



Newent Town Council and Burial Authority

NEWSLETTER

December 2021

Issue 2

1st Floor
Newent Community Centre
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Gloucs. GL18 1BD

Welcome

Dear reader, welcome to the latest edition of the Newent Town Council Newsletter.

Over the coming months we will aim to provide information that is useful and interesting.

If you have any relevant articles or information that could be of interest to Newent residents, please forward it to the Town Clerk.

townclerk@newenttowncouncil.gov.uk

Newent Community School & Sixth Form Centre Remembrance Service 11th November 2021



Rhys Phillips, Acting Head, of the school, invited representatives and dignitaries from the local community to assemble with the whole school to observe a two-minute silence, at 11am on Thursday 11th November.

Guest speakers were Rev. Simon Mason of St Mary's Church & Richard Balding, Chairman of the Newent & District British Legion branch.

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Newent Town Council elected representatives were present.

The service concluded with the laying of a wreath as a memorial to those ex-students who lost their lives in conflict.

Newent Town Council Remembrance Service Sunday 14th November.

Newent Town Council held its Remembrance Service on Sunday 14th November.

Deputy Mayor Councillor Mrs Mary Duffield and District Councillor Mr Phillip Burford were amongst the many who laid wreaths at the Service.



The Service was led by Rev. Simon Mason from St Mary's Church Newent, and Richard Balding, Chairman of the Newent & District Royal British Legion branch.



The event also marked the 100th Anniversary of The Royal British Legion.



Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations 2022

There will be year-long Platinum Jubilee celebrations throughout the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and around the world as communities come together to celebrate The Queen's historic reign.

Beacons are being lit throughout the United Kingdom at 9.15pm local time on 2nd June 2022, in celebration of The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

A Platinum Jubilee website, has been launched

www.royal.uk/platinum-jubilee-central-weekend

If events are being organised, please add your information to their website.

Contain Outbreak Management Fund 2021/22

Newent Town Council has been successful in its funding application to the FoDDC's 'Contain Outbreak Management Fund 2021/22'.

Newent Town Council is to receive £1,520.

This will enable us to move forward on several projects including: -

- Works around the Lake
- Updating the Town Council website
- Having printed copies of the Town Council Newsletter (January, February & March) for distribution to the public
- Encouraging footfall into the local area for businesses

This is all related to encouraging individuals to be aware of social distancing, taking measures to mitigate against Covid-19 and personal health and well-being strategies.



Newent Town Council's Christmas Lights Switch

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!

The event was held on Saturday 20th November.



Thank you to Santa, Pudsey and the young people from a local school who switched on the lights for the town.



Let there be Snow!



Newent Town Council would like to thank all those involved in the event.

Dogs must be kept on leads at Newent Lake and Watery Lane recreation ground - Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO)



A Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO) proposes to deal with a particular nuisance in a particular area that is having a detrimental effect on the quality of life for those in the local community.

It can prohibit certain things or require specific things to be done.

The Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) in place at Newent Lake grounds and the Watery Lane recreation ground (including Newent Rugby Club pitch) has been renewed for a further three years.

This means that owners will have to continue to keep their dogs on leads in these designated areas and this will be enforced by the Street Warden team.

Newent Town Council's commitment to reduce its carbon footprint.

Newent Town Council has declared its commitment to understand, and progressively reduce its carbon footprint.



Newent Town Council has recognised that *“Business as usual” is not an option in the face of the climate emergency.*

We acknowledge the impact that day-to-day activities of the Town Council and of the wider community of the parish, have on the natural environment.

We recognise the part we all have to play and commit to taking an active role in achieving this reduction by encouraging our Newent community to adopt strategies to mitigate its own impact on climate change.”

For more information & to get involved
www.forestofdeanclimateaction.org.uk/

Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) Flood Risk Management

If your property has suffered from flooding it really helps GCC to know the details.

This can ensure that GCC concentrates their efforts where they are most needed.

To make this simple, GCC provide the Flood Online Reporting Tool (link in flood guide).

GCC would encourage you to use this to inform them of flooding, but please be aware that this will not always trigger an emergency response.

As the flood guide's contact list states, if you are being flooded, always call the **emergency services**.

GCC's close partnership of risk management authorities will continue to do what they can to manage flood risk across Gloucestershire, but they can't do it without your help.

GCC hopes their flood guide goes some way to helping you help them, and to helping you help yourself.

