

Newsletter

November 2017

Chairman: Alan Chapman Co-Chair: Sarah Neels Executive Officer: Vacancy Treasurer: Daphne Wyatt Minutes Secretary: Vicki Trenhaile Editor: Carole Kirby

http://nevillresidentsassociation.weebly.com/

# **Report from Residents Association meeting:** 25 September 2017

# **Flooding on Nevill Road**

Early on the 8 September there was serious flooding on Nevill Road, from the junction with Nevill Crescent to the hospital. Water covered the road and pavement, and ran down the embankment. Sarah Neels met a representative from Southern Water, who said that their drains were clear, but the problem was caused by blocked road gullies, the responsibility of the Highways Department. He tried to alleviate the problem, but the water did not clear until the following day. Warning signage was not erected until late evening. NRA will write to the Highways Dept.

Flooding in Nevill has been a continued occurrence. It is hoped that a surface water management study by the local council and other bodies will produce a solution.

# Feedback on Neighbourhood Plan

Although most people supported the neighbourhood plan, there were concerns about the concept of low cost housing. The question is: is it deliverable? The problem is the high cost of land, the government requiring councils to get the full price for land, and the concept that affordable housing should be 80% of market price. It is hoped that this can be resolved, and together with more employment, local people can stay in the town. The plan also suggested that car parks could be built over, but not on. There was also a demand for more one to two-bedroom houses. A road-show of the completed plan will visit all areas of Lewes soon.

# 'Right of Way' path at the Old Race Course

The racecourse bridleway diversion (to the south-east of the racecourse building) has been refused by the Council. The Rights of Way team said there were a high number of objections to the original proposed plans and even after amendments relevant concerns were still outstanding. The decision will be appealed. To support similar campaigns, join the Open Spaces Society at

http://www.oss.org.uk/membership/become-a-member/

The Residents Association is also considering the effective closure of a footpath that goes around the field by the reservoir above the chalk pit. There is a style at either end, but the Rights of Way Team at the Council claim it is not a designated footpath. NRA is therefore applying to have it registered and need your support. Please visit our website, address above, to let us know your use of this path in the past.

# Policing

On 5 July a car was damaged by a group of youths. Early morning on 21 September the grocer's shop was broken into and £7000 worth of cash and cigarettes taken. Later a crowbar was found in the Sheepfair twitten and taken to the police. There have also been multiple reports of cars being entered without permission and the contents rummaged through, but very little taken. The local police have only recorded six 'break ins' but it believed many incidents have gone unreported. Residents need to report these events by calling 101, or online www.sussex.police.uk/reportline. To establish the true scale of the problem NRA is undertaking an urgent survey. No individual case will be identified, but your help is needed to draw attention to what might become a larger problem. Our survey is at http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/78JZ3GL.

# St Mary's Hall in Highdown Road.

Over the last year there have been substantial repairs to the building to meet legal requirements, so the hall can continue its use in the community. Also, the annexe has been redecorated and is now a well-lit room with safety flooring suitable for meetings and other activities for approximately thirty people.

The hall is already the home to groups: badminton, WI, table tennis, dancing, adult ballet, pilates, and the monthly church ploughman's lunches. Both the hall and annexe are available for hire at £8 per hour. Call Mrs Diana Rogers, booking secretary 01273 474964 or Jackie Bishop 07813354350.

The NRA is in the process of applying to register the hall as a community asset. Such a registration, if granted, prevents the asset being sold without first being offered to the community. This is a long-term action as the hall has just been refurbished and the local church has made it clear there are no plans to sell.

# The Garden Trail

Sarah Blake and Carol Smithyes were congratulated for organising this year's successful Garden Trail. Aided by beautiful weather it raised £845 which was donated to St Peter and St James Hospice. Under discussion is the possibility of holding the trail every year, alternate years, or various times of the year. A leaflet drop is planned to gather feedback from residents.

# Christmas lunch at Christ Church

Anna Frearson is Planning a Community Christmas lunch at Christ Church for people who may be alone and isolated on Christmas Day. If you are aware of such people on the estate, please contact Anna at vsmart04@gmail.com

#### Rat infestations.

There have been reports of significant rat infestations in parts of the estate, which the council has been investigating for over a year, particularly around the hospital and the Gallops. They ask residents to look out for signs of rat activity, particularly around bird-feeding stations, sheds and decking and to keep the ground clear of food. Report any sightings or evidence of rat activity online in the 'Report It' section of the website http://www.lewes.gov.uk/23015 or ring 01273 471600

#### **Road Safety**

To aid visibility when turning out of Highdown Road into Nevill Road, NRA has asked ESCC to extend the double yellow lines on Nevill Road. It is being considered, but supporting evidence is needed to strengthen the case. If you are aware of any accident at the junction where visibility was a contributory factor, please contact NRA on the website, Facebook, or a member of the committee.

Requests for traffic calming measures on Nevill Road have been rejected due to lack of funds. If residents witness speeding or inconsiderate driving, it can be reported to Operation Crackdown 01243 642222 or www.OperationCrackdown.org .

# Wildflower Verges

Many people have commented on the roadside verges this year. Some were not cut as an experiment to see what natural wild flowers grew, while others were planted with exotic species. The deliberate planting was well received, whereas the other was not. It is hoped the County will produce a map showing what their plans are for next year.

