

New Farnley Community Newsletter



Issue 12 Spring 2014

Proposed Site Allocations In New Farnley

Proposed Land Development on fields between Castle Ings Gardens and Low Moor Side effecting properties that back onto this field which include Walsh Lane, Whitehall Road and the surrounding areas of the New Farnley Village.

In June 2013 a number of residents living adjacent to the proposed sites received letters informing them about the proposals, various members of the Vision Group had been contacted by residents enquiring if we had any additional information. Due to the recent approval and adoption in April 2013 of "The New Farnley Design Statement" which is part of the Leeds Local Development Framework and is a Statutory Development Plan for the area and therefore should be used as material in considering any planning application within the area it covers.

The members of the Vision Group **DID NOT** know anything about these proposals and as a result of the many concerns raised, residents and the New Farnley Vision Group came together to campaign against the proposed land developments. The following actions were taken.



A member of the community organised a petition of which almost 8000 people signed against the proposal.

Members from the NFVG immediately visited Leeds Planning based



at Leonardo Buildings and obtained all the appropriate booklets etc about the "proposed site allocations"

Numerous copies of the booklets and comment slips for residents to put their views forward were distributed around the village and at strategic points including the Community Centre, local GP surgeries St James Church, mobile libraries, Lancasterian School Room, Farnley Hall and other venues

The Vision Group arranged an urgent members meeting and agreed to send out an extra newsletter which was distributed to every household in New Farnley

Peter Baker the Architect commissioned by the NFVG also wrote an article for the newsletter advising residents of the importance of the Village Design Statement and encouraged residents to refer to the document.

Our local ward councillors also supported the campaign, Cllr David Blackburn invited residents to his surgery held at the New Farnley Community Centre,

Cllr Hardy attended an additional Vision Group meeting and met with residents,

At the Lancasterian School Room Village Fete held last year the group held an information stall about the proposed development.

The NFVG also wrote a letter to the Council expressing concerns

that the Village Design Statement Document had not been consulted. As a result of the complaint, the group were invited to give a speech about their concerns, at a full council meeting which consisted of 99 local ward councillors and chaired by the Lord Mayor of Leeds.

A deputation held at the Civic Hall on Wednesday 15th January 2014 attended by members of the NFVG including the Chairperson Steve Fletcher, Secretary Christine Edmunds, Treasurer Jenny Jamieson and Project Co-ordinator Maggie Thompson.

Maggie Thompson read out the speech which had been prepared earlier by the group expressing serious concerns about the appalling consultation process.

(Please note the deputation can be seen on the Leeds City Council webcast, simply google Leeds City Council Meeting webcast 15th January and follow the link for deputations.)

Response to the Deputation

In the response to the deputation the group were praised for their initiative in working with local councillors and residents who live directly alongside the proposed land. They noted that the N.F.V.G. had arranged letters to be printed and delivered to all residents in New Farnley. At a District wide level, it was not possible to write to all residents in New Farnley, therefore the council would like to thank the group for raising awareness within the area.

The group have been reassured that they will be kept informed of any further developments regarding this matter; we will keep residents informed of any information that we may receive.

The Vision Group - What We Do

The members of the Vision Group work very hard on behalf of the community, we lobby, write letters, email, telephone and basically bombard local councillors with requests on issues that affect the residents of New Farnley. Whether it is the bus service, children's play area, speed limits, horse manure, dog waste, proposed planning and maintaining the history and ethos of the village - we will fight for the right action to be taken.

Over the past months we have been lobbying the local council and planning department on a few problems where planning permission and strict guidelines of building have not been adhered to, which may mean that the building work involved in these issues may have to be taken down and started again.

We have on your behalf spoke at the Council Meetings with regard to the proposed building on the field between Castle Ings Gardens and Low Moor Side, at this moment in time the Butterfly Field land is being withdrawn from sale.



We have managed to get the speed limit reduced on Whitehall Road from 50mph to 40mph; the speed limit will be reduced to 20mph along Lawns Lane through the Maples and onto Chapel Lane. We are also in discussion with Leeds City Council with regard to a pedestrian island on Whitehall Road just above the bus stop at Woolley Avenue, although we are not sure how long this will take we will persevere with this on the grounds of public safety.

We have an on-going problem with dog waste and litter and some people will say there are not enough bins around! well within the small park in the middle of the



village there are over 10 bins and we are awaiting more bins being installed on the outskirts of the village. We have requested these to go at the top of Low Moor Side, Walsh Lane and down Whitehall Road.