Thank-you for your time and your resilience.

www.FloodRiskManagement@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Flood maps: www.gov.uk/check-long-term-flood-risk or search 'check long term flood risk'

Flood guide: www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/flood-risk-management/flood-guide/

or search 'Gloucestershire flood guide'

From the GCC Flood Risk Management Team

Emergency Plan Working Group Meeting held on 18th November

Newent Town Council's Emergency Plan Working Group Meeting held a public meeting on Thursday 18th November 2021.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss flood measures within Newent.

The Panel comprised of the Principal Flood Risk Management Officer & the Local Highways Manager (both from Gloucestershire County County), and the

Shared Principal Engineer from the Forest of Dean District Council.

Local County and District Councillors were amongst the 63 members of the public who were present.

The public were invited to submit questions in advance of the meeting, in relation to flooding.

The advance questions were shared, prior to the meeting with the panel members.

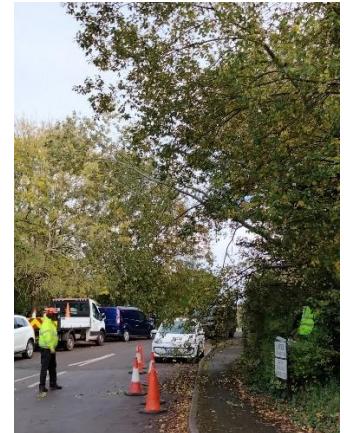
The meeting was also to provide information on areas of responsibility between FODDC, County Council and Newent Town Council.

Minutes of the meeting have been published and are available from the Council's website.

Following the meeting a residents group has been in contact with the FoDDC regarding follow-up discussions stemming from actions from the meeting.

A local group are offering to undertake a free flood survey, with FoDDC, for properties along the possible flood zone to enable people to understand their needs and measures of mitigation to be taken.

Newent Town Council's Estates Team



Newent Town Council's Estates Team are always out & about actively undertaking various jobs.

Part of their job today was removing an overhanging and dangerous branch.

They are around the town. Stop & say hello to the Team!

Gloucestershire County Council Tree Planting

Gloucestershire County Council is looking for land in the county to help to plant one million trees by 2030, increasing woodland and tackling climate change.



The county council has recently been awarded £300k from the Woodland Trust for planting trees in the county and developing a programme to maintain them.

However finding enough space to put the trees is the next vital step.

The council is now looking for landowners to come forward and offer land to plant approximately 360,000 trees over the next three years.

As trees grow, they help to reduce the impact of climate change by removing carbon dioxide from the air, which is driving global warming, and releasing oxygen into the atmosphere.

Now, a joint bid with the Local Nature Partnership to plant more trees in Gloucestershire has been given £299,960 from the Emergency Tree Fund Grant Scheme run by the Woodland Trust. The money will go towards planting more trees in Gloucestershire over the next three years, contributing to the county council's individual aim of planting one million trees by 2030.

Are you a landowner who can help? Contact the county council's climate change team by emailing www.glosclimate@gloucestershire.gov.uk

For more information also visit
www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/climate-change/climate-change-what-is-the-councils-approach/trees/

Community Building & Community Drop-in Hub

Weekly Drop-in at the Chill Zone, High Street Newent. Thursday 2pm-5pm

Your local Hub is opening this October



Community Building Drop-in Hubs

Pop in to chat face to face with your local community builder

“The drop-in hub provides support to create, inspire and build stronger communities together”

We can offer help with:

- * Volunteering opportunities
- * Employability support
- * Local activity groups & clubs
- * IT & digital support
- * Local event information
- * Sign posting to local services



Forest Voluntary Action Forum (FVAF) are bringing regular, free to visit, drop-in sessions to your local community starting this October 2021

For further details, times and locations please contact us:

fvaf.org.uk community@fvaf.org.uk [01594 822073](tel:01594822073)

“Share your vision and ideas to build a stronger community”

Building stronger communities for the Forest of Dean

Our Community Building Drop-in Hub locations are:



Pop in to chat face to face with your local community builder



Contact FVAF Community Builder - Jack Robbins
youthworker2@fvaf.org.uk

Community Policing

Gloucestershire Police held a mobile information drop-in session on Monday 22nd November at Newent Lake.



To find out what is happening in your local area go to

www.gloucestershire.police.uk/

or register

www.yourcommunityalerts.co.uk

Stopping Fraud & Scams



Anyone can be a victim of fraud or scam.

Frauds and scams are:-

- increasingly common
- distressing
- emotionally and financially draining

If you have been the victim of a scam, remember that you are not alone. Help is available.

Contact <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/trading-standards/scams/information-and-support/>

Staying Healthy

Freedom Leisure Centre offers a gym, fitness classes, swimming and a range of indoor and outdoor sports.