# Greentopia

Frustration was expressed by residents about the green waste collection service. Collection was patchy or non-existent although payment was being collected. It was feared the company may have gone into liquidation. LDC has started a green waste collection service and it was suggested residents may want to change to this.

#### **Nevill Residents Good Neighbour Scheme**

Since the launch in May there have had 38 requests for help, all answered by a willing band of 24 volunteers. These requests have varied from: lifts to appointments; shopping trips; calling in for a chat; help with small gardening tasks, overnight cat feeding; IT support; and loans of tools. All the volunteers have been DBS checked and all those who offer lifts are insured to do so.

The official name is Nevill Residents Good Neighbour Scheme, but you may hear it referred to as Nevill Good Neighbours. The website is www.nevillgoodneighbours. Posters informing people of contact details have been displayed on bus stops and notice boards around the estate, but the website provides further useful details. For assistance from the NRGNS please call on 07548 069063 and leave a message. They will try to get back to you the same day. If you are new to the scheme, a volunteer will visit you to take simple details and review your needs. If you have already registered with them, your request will be passed on to a volunteer who will get back to you. *Think they can help? Give them ring. Interested in volunteering? Give them a ring.* 

# A Project for Nevill

Do you have something you want to do for the estate? The NRA could help you make it happen. Get in touch via the website, Facebook or phone a member of the committee.

#### **Nevill Badminton Club**

Nevill Badminton Club wants to increase its membership. It is open to all levels and ages. They play Tuesdays and Thursday at 8pm to 10pm in St Mary's Hall, £3 per session including tea/coffee. There are spare rackets. Contact Wendy and Brian on 01273 472157.

#### NRA Newsletter Distribution

David Sale has diligently organised the distribution of the NRA newsletters over the years. He now wants to retire. Can you help? Please let a member of the committee know if you would like to take over from him.

#### New Bus Time Tables from September 2017

Please note the country busses often run a few minutes early.

Local	Bus	es Septe	ember	17							
Monday - Friday						Saturday					
down			back			down			back		
07:38	f	N121				08:39	f	128	08:05	s	121
07:51	nc	166	06:46	s	121	08:50	nc	121	08:30	s	128
07:57	nc	122	07:35	s	166	09:07	f	128	08:55	s	128
08:38	nc	N121	07:35	s	167	09:42	f	129	09:30	s	129
09:07	f	128	08:08	s	121	10:10	nc	122	09:35	s	122
09:10	nc	121	08:55	s	128	10:27	f	128	10:15	s	128
09:23	nc	166	09:15	s	nw167	11:12	f	129	10:30	s	121
09:42	f	129	09:30	s	129	11:28	nc	121	11:00	s	129
10:10	nc	122	09:30	s	121	11:57	f	128	11:30	s	122
10:20	nc	121	09:35	s	122	12:10	nc	122	11:45	s	128
10:27	f	128	09:55	s	166	12:42	f	129	12:30	s	129
10:50	nc	mt167	10:15	s	128	13:27	f	128	12:35	s	121
11:12	f	129	10:30	s	121	13:28	nc	121	13:15	s	128
11:20	nc	121	11:00	s	129	14:10	nc	122	13:35	s	122
11:28	nc	166	11:00	s	mt167	14:12	f	129	14:00	s	129
11:57	f	128	11:35	s	122	15:14	f	128	14:30	s	121
12:10	nc	122	11:45	s	128	15:28	nc	121	15:00	s	128
12:16	nc	mt167	11:55	s	166	16:10	nc	122	15:35	s	122
12:42	f	129	12:30	s	129	16:19	f	128	16:05	s	128
13:20	nc	121	12:30	s	121	16:57	f	128	16:30	s	121
13:28	nc	166	13:00	s	mt167	17:28	nc	121	16:45	s	128
13:27	f	128	13:15	s	128	17:27	f	128	17:10	s	122
14:10	nc	122	13:35	s	122	17:57	f	128	17:15	s	128
14:12	f	129	14:00	s	129	18:27	nc	121	17:35	s	121
14:40	nc	nw167	14:30	s	121				17:45	s	128
15:14	f	128	14:30	s	166						
15:32	nc	h 121	14:50	s	167						
15:32	nc	sd121	15:00	s	128	Sun					
16:10	nc	122	15:00	s	sd121	do	wn		ba	ck	
16:19	f	128	15:55	s	166	10:56	f	132	10:45	s	132
16:28	nc	166	16:00	s	122	11:56	f	132	11:45	s	132
16:57	f	128	16:05	s	128	12:56	f	132	12:45	s	132
17:10	nc	167	16:30	s	121	13:56	f	132	13:45	s	132
17:20	nc	121	16:45	s	128	nw = n	ot V	/ed			
17:28	nc	166		s	122	mt = Mon, Thu					
17:27	f	128	17:15	s	128	sd = schooldays h= sh hols		s			
17:57	f	128	17:30	s	121	f = Firle Crescent					
18:20	nc	121	17:35	s	166	nc = Nevill Crescent					
18:47	nc	166	17:45	s	128	s = Bu	s St	atior	ı		
19:20	nc	121	18:30	s	121	N = via	Ne	vill			

#### The Next NRA Meeting – Monday 22 January 2018

All meetings take place in St Mary's Church Hall, at 8pm.

#### **Contact numbers:**

Alan Chapman	-	01273 483501
Sarah Neels	-	07504219256
Daphne Wyatt	-	01273 475966