



NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2013

Available on the website +++ Emailed on request
Collect your own from boxes on Parish Council Noticeboards.

www.newtonpopplefordpc.co.uk

HOW TO GET YOUR NEWSLETTER

Henceforth the Parish Council Newsletter will be available for collection from boxes at parish council noticeboards or by email.

Please send an e-mail to:

newtonpopplefordcouncilnews@gmail.com
and we will email future issues of the newsletter to you. Please note this e-mail address is NOT for correspondence, it is purely so we can send you information.

Correspondence can still be emailed to the Clerk using the existing email address:
parishclerk@newtonpopplefordpc.co.uk

If you have difficulty in collecting a newsletter please contact us and we will try to deliver to your address.

The Parish Council would like to thank those volunteers who have been out in sun, wind and rain to distribute newsletters since the newsletter started 10 years ago.

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(H)ALL CHANGE IN HARPFORD

On 31st December 2012, after many years of managing Harpford Village Hall, the hall committee handed the hall over to Church authorities for them to administer in future.

In the 1980's the hall was virtually derelict and abandoned, so a group of residents decided to form a committee to raise funds to bring it back into use as an amenity for local people to use and enjoy. They were very successful in their endeavours and ever since the hall has been looked after by successive committees of volunteer villagers.

The committee had hoped to obtain outright ownership of the hall, either by a possessory title claim through the Land Registry, or by persuading the Church to donate it to the village. If that had been achieved the plan was for the hall committee to be 'formalised' by holding a village AGM, where a committee would be elected and accounts presented etc.

However, after months of communication and negotiation with the Diocese of Exeter and after

taking legal advice, the committee decided neither of these options was achievable. The Church authorities instead offered the committee the choice of either a fully repairing maintenance lease over 25 years for a peppercorn rent, or to purchase the property, neither of which were on terms acceptable to the committee.

Finally the committee decided enough was enough and agreed unanimously to step aside and let the Church administer the hall in future, but before doing so they wanted to hold a village meeting to explain the position to the villagers. A meeting was held in late November where a brief history of events and the committee's decision was presented to the villagers and after some discussion accepted by those present.

Therefore, on 31st December 2012 the keys to the hall were posted to the Property Services Department of the Diocese of Exeter.

Let us just hope that the Church authorities continue to maintain the building to the high standard achieved by the hall committee and that it will soon be open for hire once more so that it remains an asset to the people of Harpford

Outgoing Harpford Village Hall Committee

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OLD PHOTOS OF THE PARISH

A collection of old photos of this area have been begged, borrowed and otherwise acquired resulting in a collection going back to the late 1890s (I think).

Any additions would be greatly appreciated so that these can be included in the archive. Old photos or postcards can be scanned in and the originals returned safely to the owner, but the record kept electronically for posterity.

If you have any old photos/postcards etc. of the area that I may borrow and return, please contact me: Shân Merritt at Venn Ottery Barton, telephone 01404 812733.

A DVD copy of all the archived photos will be available to anyone who would like a copy (for just the small cost of a blank rewritable DVD or a memory stick).

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Anyone may comment on a planning application, either to **support** or to **object**. Supporting is quite simple, but to lodge an objection it is important to ensure that the **grounds of objection are valid**.

Planning applications can have conditions attached by EDDC if they are granted permission. Conditions can be very broad-ranging, but might **for example** be to provide additional facilities to the locality, to restrict use in some ways, or to hand over a sum of money that can be used to benefit the district (e.g. towards building social housing).

When a landowner or developer proposes some fairly large development they sometimes offer some beneficial arrangement as part of the application, so that the locality can be improved as part of the new development.

DECIDING A PLANNING APPLICATION (Approval or Refusal)

The **decision-making authority in this area is East Devon District Council**. EDDC consults about the plans with our District Councillor, the Parish Council, Devon County Council (highways etc.), the Environment Agency (flooding etc.), and other appropriate bodies depending on the application under consideration. It is important to remember that the Parish Council cannot make a decision: it can only make a recommendation.

