



Newsletter

Spring 2026

www.nevillresidentsassociation.org

Chair: Carole Kirby

Treasurer: John Somerville

Secretary: Lesley Healey

Editor: Carole Kirby

Nevill Residents Association has managed to achieve another small improvement to the estate. Clear 'no entry' markings have been painted at the exit on Nevill Crescent. It is also liaising with our local councillor to improve parking arrangements across the estate to ease pinch points on the local bus route.

Report from the NRA Open Meeting: February 2026

Talking Rubbish – guest speaker Neil Peters

Neil Peters, LDC Community Recycling and Engagement Officer spoke to the meeting about the work of his Environment First team, and introduced the new rubbish collection programme. Nothing collected by LDC goes into landfill. The waste from the black bins is taken to the incinerator in Newhaven, which produces enough power to supply about 40,000 homes. The burnt waste products from the furnace are filtered into different materials, which can then be recycled.

Residents had already received recycling guidelines, but he empathised that items should be washed to avoid attracting vermin. Plastic bottles should be rinsed out and the lid put back on, but, for glass bottles and jars the lids should be removed. Toothpaste tubes, and ointments; as long as they are empty and the cap on, can be put into recycling. Spray dispensers with metal springs in the spray lid can also be recycled without breaking them up. For more detailed information: <https://www.leweseastbourne.gov.uk/wasteAtoZ>.

After collection the recycling is taken to Light Brothers, the south side of Cuilfail tunnel. Here it is visually checked for contamination. The recycling is then taken to Crayford in Kent where it is separated into different materials. Plastics are sorted out into types, bailed up and sold, mainly to firms abroad.



The food waste is sent to a woodland facility at Whitesmith. Here it is composted with garden waste. In about eight weeks it becomes a soil conditioner which is gifted to farmers. Neil reminded residents that food bins should be lined with 'compostable' bags that have a seedling logo, not

'biodegradable bags'. Compostable bags break down quickly. Free compostable bags can be collected from LDC shop in the precinct. He also warned that fats or oil should not be put in as they do not break down with other foods. They should be put in a container and then into the black household bin or taken to the recycling centre. More details of the recycling talk can be found in the minutes on the NRA website.

<https://www.nevillresidentsassociation.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/NRA-open-Feb-26-Minutes.pdf>

Please make sure your bins do not obstruct the pavement after collection. Remember wheelchairs, prams and pedestrians need to pass.

The Chair's report

Robert Massey has resigned from the committee. We are now looking for someone to take his place. Please think about volunteering. It is not very demanding.

As often said in this newsletter, NRA has managed to achieve lots of small improvements. In 2024 the association commissioned a feasibility study for improving pedestrian and cycling safety along Nevill Road. After Suzy Nelson, the last chair, and Carole Kirby walked along Nevill Road with ESCC Traffic Safety team, pointing out the issues raised in the study, they highlighted the problem with the Nevill Crescent exit onto Nevill Road. Lots of people on Nevill WhatsApp had complained that they had met cars coming in the wrong direction. Since the meeting, the white lines at the junction have been renewed and a large 'No Entry' written on the road. Also, the hedge has been lowered and the road signs more clearly visible.

Treasurer's Report

Since the treasurer's financial statement at the Open Meeting in October 2025 the association has not spent any money. It has £1,110 in the bank, of which £170 is for defibrillator maintenance. There will be other costs.

Lewes Town Master plan Workshop - Silvia Clausin

Silvia Clausin is a member of the Lewes Planning Group which has been created with the principal purpose of promoting or improving the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the residents and businesses living and operating in Lewes. Silvia came to the group as part of a programme called 'The School for Everyday Democracy'. Her role is facilitating and coordinating public engagement.

LPG organised the Lewes Town Masterplan Workshop event on the 22nd of October where they invited local authorities including SDNP, ESDC, LTC and ESCC, representatives of local groups and local experts. Two attendees were specifically nominated by NRA. Having all these people in the same room was unprecedented and it was a great opportunity for dialogue and to foster what they hope will be an ongoing engagement to create a town which serves us all. There were talks about the current situation in Lewes as well as a video titled 'Other Voices' which James Herbert and Silvia Clausin co-created; aiming to reach out to those who don't usually take part in consultations. After this there were a series of workshops:

1. Housing - including affordable housing.
2. Transport- including active travel, congestion, and public transport
3. Land use, infrastructure, and climate change

4. Employment, economy, and tourism
 5. Sports, culture, wellbeing, and leisure
 6. Public engagement for decision-making
- The local authorities praised the event and have continued to engage with the group.

Recently, a number of participants had a day with a transport and urban planning consultancy, with a very comprehensive visit around Lewes, including looking at difficult bus routes. The Nevill route caused the most stress to drivers, with Landport a close second. Several drivers have had time off work with stress.