<https://www.freedom-leisure.co.uk/centres/freedom-leisure-newent/>

01531 821519

Newent Runners

If you want to go a little faster, our local running club caters for all abilities. With social runs most days of the week and a coached training session once a week, you'll receive a warm welcome.

<https://newentrainers.com>

Walking Routes and Groups



There are many scenic walking routes around Newent – you can use this website to find a route www.ramblers.org.uk/go-walking/find-a-walk-or-route.aspx

Or find out more about the local group, FOD Ramblers, here www.fodramblers.org.uk/

Newent Lake and Outdoor Gym

Our beautiful lake is a lovely setting for a walk or gentle jog, with both a children's playground and a well-equipped outdoor gym.

The equipment is designed to give you a gentle, easy going workout, and is suitable for all levels of fitness



There are many things you can do to stay healthy while enjoying the facilities of our local area

Walking Sports

If you worry you won't be able to keep up with the youngsters on the sports pitch, there are various walking sports available:

- **Walking Football**
<https://thewfa.co.uk/directory/newent-wfc/>
- **Walking Netball**
<https://www.freedom-leisure.co.uk/centres/active-communities/forest-of-dean/news/walking-netball/>
- **Walking Rugby**
<https://www.pitchero.com/clubs/newentrfc/teams/223872>
- **Walking Hockey**
<https://www.newenthockeyclub.co.uk/contact>

Coronavirus (Covid-19) Latest Information and Advice

The NHS and central government have the most up to date information on Coronavirus and what to do if you have it.

- Face coverings are now a legal requirement in shops and on public transport.
- If you come into contact with an individual who may be infected with the Omicron variant, you will need to self-isolate.

This applies even if you are fully-vaccinated or aged 18 or under.
- International arrivals from non-red list countries who are fully vaccinated will need to isolate at home and take a PCR test on or before day 2 following their arrival.

- They will only be permitted to leave isolation if this test result is negative. If their test result is positive, they will need to isolate for 10 days.

View the NHS website for further information

Covid tests are arranged by the NHS and you will need to book a test on the NHS website.

An information guide has been developed in partnership with Gloucestershire Carers Hub to support carers during this pandemic.

It provides a range of advice for carers including how to ensure you are getting support and what to do if you, or the person you care for, become unwell with symptoms of Covid-19.

Please ensure you:

- Let your GP know that you are a carer (if they do not know already);
- If the person you care for needs medication, contact your GP to ensure prescriptions and medication can still be collected;

Put a contingency plan in place in case you become unwell and are unable to care for your relative, partner or friend;

Keep up to date with information provided by the NHS and Government.

www.covid19.glos.nhs.uk/local-services/caring-for-someone/

Find you the latest information in your local area.

www.fdean.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-information-and-advice/

Did you know that community help is available?

Local support

If you are, or know someone who is in need of help and support but are not classed as high risk then there are volunteers who can help with:

- arranging deliveries and urgent supplies
- picking up shopping and medication

- posting mail
- help topping up electricity and gas cards and keys
- a friendly call

www.fdean.gov.uk/communities-health-and-leisure/coronavirus-community-support/

www.fdeancommunityinfo.wordpress.com/

The Late former Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor David Blick – Memorial Tree Planting

On Wednesday 24th November and on behalf of Newent Town Council the Mayor, Councillor Mrs Christine Howley, with family and friends of the Late former Councillor planted a tree at Newent Lake in honour of his memory.



The inscription reads “*This tree is dedicated in memory of former Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor David Blick for over 40 years' service to the community and Newent Town Council.*



Meetings and Events

Newent Town Council Meetings

Monday 13th December.

2nd & 4th Monday of the month - Start time 7pm

10th & 24th January

14th & 28th February

14th & 28th March

11th & 25th (Annual Parish Meeting) April

9th (AGM) 23rd May

13th & 27th June

11th & 25th July

8th August

12th & 26th September

10th & 24th October

14th & 28th November

12th December

Newent Community School, Watery Lane, Newent.
Start 7.00pm January – April

Start 7.00pm May- December Venues TBC

Newent Town Free Parking Days

- Saturday 18th December • Thursday 23rd December • Friday 24th December

Royal British Legion Meetings

Newent & District Branch. Contact the Branch Chairman on newent.chairman@rbl.community,

Come along to one of our meetings which takes place on the 4th Thursday of every month (except December), at the Memorial Hall, Newent, starting at 7pm.

Christmas Home Decoration Competition



Visit the Council's Facebook page for more information

**Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year from
Newent Town Council**



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Deadline for articles to be included is Friday 14th January 2022
Email to Town Clerk marked 'Newsletter.'
townclerk@newenttowncouncil.gov.uk

The Editor's decision is final.