

GETTING RID OF GRAFFITI

One of the most irritating examples of criminal damage is street graffiti. It is unsightly, makes a place look uncared for and can be highly offensive. Whilst the 'art' is seen everywhere in our towns and cities, there is enough of it going on in Uttlesford that Neighbourhood Watch suggested recently that speedy removal of this mess would deter those who make the place look an eyesore. As a result, the Uttlesford Crime & Disorder Partnership has recently offered graffiti removal kits to Parish Councils throughout the District.

Your councillors

We have recently co-opted one new Councillor and welcome Lindsay Baillie to the Council.

Peter Arscott	541646	
Lindsay Baillie	541188	
Margaret Bowker	540737	
Ted Denyer	542554	
Charles Gilbank	543793	
Alan Johnson	543153	(Vice-Chairman)
Cherry Mitchell	540654	
Jeremy Rose	541114	
Malcolm Sell	541002	
John Smith	541498	
Andrew Yarwood	07714 708815	(Chairman, and District Councillor)
Ray Gooding	01279 813103	(County Councillor)
Peter Wilcock	01279 850198	(District Councillor)

Clerk:
Christine Griffin 01799 542541
Parish Office, 24 High Street, Newport CB11 3PH
clerk@newportpc.org

The Parish office is normally manned in the mornings, Monday to Thursday

visit our web site to see what's happening: www.newportvillage.co.uk

Profile: Lindsay Baillie

My family and I moved to Newport in 2004 from Elsenham. Originally from Glasgow, I moved firstly to Cambridge and then to London where I studied for a degree in Information Management at Thames Valley University in Ealing. My two children, Finn and Laura both go to Newport Primary, which they love. I sit on the Friends of Newport Primary Committee and currently am trying to raise funds for the Multi Sensory Garden

at the school. I also work for Essex Police as the Essex Watch Administrator for Uttlesford, and as such provide information and support for Neighbourhood and Farm Watch schemes.

I wanted to join the Parish Council as I felt that there should be some representation from parents who would understand what children need from the village.

Dates for your diary

Monday, 4th January
Full Council Meeting

Monday, 18th January
Planning Meeting

Monday, 1st February
Full Council Meeting

Monday, 15th February
Facilities Meeting

Monday, 1st March
Full Council Meeting

Monday, 15th March
Planning Meeting

Tuesday, 6th April
Full Council Meeting

Monday, 19th April
Facilities Meeting

All meetings are held in The Church House and commence at 7.30 p.m.

All meetings are open to the press and the public, and time is put aside for the public to address the Council.

Written questions should be sent to the Clerk at least five working days in advance of the meeting.

NEWPORT PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

December 2009



We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



New grants to make your home warmer and cheaper to run

Households in receipt of benefits* can benefit from up to 100% grants for replacement heating systems and renewable energy measures such as solar hot water systems that will help improve the energy rating of their home. Interest free loans are also available for other households to help them install measures such as solid wall insulation and renewables.

Even if you are not on benefits, you could benefit from cavity wall or loft insulation at a discounted price of £99*- an amount of

money which will quickly be saved on your heating bills. People on benefits and over 70 can get these measures free*.

Climate Energy Ltd, managing agent for the Herts Essex Energy Partnership (HEEP), are assisting in the delivery of a suite of energy efficiency measures in private homes across the two counties. The aim of the campaign is to reduce carbon emissions and cut fuel bills for thousands of householders.

The scheme is backed by 15 local authorities including Uttlesford District Council. To find out more, call HEEP free on **0800 980 6026** quoting UC1009 or visit www.heepgrant.org

* Subject to technical survey, qualifying criteria and availability of funding

JIKES HALL

It is some time since we reported on the use of Jikes Hall since the sharing arrangement with the Scouts and the Youth Club was established in 2007. The general view is that this has worked well and both organisations are providing much-needed facilities for our

young people. However, the building is too small and certainly beginning to show its age, so something needs to change in the future.

Earlier this year, the Parish Council with the support of the Scouts and the Youth Club successfully applied for outline planning permission to erect two linked buildings on the Recreation Ground adjacent to the

present Jikes Hall, and also set about applying for funding for the project.

Progress has been very encouraging and a joint group (similar to the Joint Steering Group which managed the modernisation of the Village Hall) has been established.

We will provide details in the next edition of the **PC News** to keep you up to date.

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

In almost every edition of **PC News** we have reported what we have been trying to do to make the village as safe as possible and to manage the ever increasing volume of traffic using the village. Most of our ideas need the support and funding from Essex County Council Highways, and this has proved to be a frustrating process. We have sought the support of our local County Councillor, Ray Gooding, and asked him to arrange a progress meeting with the Highways Officers to determine what work we can expect in the near future and how this is going to be organised. We'll keep you posted after we have this meeting.

We have seen proposals, and given our support, from the Free Grammar School on improving the safety of the access from the school on to Cambridge Road. However, we are making slow progress on improving the pedestrian arrangements in Bury Water Lane despite the wholly unsatisfactory lack of decent footpaths in this highly vulnerable area of the village.



PLAYGROUND

Thanks to our appeal for support and ideas in the last edition of **PC News**, The Playground Committee has developed some great new ideas for the rather tired equipment of Gaces Meadow.

The Parish Council has agreed to fund the upgrade of the safety surface for the aerial runway and the replacement of the bulky and high maintenance timber fencing with lower height metal fencing and new safety approved gates.

This work should be completed in the next few months, so that the Committee can then concentrate on working up ideas on new equipment and the provision of a wooden activity circuit after the removal of the overgrowth at the back of the site. This will link in with the aerial runway and should extend the appeal of the playground to older children. All of this will need some outside funding and applications are being submitted by the Committee.

QUALITY COUNCIL STATUS

Newport Parish Council became a Quality Council for the first time in 2005 for a four year period. Councillors agreed that the Council should apply to retain this status and, thanks to the hard work of our Parish Clerk, Christine Griffin, this has been confirmed. We hope you feel that you are being well-served by your Parish Council and would remind all parishioners that they are welcome to attend all Council meetings on the dates shown on the back page.

LIFE SAVER FOR VILLAGE

Newport Business Association (NBA), founded by Cllr Jeremy Rose this year, aims to represent businesses in Newport and the surrounding villages, has secured funding for a public access Automatic External Defibrillator machine to improve the survival prospects with anyone suffering a cardiac arrest before the ambulance service arrives. This type of equipment has proved to be a life saver and will be housed in secure box in a central location in the village.

NBA raised money for the equipment from member donations and Stansted Airport Community Fund. The Parish Council have agreed to cover the installation costs. More details in the next issue of **PC News**.



As the planning application for the Hastoe Housing development has moved forward to the final planning approval stage, it is clear that there are major concerns from those residents who live close to the site and others who may be affected by the surface water disposal.

Residents from Frambury Lane and London Road have attended three Council meetings to express their concerns, particularly relating to the extra traffic impact on the highly congested area adjacent to the Primary School, and the risk of flooding in the school and further afield in London Road and the Common.

The Parish Council and residents support the provision of much needed affordable housing for those with an association with Newport, and have taken careful account of the concerns of the parishioners. Our response to Uttlesford DC reflects this very forcibly. You can read the response by accessing the website www.newportvillage.co.uk and clicking Parish Council.

At the time of going to press, the developers have withdrawn their application.