Flooding with Sewage on Nevill Road – Brian Kirby

Last year a Nevill resident wrote to James MacCleary MP complaining of repeated sewage flooding on Nevill Road and seeking his assistance. The subsequent replies from Southern Water and ESCC were passed to NRA for information. Brian was shown these responses, aspects of which he thought questionable. So, he wrote to SW and ESCC for clarification. Their replies remained unconvincing, so Brian looked further and has now obtained some drainage drawings. The sewers in the Nevill area were constructed as 'combined' sewers (i.e. carrying waste and some roof drainage) during the 1920's and 1930's. It is now clear that all the highway drainage runs to soakaways. The primary reason for the sewage flooding is that one inspection chamber, at the junction of Nevill Road and Nevill Crescent, receives all the wastewater (kitchen, bathroom and toilet) and some of the roof run-off, from 637 houses. To this is added drainage from Christie Road. The only outflow from this chamber is a 9" diameter sewer pipe running South along Nevill Road towards the hospital. This 9" pipe is now inadequate for 21st domestic wastewater volumes plus the increasing surface water volumes caused by climate change. The result is that during heavy rain the inspection chamber fills until its lid is forced open and the sewage spills onto the road.

Sadly, there is no easy fix. SW are planning improvements at the Ham Lane pumping station, and say they will see if attenuation of the Nevill Road sewage flooding can be included.

Parking issues

ESCC is undertaking a two-year review of parking restrictions for Lewes District. Cllr Wendy Maples and Cllr Johnny Dennis will be making submissions to the review to relieve pinch points on the roads round Nevill estate to facilitate better access for fire engines, ambulances, buses etc.

Buses

The association is hoping to make an application for a bus clearway for the bus stop outside the shops. It has become very difficult for the 128 bus to pull up in front of the bus stop because of parked vehicles. Passengers either have to alight in the middle of the road or struggle up the slippery grass bank, which is very difficult for people with limited mobility. We hope residents will support this application.

It has been brought to the attention of the committee that there is a CTLA 129 bus service which links the bus stop opposite the Gallops and Victoria Hospital, Winterbourne, the railway station and the town centre. Buses leave the stop opposite the Gallops for the town

centre at: 10:05 10:55 12:25 13:55 Mon-Sat. Buses leave Friars Walk stop B for The Gallops at 09:54 10:44 12:14 13:44 Mon-Sat. This might well be useful for people struggling to get to the railway station.

Salt Bins

NRA is responsible for two salt bins on the estate, the top of Mount Harry Rd and the north end of Firlle Cres. Highways were asking over £300 to fill our bins, so the committee has decided it would be cheaper to buy their own supply of salt in bulk. Nevill Bonfire society has kindly agreed to store the bags on their land. The salt is supplied for residents to use on the road and pavement when conditions are icy. It is not for personal use.

Community Compost Proposals and a Nevill Trades Community Interest Company (CIC)

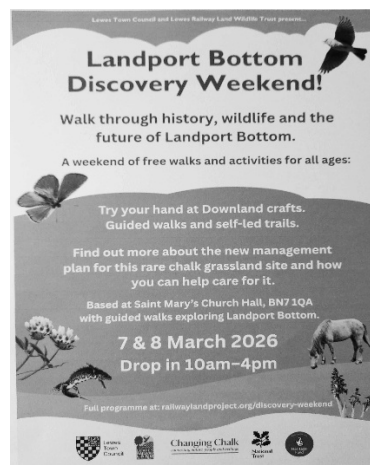
Luke Williams presented his idea for a community composting arrangement. He has set up a WhatsApp group for those interested. He also suggested that local traders should get together to form a CIC, although he was unsure how enthusiastic other traders on the estate were to his idea. It was suggested that Nevill Trades Directory WhatsApp Group should show who is based on Nevill. Contact Luke via the WhatsApp members list for more information.

Nevill Good Neighbours

Astonishingly, Nevill Good Neighbours is now entering its tenth year of operation. It is hard to believe that they first met some of the neighbours they are involved with all that time ago. As 'good neighbours' they provide telephone and face to face contact, lifts to appointments, and help with practical tasks from shopping to computers, to anyone living on the estate. All their volunteers are DBS checked, and their services are confidential and free of charge (apart from fuel contributions). A small group take turns to coordinate their activities, and about a dozen other volunteers respond to requests for help, supported by a committed and hardworking committee. To refer yourself or a friend or relative, please contact them by telephone (07548069063) and leave a message, or by email: nevillgoodneighbours@gmail.com

Landport Bottom Discovery Weekend:

Saturday 7th & Sunday 8th March, based at St Mary's Church Hall, Highdown Road, with guided walks, and crafts. All ages welcome. Tea and cake.



The Next NRA Meetings

Monday 20 April 2026 – AGM
Monday 21 September 2026 Open Meeting
All at 7.30pm St Mary's Hall, Highdown Road.

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