

COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE NESTON LOOKING BETTER

Notes from the NLB meeting held on Thursday September 28th 2023
In Neston Town Hall.

Present :- Cllr Janet Griffiths, Cllr Brenda Marple, Liz Luxford, CWAC Cllr Martin Barker.

In Attendance – Helen Neal (CWAC Officer)

Apologies – Cllr Pat Kynaston, Michelle Johnson

1. Neston Report – Janet Griffiths

Because of the constant changeable weather, the weeding group have not been able to work regularly, so weeding was done as and when there was a fine day.

Plants have been bought and donated and planted in the Ladies Walk flowerbed. But warm wet weather has caused the weeds to grow fast despite two weeding sessions.

The Fairtrade bed on Park Street has been planted up by CWaC and has been much admired. The Fairtrade group liked the use of slate in the Park St. bed and have used slate in their replanting of the small circular bed on Chester Rd.

The mobile Post Office on the top car park is very successful and the Friday time has been extended.

There will be a Halloween Market on October 27th and it is hoped that there will be a charity second-hand book stall (weather permitting) with the money being donated to the Rotary Club for their Xmas sleigh. There will also be a pumpkin trail round the market for the children.

A charity second-hand bookstall held in June raised £150 for the food bank who are struggling at the moment.

The concrete planters from the High St. have been removed and have been bought by the cricket club.

2. West Vale Report – Martin Barker, Liz Luxford

A Crowdfund bid of £15K has been put in to Space Hive for a zip wire for the park for the older children.

The Fun Day was very successful with over 600 attending.

A Litter Pick and gardening session is planned for October 1st.

The concrete planters sold to the cricket club raised £500.

It is hoped to get 2 heritage planters for West Vale.

3. Parkgate Report – Brenda Marple

The Little Tea House is no longer a café. It is now a bakery and cake takeaway.

The plan to varnish the Parade benches is on-going. CWaC will supply the varnish and volunteers will do the painting.

Parkgate Spirit is still well attended – but gas canisters brought in by the high tide are a problem as are the weeds growing along the wall.

The interpretation boards are now up and popular with users making use of the codes.

The planned work on viewing area at the old baths area is due to start in October. Postcode Lottery money is to be used by the Parkgate Society to improve the baths area.

The Planning application for converting Moskitos into two holiday lets has been approved by CWaC.

Parkgate Society held two walks during Heritage Open Days.

There is a talk about the Station and Rope Walk car park on Oct. 7th

No1. Parkgate restaurant is now opening more hours.

The bench on the Wirral Way is under discussion.

4. Ness Report – No Report

5. Library Garden – Helen Neal

The repairs to the Mozaic will not take place until the new year

The garden needs volunteers to tidy it up.

Helen's strawberry planter was very successful. It was converted from a pallet.

The frame around the sensory area is now up and ready for planting.

The old bench commemorating the Korean War was replaced with a new one and the plaque transferred.

It is hoped that the Earth Group can provide some new ideas.

A wild flower meadow is planned for the lower end of the garden.

The 1st week in October is 'Library Week'. On the Monday there will be old photos of the town and David Scott's book collection available to see courtesy of the Burton and Neston history Society. There will also be opportunities to discuss the Future.

Tuesday – yoga for children.

Wednesday – coffee morning

Thursday – Information Day

Friday – 5-30pm to 6-30 'Not a Reading Group' where anyone can discuss the books they have been reading and hope to read.

6. The High St.

Evans shoe shop is now an Elephant café. The Pizza restaurant is now closed. The lower Elephant Café is also closed but Evoke have taken it over for business. The old Barclays bank is now Mitchells Builders office. The Elephant Coffee Roasterie is open. A row of shops in Brook street is now empty except for the Turkish barbers.

The Market Town Regeneration group is now about to start to discuss the development of Neston.

7. Jubilee Trees

The Trees planted at the High School by Neston Civic Society to commemorate Norman Angel and Reg Chrimes and the Queen's Platinum

Jubilee suffered during the very hot and dry spell in June. Reg Chrimes Magnolia was replaced by the High School and the Civic Society replaced the Queen's Jubilee tree. They will be monitored and watered more often next year. Norman Angel Cyprus tree is looking good.

8. Wirral Way 50th Anniversary

The regular Sunday Fun Run which takes place on the Wirral way each Sunday morning will help celebrate the 50th Anniversary on October 1st with the Fairtrade Group giving out Fairtrade bananas (donated by Sainsburys) to the runners as they finish.

In the afternoon of Oct 1st there will be a celebration held on the Old Baths area with the unveiling of a short-eared owl created from willow. There will be willow weaving classes and storytelling and mask making for the children. There will be other events taking place on the Wirral Way and surrounding area over the next 12 months.

Next NLB meeting to be arranged in January 2024.