

# Newton St Cyres Parish Council

## Winter Newsletter 2019



## Message from the Parish Council Chairman

Dear Parishioner,

It has been a busy time for your Parish Council since our last Annual Report back in April. Back then we were still waiting for the A377 resurfacing to take place and the pothole menace removed. Gladly that is now behind us.

Our next project is better control of the traffic along the A377 by the introduction of Average Speed Cameras and a village centre Pedestrian Crossing. Happily a lot of progress has been made and Devon County Council have agreed that something needs to be done – and soon. We are hopeful that the Crossing will be included in the 2020-21 budget, watch this space.

Since last writing our Village Shop and Post Office has closed. We are very close to getting a temporary outreach Post Office facility opened in the Parish Hall thanks to a lot of effort and support from the Parish Hall Committee. More information will appear in the excellent Newton Wonder.

The Parish Council organised a meeting to help set up a Community Shop Steering Group and they have got off to a quick start. A Questionnaire was delivered to all households in Newton St Cyres and the results show that a Community Shop would receive very wide support. As a result they are now seeking funding and plans are progressing apace. Longer term the Post Office facility may be incorporated too.

The Parish Council is presently exploring the setting up of a Community Land Trust which could lead to the building of Affordable Homes for rent in the village for occupation by those connected with our village. As I write a meeting of potential Steering Group volunteers is only days away and, if successful, work will start on confirming what is required and what land might be available.

As you can see your Parish Council continues to be active on behalf of our Community.

Happy Christmas to you all and a Prosperous New Year for our delightful Village.

Regards, Jim.

*Jim Enright, Chairman, Newton St Cyres Parish Council.*

*Tel: 01392 851859 Email: [jimenright@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:jimenright@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk)*

## **News about Council Activities**

### **The Village Defibrillators**

The Parish Council maintain two defibrillators: one at the Rec, and one in the old Telephone Kiosk in the village centre. Last summer the one at the Rec was used successfully to save someone's life, showing just how important an asset they are. We regularly check them and have them regularly maintained. Recently we decided to replace the one in the village centre as it was an older model and we were concerned about battery life.

### **Community Resilience**

The Parish Council published a community resilience plan in 2014 and has reviewed it every year since. The plan outlines what steps should be taken if a major incident takes place within the parish. This could be a consequence of extreme weather or other incidents such as fire or major road traffic accidents. The plan can be viewed on the Council website. Last summer we sent representatives to a conference on community resilience, where our plan was praised for its thoroughness. As part of the plan, some Councillors act as Flood Wardens and Snow Wardens. To facilitate communication with the emergency services, we recently bought high-vis labelled jackets for them. We maintain a tipping rain gauge to give us early warning of flooding by the Shuttern Brook. Currently we are looking to see if we can improve the way it automatically communicates with nominated people. We are also investing in more training for our wardens.

### **Community Speed Watch**

A community speed watch group was set up by the Parish Council some years ago with great success. Recently, at the request of the police, we have not been taking readings. However, we are now liaising closely with the police and hope to resume taking readings soon.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

A Neighbourhood Watch scheme is operated by the Parish Council. The Coordinator, Cllr Damian Hodge, meets regularly with the local police.

### **Litter Picking**

Our village is largely free of litter. Partly this is due to the residents, who take care not to leave litter or are prepared to pick up the odd bit. Our refuse collectors too are pretty good at taking all our rubbish (although it is worth keeping an eye on your rubbish on windy days – what's not weighted down

does tend to fly away). However we also have a dedicated team of litter pickers, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank them very much for all their efforts. We could always do with more help and if you are prepared to spend a few hours every month or two picking up litter, we are able to supply you with a litter picker, plastic sacks and a high-vis jacket.

### **Parish Footpaths**

The Parish Council help to maintain a large number of footpaths, ensuring that stiles and gates are maintained, and vegetation is cleared to make them passable. You can find a map of our footpaths on the Council website. A leaflet has been published showing suggested walks using these footpaths. Pick one up from outside the village hall or at a Parish Council Surgery.

### **Community assets**

While the County Council is responsible for cutting verges around the village, we maintain the village green and cut the grass in the church graveyard. We also maintain some benches, the bus shelters and the two old telephone kiosks. There is a thriving book exchange in each kiosk. Please do take advantage of the scheme.

### **Allotments**

The Parish Council has some allotments available for rent at the edge of the main village. They are very reasonably priced at £20 per annum. We have spare allotments and would always welcome new tenants.

### **Supporting local groups**

We regularly meet and provide support for many local groups including the Arboretum, the Parish Hall, the Recreation Ground and the Boniface Trail Association.

### **Getting involved**

We would welcome more involvement from our parishioners. There is a range of opportunities: attending Council meetings, becoming involved with one of our groups or renting an allotment. If you would like to know more, please contact the appropriate Councillor from the list on the next pages.

## **Recognition of Outstanding Voluntary Service to the Community**

The Parish Council recognises that some parishioners make outstanding contributions to the community. Every year, we recognise the contribution of one such individual. A Roll of Honour is kept and the individual receives a framed certificate. This year's winner was Peter Hawksley for his contribution to the Newton Wonder magazine and website.

