of skylarks, amongst other birds. However, the population of skylarks is falling fast nationally. To survive and maintain numbers here they need to raise two or three clutches through April and July. Disturbance from dogs causes adult birds to flee the nest leaving eggs and chicks vulnerable to predators and the cold wind. We are asking dog owners to keep their dog to the main paths between April and July. Many people helped with this last year by doing just that and the bird surveys last year showed a small increase in numbers. So it's working. Thanks for your continued help.

The Next NRA Meeting – 22 May 2017 AGM

If you have any concerns about your area, or ideas for improvement, come to the next meeting. All meetings take place in St Mary's Church Hall, at 8pm.

Contact numbers:

Alan Chapman - 01273 483501
Sarah Neels - 01273 470074
Daphne Wyatt - 01273 475966