However we can have as many bins as possible but it is up to everyone to keep the village tidy, so please do look after our village it is a nice village and together we can make it look better - thanks.

These are just a few of the issues that we undertake on behalf of the community, if people raise issues with us then we will do our best to resolve the issues for you - but these things do take time, so please be patient. We are in regular contact with various Councillors who serve and assist the community in many ways.



Feeling the pinch?

If you feel you need assistance for free advice contact:

Armley One Stop Centre 0113 395089, Leeds Citizens Advice Bureau 0844 477 4788

If you have been a victim or know someone who has been a victim of Scams and Fraud contact any of the following:

West Yorkshire Trading Standards 0845 404 0506, Stop Loan Sharks 0300 555 2222 or email: stoploan sharks@leeds.gov.uk

Check out the West Leeds Debt Forum on

www.westleedsdebtforum.com

Gardening Club

With spring around the corner Farnley people are getting ready to welcome the influx of vibrant greenery and colourful flowers as nature whets our gardening appetite. In the forefront will be Moor Top and district Gardening Club members who will already have made their gardening preparations in anticipation of another good gardening year.

Although there is so much to do in the garden they still find time to attend the regular monthly meeting in the Lancasterian Schoolroom (always a well attended event). Indeed the club operates at maximum capacity and has a waiting list of enthusiastic would be members.

Some activities spill out into the community thus providing social interest to many supporters who attend these special events - The annual plant sale and the annual Show and of course the club's involvement with the Village Fete.

Additionally the club will again compete at the Leeds Flower Show in August at the Leeds Grammar School. Their attractive displays in the Societies Class have earned Gold awards for the last two years and hopefully a Best in Show award will be the target this time.

The club appreciates the support it receives, thanks all those who give it and looks forward to seeing you all at the 2014 events listed below.

Upcoming Events:

Saturday 17th May - Plant at the Community Centre at 10.00am

Saturday 5th July - Village Fete, Lancasterian School Room 2.00pm

Saturday 16th August - Annual Show at the Community Centre 2.00pm.



The Lancasterian Schoolroom BiCentary

On 15th November trustees of the Lancasterian Hall came together to welcome David Thornton a local author and historian, to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the schoolroom. The Lancasterian Schoolroom was founded in 1813 and renovated 1875, it was set up initially to educate 500 boys, a library was formed for the elder boys to use, and the elements of mathematical drawing were taught. The schoolroom is now used for local community purposes, i.e. Summer Faye, Christmas Carols, Women's Institute (WI), Moor Top & District Gardening Club, New Farnley in Bloom, Church of England services (once per month) functions and meetings. The building is a landmark on Low Moor Side Lane and is separated from the built-up area of Upper Moor Side.

David Thornton gave a fascinat-



ing talk about the history of the schoolroom and the surrounding area, what the schoolroom was originally used for and how the community use it now.

We had a book launch "The Bi-Centary of the Lancasterian School Room" which David signed and Pie and Peas were on sale £3. It was a wonderful and entertaining evening with a knowledgeable insight into the schools history.

Neighbourhood Action

As some of you may be aware, here at Neighbourhood Action, we are very fortunate to have a minibus which we share with another

Older People's Service - OWLS (Older Wiser Local Seniors), based in Headingley.

Having access to the minibus does help us organise regular trips and activities for our members and service users, with the 14 seater-plus driver and volunteer, often en-

route to Morley & Crossgat for shopping, pub lunches and one off trips, such as a recent one to the filming of Countdown, at Salford Quays.

Because we share the bus it is not always possible to have it as often as we would like but we are hoping to expand on our days and time if there is enough demand, and may be able to hire it out to other Community Groups in the near future - so watch this space!

I look forward to meeting you all at Neighbourhood Action events.

News from your Local NPT

NFVG making links with NPT

Recently there has been several thefts of lead from business premises on Chapel Lane. There has been several thousand pounds worth of lead stolen. If anyone has any information regarding this or feels they have witnessed anything important please contact us on 0113 2414999. **Farnley Neighbourhood Policing Team** have increased patrols in this area and have been advising companies on ways of improving their security. Several steps have already been taken to improve overall security in the area. Officers from Pudsey Police Station are also working closely with scrap metal dealers across the West Leeds area to prevent anyone cashing in metal which may have been obtained by illegal means

Residents in Farnley are being asked to take care and keep an eye on their neighbours, especially those who may be elderly and/or living on their own. There has recently been an incident on Kirkdale Grove where a vulnerable adult has been repeatedly targeted by thieves who have entered her property and removed items without her permission. We would urge residents to report any suspicious incidents on the police non-emergency number of 101. Local PCSOs will continue to patrol the area to ensure offenders are apprehended.