Nominations are currently being sought for the award for 2020. The nominee should live within the Parish or within three miles of the Parish boundary and must have made a significant contribution to the Parish.

Nominations need to be with the Parish Clerk by the first of February 2020 and will be considered at the March Council meeting. The winner will be announced at the Annual Parish Meeting in May. The nomination should include the details of the nominee's contribution.

## **Your Local Representatives**

### **Devon County Councillor**

Cllr Margaret Squires, Frostlands Farm, Copplestone, Crediton EX17 5NY 01363 84337 [margaret.squires@devon.gov.uk](mailto:margaret.squires@devon.gov.uk)

### **Mid Devon District Councillor**

Cllr Graeme Barnell, Halses, West Town Road, Newton St Cyres, Exeter, EX5 5BS 01392 851308 – [gbarnell@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:gbarnell@middevon.gov.uk)

### **Parish Councillors**

Cllr Jim Enright, Woodlea, Langford, Newton St Cyres, EX5 5AG (Chairman) 01392 851859 – [jimenright@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:jimenright@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk) Chairman, Community Engagement officer, Development Group, Raddon Hills Parish Councils Group, Parish Hall Car Park Group member and member of the Staff and Personnel Committee.

Cllr Roger Cashmore, 27 The Glebe, Thorverton, Exeter, EX5 5LS 01392 860053 – [rogercashmore@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:rogercashmore@newtonstcyres-pc.gov.uk) Churchyard Liaison,

Flood/Emergency Plan Integration Officer, Raddon Hills Parish Councils Group member.

CLLr Damien Hodge, 2 Tytheing Close, Newton St Cyres, Exeter, EX5 5DB 01392 851111 – [damienhodge@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:damienhodge@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk) Arboretum Management Group Liaison, Neighbourhood Watch Officer, Risk Assessment of Assets.

CLLr Liz Ouldrige, Kuredu, New Estate, Newton St Cyres, Exeter, EX5 5AR 01392 851621 – [lizouldridge@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:lizouldridge@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk) Press Officer, Allotment Officer, Neighbourhood Litter Officer.

CLLr Stephen Parker, Lilly Farm, Newton St Cyres EX5 5BY 01392 851505 – [stephenparker@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:stephenparker@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk) Boniface Trail Representative, Parish Footpath Officer, Raddon Hills Parish Councils Group member.

CLLr Gina Quicke, 36 West Town Road, Newton St Cyres, EX5 5BS 01392 851627 – [ginaquicke@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:ginaquicke@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk) Development Group member, Primary School Link, Parish Hall Representative, Staff and Personnel Committee member, Risk Assessment of Assets.

CLLr Graham Scopes, Fairview, Half Moon Village, Newton St Cyres, EX5 5AB 01392 851375- [grahamscopes@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:grahamscopes@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk) Community Speed Watch Officer, Snow Warden and Co-ordinator.

CLLr Chris Southcott, Barn Owl Cottage, Newton St Cyres, EX5 5AX 01392 851569 – [chrissouthcott@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:chrissouthcott@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk) Highways and Railways Liaison Officer, Recreation Ground Representative.

CLLr Paul Taylor, 6 Woodlands, Newton St Cyres, EX5 5BP 01392 851604 – [paultaylor@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:paultaylor@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk) Development Group Member, Staff and Personnel Committee Member, Training Officer

Parish Clerk, Jane Hole, The Cellar, Pump Street, Newton St Cyres, Exeter, EX5 5BY 01392 851148 - [parishclerk@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@newtonscyres-pc.gov.uk) Website/Facebook Officer

## **Communicating with your Parish Council**

The Parish Council welcomes members of the public to all their meetings. They are all on the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in the month at 7 pm in the Parish Hall Clubroom.

The next Annual Parish Meeting will be on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020 7:00 to 7:30pm in the Parish Hall Clubroom.

We hold surgeries where members of the public can talk to a Councillor. These are held in conjunction with Saturday Coffee Mornings in the Parish Hall from 10.30am to noon.

The Parish Council has both a website and a Facebook page. The website, <https://parish.middevon.gov.uk/newtonstcyres>, contains copies of Minutes, Policies and other important Council documents. Every month the agenda for the forthcoming meeting is posted on the website. There is also a link to the Footpaths Map here. The Parish Council Facebook page is interactive. It contains up-to-date information on Planning Applications received and any Road Closure notices etc.

There are Parish Notice Boards at the locations below. These display important Parish Council documents and are also available for local organisations to use. They are not available for commercial advertising.

Langford - Half Moon

Central Newton St Cyres: - Sand Down Lane, Tytheing Close and the Village Green

Sweetham - Station Cross

Smallbrook

### **Community Magazine**

The Newton Wonder community magazine is produced monthly (with the exception of January) and can be delivered to your house. The magazine is independent from the Parish Council, although you will find a summary of our monthly meetings there. If you would like to receive a copy please contact Gerry on 851504. The magazine is always looking for articles, coming events etc. Copy date is 15th of the month. All articles should be sent to the Editor, [editor@newtonwonder.net](mailto:editor@newtonwonder.net). The magazine also supports a village website, [www.newtonwonder.net](http://www.newtonwonder.net) this is updated regularly by the editor of the Newton Wonder.