If you wish to support or object to a planning application, you should write or email your comments to EDDC. A copy should be sent at the same time to the Parish Council so that your comments can be taken into consideration before the PC makes their recommendation to EDDC. There are tight timescales for lodging letters of support or objection; these are shown in the details of each planning application on the EDDC website. **See below in next section for a summary of valid reasons for objection.**

If a planning application is refused and the applicant still wishes to proceed he has 2 options:

1. Submit a **further application** taking account of the reasons for the refusal. This is a 'free go' and must be submitted within 12 months of the refusal. (Only 1 free go per application.)

2. **Lodge an appeal** with the Planning Inspectorate. In this case the decision is out of the hands of the local councils, and indeed it is quite possible that any beneficial arrangements may be lost.

At EDDC, approximately 90% of planning applications are decided under delegated powers. This means that if EDDC and the consultees are in agreement, then the decision is made without going to the Development Management Committee.

When consultees do not agree then the application may be taken to the Development Management Committee. If an application goes to the DMC then members of the public may make a short speech in support or objecting to the application. The time is strictly limited to 3 minutes per speaker and if there are many speakers then a spokesman (or sometimes a few spokesmen) should be nominated to present the points without repeating previously stated objections.

What is a valid objection to a planning application?

The Local Planning Authority (LPA), in our case EDDC, can only take into account '**material planning considerations**' when looking at your comments. The most common of these material considerations (although not an exhaustive list) are shown below:

- * Loss of light or overshadowing
- * Overlooking/loss of privacy
- * Visual amenity (but not loss of private view)
- * Adequacy of parking/loading/turning
- * Highway safety
- * Traffic generation
- * Noise and disturbance resulting from use
- * Hazardous materials
- * Smells
- * Loss of trees
- * Effect on listed building and conservation area
- * Layout and density of building
- * Design, appearance and materials
- * Landscaping
- * Road access
- * Local, strategic, regional and national planning policies
- * Government circulars, orders and statutory instruments
- * Disabled persons' access

- * Compensation and awards of costs against the Council at public enquiries
- * Proposals in the Development Plan
- * Previous planning decisions (including appeal decisions)
- * Nature conservation
- * Archaeology

The council cannot take into account matters which are sometimes raised but are not normally planning considerations such as:

- * The perceived loss of property value
- * Private disputes between neighbours
- * The loss of a view
- * The impact of construction work or competition between firms
- * Restrictive covenants
- * Ownerships disputes over rights of way
- * Fence lines etc
- * Personal morals or views about the applicant.

Please note: it is important to understand that the material considerations relevant to any particular application will need to be weighed in the final decision process according to their seriousness and relative importance.

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NEXT BLOOD DONOR SESSIONS

Ottery St Mary, Football Club: 19/04/13
West Hill Village Hall: 3/04/13

Ring **0300 123 23 23** for appointments or book on-line at www.blood.org.uk

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GARDEN WASTE

Spring is on its way (I hope!), so the weeds will be growing, grass need cutting, and other outdoor jobs will start to produce waste. If you can compost at home that's great, but if this is not possible then private individuals can take the waste to the recycling centre, or get Otter Rotters to collect from the kerbside outside your house.

You can buy Otter Rotters bags (£4 each) and tags (£1.25 each) from Home Hardware in Sidmouth, or buy on-line through their website www.otterrotters.co.uk or phone them on 01404 549055 or 07837 477050. You must also register with Otter Rotters prior to your first collection so they know you are in



the scheme!. Collections in this parish take place on **alternate Wednesdays**.

Please don't ask a professional gardener to take away your garden waste, unless you are willing to pay for this service. Gardeners are charged a hefty fee for an annual licence to take waste to a recycling centre, plus a charge for every load.

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COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The next election for Devon County Council will be held on 2nd May 2013. The Notice of Election will be posted on 26th March, and the last date for receipt of nominations will be 12 noon on Friday 5th April 2013.