Tree Planting

We are very pleased to receive a donation from Mick Waring, Area Officer for Environment & Neighbourhoods Directorate Parks and Countryside has very kindly contributed 4 Sorbus Trees (Mountain Ash) which have been planted in the village. Two have been planted in the park on the grass at the side of the multi play unit basketball area. The other two trees have been planted at the top of the village green in front of the Community Centre.

On behalf of the community we have contacted Mr Waring to thank him for his support as these trees will add to the rural surroundings of the village.

What's on corner

The New Farnley Vision Group website has a host of activities to view that are held at:-

Lancasterian School Room:

There will be a Car Boot/Table top sale on Sunday 6th April 10.00am to 1.00pm - £5.00 per table.

The Lancasterian School Room's Summer Village Fete will be held on Saturday 5th July 2014, 2 - 4 pm - so come along.

To hire the school room contact Jenny Jamieson (Treasurer) Tel: 2853536

Community Centre:

(Gardening Club) Saturday 17th May - Plant at the Community Centre at 10.00am

Saturday 16th August - Annual Show at the Community Centre 2.00pm

Band Concerts:

New Farnley Hall Park:

1st June, Horsforth Leeds City Band

13th July, Leeds Central Corps, of The Salvation Army

New Farnley Village Park:

6th July, Horsforth Leeds City Band

10th August, West Yorkshire Brass Band

New Farnley in Bloom

New Farnley In Bloom have continued to work hard this year, in close partnership with our friends from the New Farnley Bowling Green, New Farnley Community Centre, St Jame's Church and particularly with Michael Waring from Parks and Countryside who is based at Farnley Hall.



All the 26 tubs situated around the village have had various seasonal planting, and the Spring bulbs have been a wonderful splash of colour helping all the weeks of wind and rain be a fading memory.

At the last NFIB meeting 4th February 2014 Michael Waring kindly attended and gave the group an update of the work his team had undertaken around New Farnley which have included.

Additional flower beds have been introduced to New Farnley Park, with the possibility of further planting to be undertaken.

Thousands of bulbs have been planted amongst the shrubs in the park.

There has been regular maintenance of the park and more recently his team have pruned all the shrubs hanging over the footpath leading down to the Co-op.

The entrance to Farnley Hall Park from Lawns Lane is regularly maintained and is looking lovely.

The 'Upper Moor Side Village Green' which is an adopted Village Green (adjacent to the Woodcock) is maintained on a regular basis, and more recently Parks and Countryside have planted additional shrubs to the boundary wall of the green to help improve the environment. During the meeting members enquired about other issues which Parks and Countryside may be able

to support these included additional litter bins.

Horse Riders using the New Farnley Community Village Green as a bridle path, it was suggested further tree planting may help. Parks and Countryside would help support this. (since the meeting some new trees have been planted by his team)

Summer planting will take place towards the end of May/June using

a theme of red and white begonias & lobelia to commemorate the First World War.

There was also a suggestion to use some red poppies which would be very vibrant reminder.

We will introduce some small shrubs around the New Farnley Community Centre's Village Green sign and some summer planting.

Finally the NFIB is pleased to announce that after negotiating with Leeds City Council and the Highway's Team they have secured sponsorship for the large traffic island to the junction of Back Lane, Whitehall Road and Gildersome Lane.

We are anticipating that they will start the work in April of this year, the New Farnley In Bloom is open to all residents and we would welcome anyone to come along to our informal meetings. The next meeting which will be held at the Lancasterian School Room on 12th May at 1.00pm, any ideas and suggestions are welcome.

New Farnley In Bloom Members



Bowling Club

The New Farnley Bowling Club held their Awards Evening in the Community Centre as usual; the hall was packed with members and friends who were all eager to hear who had won which award.

John Ingham was the Master of Ceremony with quips and humorous quotes throughout the ceremony and Julie Henderson presented the trophies.

The evening was wonderful each winner collecting their trophy to the sound of applause and cheers. As the evening wore on the food was served to everyone's delight followed by music and dancing – a thoroughly enjoyable evening for everyone involved. Congratulations to all the winners.

Photographs of some of the winners.



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