

“Working Together for a Better Community”

NEROCHE PARISH PLAN

Issue No 4

NEWSLETTER

January 2011



Welcome to the fourth and final issue of the Neroche Parish Plan Newsletter. The aim of this publication has been to keep you informed of the Plan's progress and to help improve communication within the Parish. If you wish to read our previous Newsletters, find further details of the Parish Plan, volunteer to help with the implementation phase of the project, and much more, go to our website at www.nerochevillages.org.uk

In this issue, as well as news on the Parish Plan, you will also find included some information and articles of local interest, plus a couple of notices of public events. It is hoped that this will give a flavour of what you might expect in a Parish Newsletter should the community decide to produce one.

Update From the Steering Group

Now that the Parish Plan has been adopted by the Parish Council, and launched at the public meeting in November 2010, the Steering Group, which was responsible for producing the Plan, will disband on 10th January. However, that having been said, all members of the Steering Group have now taken their places in various resident's Action Groups to help bring about the implementation of the Plan. The responsibility for implementing the Plan now passes to the Parish Council and resident's Action Groups.

We were delighted with all the support that we received throughout the project from: the Parish Council; various funding bodies; our County and Taunton Deane Councillors; and, of greatest importance, the numerous residents of Neroche, without whom this project could never have succeeded.

In the latter stages we were most grateful to the team who carried out the data collection from the questionnaires, those who then performed the statistical analysis, the editorial team involved in producing our most excellent final report, and, of course, our dedicated and hard working delivery team.

We were extremely pleased with the turnout at the Launch, and greatly encouraged by the number of volunteers that have come forward to either run or work with the various resident's Action Groups.

There is an overwhelming collective belief within the community, and amongst many outside observers, that the Plan can make an enormous difference to the development and improvement of Neroche Parish. Also, where appropriate, in 'leaving well alone' and protecting and nurturing that which already exists. What is needed, however, is involvement from the residents; so, if you have not done so already, please sign up for one of the Action Groups.

Although this is the last Parish Plan Newsletter, it is very much hoped that the Communications Action Group will be able to establish a Neroche Parish Newsletter to continue where this leaves off.

We raise a glass to you all; well done!

The Questionnaire

At the time of publishing the September Newsletter, the questionnaires had only just been collected from every household.



Following that, the hardest and most difficult phase of the project began. The entering of all the information from the questionnaires onto a database took many hundreds of man/woman hours by Jane Hole's doughty team. Then, a further arduous, extremely time consuming and laborious exercise of carrying out the statistical analysis and evaluation began (with expert assistance from the Community Council of Somerset). The

results were then passed to David Widden to incorporate into the final report.

The Parish Plan Report

Following the processing of the completed questionnaires, there was a frenetic period of work and activity to complete the final report in time for the official Launch. This stage of the project required enormous time and effort from our editor David Widden, assisted by an editorial team and our photographer David Spears. During this process the Parish Council were given the opportunity to comment on the report, in its draft format, before formally adopting it at their meeting on 11 November. Then, after printing, a large team of volunteers stepped-in to deliver the report to all 220 houses, trying, where possible, to pass them directly into the hands of the householders.



Quiz Night

*Neroche Village Hall
Friday 14th January, 7.30pm*

*£5 per person, including light supper
Teams of 6 - No need to book - Just turn up on the night*

Neroche Hall Grand Jumble Sale

Saturday 22nd January - Doors Open 2pm - Entry 20p

If you have any jumble or bric-a-brac to donate please deliver to the hall between 10am and 11am on the morning of the 22nd. If you have items that need collection please phone Rob Larkman on 01460 234237

The Neroche Parish Plan Launch

Photographs by Roger Godin

The plan was launched on November 27th at a public meeting in the Neroche Hall, hosted jointly by the Parish Plan Steering Group and the Parish Council. At



this event the Chair of the Steering Group, Tim French, publicly presented the completed Plan to the Chair of the Parish Council, Marianne Bray. About 130 residents of Neroche braved the snow to attend the event and were welcomed by a warming glass of mulled wine on their arrival. A number of local dignitaries attended the event, including John Williams, Leader of

Taunton Deane Borough Council, and County Councillor David Fothergill.

During the formal ceremony of presenting the Plan, Marianne Bray pledged that the Parish Council would carry out the tasks assigned to it in the Plan, including organising a public meeting on traffic, roads and speeding. Tim French, Marianne Bray and David Fothergill spoke as one when they emphasised that the production of the Plan was but the start of the process. They encouraged everybody to get involved in joining the resident's Action Groups that were being set up to implement the recommendations made in the Plan; 'after-all-said and-done' the Parish Plan is an initiative undertaken by the residents for the residents 'working together for a better community'.



There were twelve stands at the event, covering most aspects of the Plan, where residents could get more information on specific subjects, and volunteer to join resident's Action Groups. Many locals joined the Groups and will meet-up for the first time this month. The list of Groups is published opposite; if you wish to be included then please contact the Group Coordinator of the subject that you are interested in. The Parish Council and the

resident's Action Groups will report their progress to the community at the Annual Parish meeting scheduled to take place in Neroche Hall in the spring. Keep up-to-date with the Plan's implementation at www.nerochevillages.org.uk.

