

Editors:

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Eaglescliffe

FOCUS

No 136

Eaglescliffe Focus Team wish you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas. We welcome Alan Lewis to the team. Alan is well known to many Eaglescliffe residents having moved here in 1969 and also as a gents' hairdresser in Yarm High Street from 1976.

The whole team looks forward to continuing to work with you and for you during 2007.



Planning Update

Two decisions in which Eaglescliffe people have been let down by central government planning policies - a rigid application of PPG3 (*Focus 135*) and laws on enforcement which favour errant developers: *Glenrea & The Bungalow*, **The Avenue**: McCarthy & Stone won their appeal and have approval to build category 2 sheltered housing; 13-15 **Station Rd**: Stockton Planning Committee decided that enforcement was not expedient so the roof remains at 1.2m higher than planned.

The Grange, **Urlay Nook Rd**: application to replace with 16 flats and car parking.

The Rookery, **South View**: Revised application for extension and new building to form 13 flats in total.

Riverside Lodge, **A67**: The application for use for quad bikes and motorcycles has been withdrawn. Residents who consider that noise from the site is still a nuisance should write, not phone or e-mail, to Development Control, Gloucester House, Church Rd, Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 1TW, saying how the noise is affecting them and how they perceive it, how often it happens etc, as well as if they are willing to verify this evidence at a hearing, public enquiry or magistrates' court.

Seymour Crescent - Planning permission has been given for a nature reserve.

Eaglescliffe Logistics Centre, **Durham Lane**, has been renamed *Allens West*. The planning application mentioned in *Focus 135* has been withdrawn, but the new owners will be producing ideas for the site. Stockton Council have declared that they do not favour development for employment purposes of the land between **Durham Lane**, the **A66 & Moorhouse Estate** (*Focus 131*), originally designated a possible site for Nissan, or at **South Urlay Nook Farm**.

Tees Heritage Park

Green space along the banks of the river will be preserved for the enjoyment of future generations if a new group succeeds. The Friends of Tees Heritage Park is now constituted and drawing up plans for protecting and enhancing the river, its banks, tributaries and adjoining land so that people can continue to enjoy it for years to come. This is an exciting project, led by CPRE and supported by your Liberal Democrat councillors and others.



Reducing, Re-using and Recycling

Christmas and New Year celebrations always produce extra rubbish for our bins. We hear a great deal about recycling, but don't forget that it's the least important of the 3Rs!



1. **Reduce** waste.
 2. **Re-use** carriers, pass on out-grown clothes etc.
 3. **Recycle** what you can, including your Christmas Tree - leave it out on Monday, January 8th.
- GREEN waste collections have stopped for the winter so please don't put bags out.
Christmas & New Year collections: None on Tues 26th Dec but collected one day later than usual Wed - Sat 30th. 2nd Jan onwards - usual collections.

Witham House

The consultation document on the proposal to transfer of sheltered housing stock to Erimus Housing has been sent to all residents affected. Now it is up to residents to vote. If the vote is in favour of the transfer Witham House will be demolished, probably late next year, and replaced by modern sheltered flats. Some of the new building will be for rent but most will be for sale.



Newsam Road Pavement

A meeting of the Western Area Transport Strategy group, consisting of local District & Parish Councillors and representatives of other groups, decided to improve the walking route to Eggescliffe School by widening the footway on the North side of Newsam Rd. This footway has been the subject of intermittent complaints for several years because overhanging hedges reduced the width considerably. It was agreed that the widened footway would require measures to prevent vehicles parking on it, thereby narrowing it down again. However, the protection selected by SBC engineers was concrete bollards, which residents tell us look ugly. The Transport Strategy group is going to look again at the design of the protection.



Postal Votes

New rules about postal votes are being introduced in the new year. This means that EVERYONE who already has a postal vote will get a letter in January asking them to renew their application. People who asked for one on this year's census will also get a letter in January. It is very important that the forms are completed and signed properly.

Preston Park

The recommendations from the committee which John chaired are now Stockton Council policy – too bulky to print here, but please ask us if you're interested in reading it. Neighbourhood representatives will be included on the Park Management Group. We look forward to improvements – our Liberal Democrat councillors will continue to look after the interests of neighbours and all users of the Park & Museum. We are pleased that money has now been obtained to restore the Winter Garden.

Community Lynx

A new, bookable low floor bus starts operation on 4th December, funded by a Rural Bus scheme. Residents of Eggescliffe are eligible to join the scheme. Further information is available from Stockton Community Transport on 527159.

More Leisure Facilities Please!

Not enough leisure facilities, No swimming pool, Not enough youth facilities - all things which Eggescliffe residents have been telling John, Mike and Maureen for years. Now the MORI poll of residents for Stockton has confirmed that people in the south of the borough think these are priorities. Your councillors will be pushing to have these things put into the Council plan for the future if money becomes available.

Snippets

Through trains to London (*Focus 135*) are unlikely to start before May 2007.... Northumbrian Water traced a sewage overflow outside Eggescliffe Cemetery (**Butts Lane**) **Urray Nook Crossing** will be closed from 10pm on 16th Dec until 8 the following morning.

Thank You
to all our deliverers.
Without you **Focus**
wouldn't reach every
home in the ward
year in, year out.
If you'd like to join
the team contact
Maureen, Mike, John
or Alan

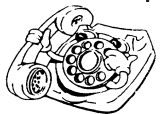


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Don't forget your MEP: Fiona Hall can be contacted at 55A Old Elvet, Durham, DH1 3HN, 0191 383 0119, e-mail fiona@fionahallmep.co.uk

WE KEEP IN TOUCH

Mike, John & Maureen will see anyone who calls on
19 Dec. Eggescliffe Parish Hall, Butts La. 6-7
5 Jan. Trinity Methodist Church, Witham Ave. 6.30-7.30

16 Feb. Eggescliffe Community Centre,
Durham La. 6.30-7.30

2 Feb. Trinity Methodist Church, Witham Ave.
6.30 - 7.30

20 Feb. Eggescliffe Parish Hall, Butts Lane, 6-7



SKIPS The next
community skips will be



Thurs, 14 Dec, Eggescliffe Village
Green (9.30 - 3.30)
Mon, 8 Jan, Durham Lane nr shops
Tues, 13 Feb, Leven Close

Liberal Democrats do Listen