Full details available on the DCC website:
www.devon.gov.uk

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NOTES FROM OUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR

I visited Newton Poppleford Primary two weeks ago with, Chris Dyer, an officer from DCC who is engaged in planning schools repairs and maintenance. The school is one of several schemes that DCC put to Government and look as though it is still on the cards for 2015. It is a PFI scheme and Newton Poppleford is on the list because of the state of some of the present buildings, e.g. there are still some HORSAs huts. It is both the view of DCC and the current Headteacher that any new school should be built on the current site.

I am visiting Newton Poppleford next Wednesday at 10am with Brian Lamb, who has joined the flood management team. I will let you know the outcome of that visit.

Christine Channon - County Councillor
15/2/13

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DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S COLUMN

Winter is ending, daylight hours are getting longer and, who knows, we might even get some sunshine one day ...?

East Devon District Council is close to finalising its Local Plan. (Monday, 14th January was the last day for public comment.) After final deliberation by EDDC, it will be considered by an independent planning inspector, who will hold a public enquiry.

Meanwhile, Newton Poppleford has some interesting planning applications to consider. I do urge as many as can to attend Parish Council meetings to hear the deliberations. Please keep an eye on the Parish Council website at www.newtonpopplefordpc.co.uk and noticeboards for details.

For many years now, Central Government has been favouring urban areas with a greater proportion of funding than rural areas. As you probably know, there were 2 debates held on 11th and 13th February in the House of Commons on this subject. It is disappointing to

report that rural areas will still be disadvantaged. An additional one-off £8.5 million was found but this still means that the total grant to rural authorities has fallen about 2% more than to urban authorities. East Devon District Council is a member of the Local Government Association and its Rural Services Network arm, and it does all it can to promote the interests of rural communities.

Ken Potter - District Councillor



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COUNCILLORS AS AT MARCH 2013

Name	Tel.	Address	Ward
PARISH COUNCILLORS			
Jean Clarke	01395 568815	Thornlea, Exeter Rd, Newton Pop EX10 0BJ	N Pop
Maureen Cook	01395 568348	24 Littledown Orchard, Newton Pop EX10 0BQ	N Pop
Dave Jeffery	01395 568897	Old Orchard, Burrow EX10 0BP	N Pop
George Pearce	01395 568571	25 Turner Close, Newton Pop EX10 0EN	N Pop
Graham Salter	0798 0798 628	(Newton Pop)	N Pop
Ed Slattery	01395 567111	7 Down Close, Newton Pop, EX10 0JD	N Pop
Bill Phillips	01395 567786	7 Chestnut Way, Newton Poppleford EX10	Harpford
Mark Sanders	01395 568052	Luscombe, Back Lane, Newton Pop EX10 0EZ	Harpford
Derek Simmonds	01395 567751	Westfield, Lower Way, Harpford EX10 0NQ	Harpford
Hazel Jeffery	01395 567821	The Stables, Hoppins, Southerton, EX11 1SD	Harpford
Chris Cole - Vice Chair / Chairman pro-tem	01395 567621	Court Barn, Southerton EX11 1SE	Venn Ottery
County Cllr Christine Channon	01395 442927	12 Cricket Field Court, Cricket Field Lane, Budleigh Salterton	N/A
District Cllr Ken Potter	01395 567147	Bayford Lodge, Exmouth Road, Newton Pop	N/A
Clerk to Council David Atkins	01395 264003	Potters, Lympstone Hill, Exmouth EX8 5AF parishclerk@newtonpopplefordpc.co.uk	N/A
Local Police Officer Dave Wallace	08452 777444		N/A
Website & Newsletter Shân Merritt	01404 812733	Venn Ottery Barton, Venn Ottery, EX11 1RZ webmaint@newtonpopplefordpc.co.uk	N/A
Pavilion David Zirker		Brookfields, Venn Ottery Rd.	

The Parish Council meets monthly, with additional or interim meetings as necessary. **From March 2013 the monthly meetings will be held on the last Monday of each month - check noticeboards/website for details. Correspondence should be addressed to the Clerk to the Council.**