Parish Plan Action Groups

<u><i>Action Group</i></u>	<u><i>First Meeting</i></u>	<u><i>Co-ordinator</i></u>
Transport Traffic and Roads	26 Jan 2011	Andre Wallace 01460 234774 andre.wallace1@btinternet.com
Green Issues	18 Jan 2011	David Widden 01823 480723 davidwidden@aol.com
Countryside	tba	Rob Larkman 01460 234237 robjoy72@googlemail.com
Litter Pick Up Days	11 Jan 2011	Jane Hole 01460 234410 jane.hole@tiscali.co.uk
Walking Groups and Footpath Maintenance	25 Jan 2011	Sheila Green 01823 480758 sfgreen@btinternet.com
Equine	17 Jan 2011	Clare Stewart 01823 481187 jamiclarestewart@yahoo.co.uk
Design and Planning	24 Jan 2011	Ann Jones 01460 234774 ann@artprojectsandsolutions.com
Social and Community Life	19 Jan 2011	Tami Boden-Ellis 01460 234444
Young People	tba	tba
Community Website and Newsletter	11 Jan 2011	Tim French 01460 234410 tim-french@tiscali.co.uk
Mobile Phone and Broadband	tba	Tim French 01460 234410 tim-french@tiscali.co.uk
Business	tba	Wally Torrington 01823 480656 wallytorrington@hotmail.com

Focus on Local Businesses in Neroche

There are over fifty businesses operating from within Neroche Parish, the majority being small operations, many working from home. In this issue we focus on just four, but if a Parish Newsletter follows from this publication then it is hoped that all Neroche businesses will eventually get the opportunity to be featured.



Jill Perrior has operated Pirium Handmade Cards from her home at Newtown Farm, Bickenhall for the past 5 years. She works on her own, producing bespoke handcrafted cards for special occasions. Every card is unique and is personalised with pictures, photos, graphics etc according to customer choice; photos can even be computer modified to look like paintings. All this, and at extremely competitive prices. Individually designed wedding invitations and sundries can also be produced, including a lucky horseshoe for the bride made from real lightweight racehorse shoes decorated with ribbon and artificial flowers. For more info contact Jill on 01823 480349 or at jillperrior@yahoo.co.uk

Mud Mountain Garden Decor

Lorraine and Stewart Scott-Collins have run Mud Mountain Garden Décor out of Orchard Cottage, Bickenhall since they came to the area in 2009. They specialise in Italian handmade, frost resistant giant terracotta pots, planters and unique garden ornaments, plus high quality decorative gazebos and arches etc. With many years experience in dealing with quality manufacturers across the globe, they are able to supply a stunning selection of high quality products at the best prices. For more info go to www.mudmountain.co.uk or call on 01823 480822.



AVT Security Systems

Mark Kemp operates AVT out of Perry Hall in Staple Fitzpaine. AVT is a dynamic company that specialises in both electronic locking and digital CCTV security systems, access control, agricultural building security, and high value showcase locking system. Mark has an impressive list of customers including Asprey, Cartier, Tiffany & Co and Louis Vuitton, all of whom are situated on London's New Bond Street; however, his company is equally adept at installing small domestic systems. So, if you are looking for a simple single CCTV camera system for home,



or a larger comprehensive package for your farm or other business, then go to www.avtcctv.com or call Mark on 01460 234076, Email: avtcctv@aol.com .

Taunton Racecourse



Most residents are surprised when they discover that the racecourse is situated within the Neroche Civic Parish boundary. It is the largest business in the Parish with 15 permanent employees, which can expand to 200 on race days with the use of temporary staff.

Taunton is England's youngest National Hunt racecourse and one of the most beautifully located courses in the country, with outstanding views across to the wooded slopes of the Blackdown Hills. There has been racing in Taunton since the eighteenth century, and in the present location since 21 September 1927. The facilities for spectators have been spectacularly improved over the years, from a wooden stand surrounded by mud in the early days to the magnificent facilities that exist in 2011.

Racing takes place between October and April each year, with the season comprising, on average, 15 meetings. At each meeting there is action packed entertainment to suit all budgets; from cheering your horse at trackside with a beefburger and mug of tea to watching the racing from a high class restaurant or private box serving Champagne lunch and afternoon tea.



On non-racedays the racecourse is put to numerous uses, including conferences, weddings, property auctions, car boot sales, exhibitions, firework shows, caravan rallies etc; in fact there seems to be no end to the ingenuity of the management to best utilise the course facilities, its 135 acres and 1,000 capacity car park.

If you are interested in learning more about Taunton Racecourse, or becoming a member and enjoying the exclusive facilities of the members stand and restaurant, then contact the course manager Bob Young on 01823 337172 or at info@tauntonracecourse.co.uk

Local Communication and Information

Parish Council. If you would like to receive regular Parish Council information e.g. on changes to services (such as refuse collection), emergencies or dates of meetings etc then send your name and address followed by “YES PLEASE” to Peter Crossley, the Parish Clerk at neroche.pc@virgin.net. To keep ‘up-to-speed’ with the activities of your Parish Council, go to www.neroche.net. There you will find a wealth of information, including: a list of Council members; agendas and minutes of meetings; news, views and general details; plus a facility to ‘have your say’. Council meetings are open to the public, so if they are discussing a subject, in which you are interested, please feel free to attend.

General Information. For general information on the Parish Plan and the resident’s Action Groups go to www.nerochevillages.org.uk. In the not-too-distant future, this link will take you to the Neroche Community Website, which is currently being developed by the Communications Action Group. This Group will be meeting for the second time on 11 Jan 2011 (if you are interested in joining this particular Action Group then give Tim French a call on 01460 234410). For information on the Parish Hall please go to its website at www.nerochehall.org.uk.

Many thanks for taking to time to read this Newsletter

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Blackdown Hills AONB



Making it local

