



# HELPING SHAPE THE FUTURE OF GREASLEY THROUGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

### Residents invited to comment

Preparatory work has begun on what could be the most significant planning document in Greasley's history as the Parish Council seeks resident's help in mapping out a community framework for the future.

By producing a Neighbourhood Plan, the Parish Council in conjunction with the wider community is striving to preserve the parish's long and proud heritage by establishing a vision of a sustainable future.

The Plan will cover the whole of the parish and set out a simple and clear vision based on local opinions.

Chairing the Greasley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (GNPSG) is resident Neil Hutchinson. The project launched in March this year and already an action plan for the next three months has been drawn up as contributing groups and individuals examine different aspects of parish life:

- Housing and the built environment
- Transport and traffic
- Business and employment
- Open space and recreation
- Community facilities



Not all of Greasley's roads are so quiet



Protecting Greasley's open spaces

Mr Hutchinson said the steering group had put aside two years to fully complete the plan which, when validated, should have a lifespan of some 15 years.

"Greasley is special in that unlike most other parishes with a single community we actually have five and it is important for us to bring them all together and embrace their collective views."

He explained that the opportunity for a self determined Neighbourhood Plan came through the Localism Act. Although the Parish Council initially registered the desire to prepare a plan there was a fundamental need to connect with residents, as a consequence of which letters outlining the objectives of the plan were sent to every household.

"It means that the community should have a say in its future – not fully in control – but certainly a larger influence than at present. The plan, once progressed through the necessary approvals will form part of the legal planning framework for Greasley."

During the start up phase of the plan Mr Hutchinson said he had been impressed and heartened by resident's awareness of the situation and their knowledge of the local environment. "I'm looking forward to receiving their thoughts."

Residents should contact the Parish Council Clerk who is providing administrative support for the GNPSG or alternatively drop a line with their thoughts for the future to the Sports & Community Centre.

"This is a new opportunity which we hope residents will grasp with a positive goal of creating a better environment for future generations," added Mr Hutchinson.



A Great Greasley Gathering  
SEE INSIDE FOR THE REPORT

## GREASLEY TO BE SWALLOWED UP BY BOUNDARY REVIEW?

**A proposal to wipe out the Greasley Beauvale division of the county council is under consideration as part of a review of electoral arrangements in Nottinghamshire.**

The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England is carrying out the review and is asking local people if they think the proposed division reflects the local community.

Cllr Margaret Handley is adamant that the change “will destroy the parish’s heritage.”

Under the proposals the existing Beauvale division will be hived off to Nuthall, Kimberley and Eastwood with Brinsley.

“They are splitting up our rural areas and attaching them to urban communities – straight away that produces a conflict of interest,” said Cllr Handley.

“The calculations have been done on numbers – not in the best interest of communities. I don’t think that the people behind the review have looked hard enough at ways of keeping Greasley together.”

The Parish Council submitted a robust response and the final outcome will be known sometime in November.

Proposals can be viewed at [www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk](http://www.consultation.lgbce.org.uk)

## DIARY DATES

Important diary dates for Greasley parishioners:

**Sunday, 8th November**  
Annual parish Remembrance Service at St Mary’s Church, Greasley.

**Thursday, 3rd December**  
(6.30pm) Greasley’s Christmas Cracker – a free, family orientated evening to celebrate the coming of Christmas. Including lots of seasonal activities.

## GREEN FINGERS REQUIRED

The Parish Council owns more than two dozen allotment plots at a site in Newthorpe.

They are administered by the Parish Council Clerk who is responsible for all lettings.

Originally the plots were laid out in the Victorian tradition of cultivation – ie each plot occupied sufficient ground to feed a family of four for a whole year. However in recent years a number of plots have been halved to make them more manageable and to increase the number of allotment tenants.

Although all the plots are currently allocated there are only a few names on the waiting list. Parishioners interested in having a plot should put their name on the waiting list by contacting the Parish Clerk, c/o Greasley Sports & Community Centre, Dovecote Road, Newthorpe, Notts NG16 3QN.



Allotment waiting list has now opened

## CHAIRMAN'S HOPES FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS

Cllr Margaret Handley is no stranger to the demands of public office.

As the current Chairman of the Parish Council, an office she has occupied on two previous occasions, she is also a Broxtowe Borough Councillor and former Mayor of Broxtowe.

With this knowledge accumulated over the years she had little difficulty when asked by the Globe what her priorities would include over the new municipal year.

Citing various attacks by other councils and local government organisations – Greasley is the largest of the 10 parish councils in the borough – she felt that defending and enhancing Greasley's identity was of paramount importance. They can be countered, she believes, by creating a unity of purpose within the parish with local groups, including the Parish Council, supporting and encouraging each other to the benefit of the whole community.

"This, for instance, is why the Neighbourhood Plan is so important as an opportunity for all parishioners to work alongside one another, starting with a blank canvas, to develop a blueprint for the future," said Cllr Handley.

"For the same purpose I would hope to steer the Parish Council towards attracting a greater community use of our sports and community centre. The sports content has recently been brought up to scratch and I believe the new focus should now be on expanding the centre's community content."

As well as offering grants to parish organisations, the Parish Council provides financial and practical support for parish events such as the Beauvale Horticultural Show and the Greasley Gathering. The Parish Council facilitates the Gathering in a number of ways – "because it is a stand out event, open to all and which is organised by the community for the community."

Cllr Handley told the Globe that "realistic management of the Green Belt" is another message she would like to put across. "Of course no one wants to lose any open space at all and Greasley is blessed with some of the finest in Broxtowe. But with a growing population the clock is inevitably ticking and we may be faced with a scheme we are unable to resist. What I believe is that in addition to the Neighbourhood Plan we should have firm policies in place that cover such matters as screening and landscaping that minimise the impact of any development, and we should also maximise the opportunities for parishioners to enjoy the Green Belt on their doorstep."



Chairman chats to a customer in the new look gym

## IN MEMORY OF THE FALLEN

Last year the Parish Council paid its respects to the local people who fell victim to the horrendous hostilities of World War I.

A very moving and provocative exhibition was compiled and put on display in the Parish Hall as part of the centenary events commemorating the war.

The exhibition caught the imagination of many people including several local authorities who, having viewed the Greasley display, used it as a model for their own exhibitions. The exhibition featured many images of battle grounds and cemeteries taken by councillors John and Margaret Handley on a private visit to the continent.

Next year marks the 100th anniversary of the Battle of the Somme – notable for a battle in which tens of thousands lost their lives.

Cllr Mrs Handley has so far established that at least 31 men from Greasley perished in the conflict. She is now working to set up a Steering Group tasked with possibly creating another exhibition and also some form of permanent memorial in the parish.

## NEW CONTACT ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNCIL

Greasley's Parish Office, based at the Sports & Community Centre, has revised its opening times.

Bank holidays apart, either the Parish Clerk or the Administrative Assistant will be on duty in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays from 9.00am to 3.00pm. Appointments are not always necessary.

To check availability call the Centre on 01773 688848.

## LIFESTYLES

# “THE GYM FOR EVERYBODY”

## *Fitness Suite remodelled and re-equipped*

Greasley Parish Council has invested in the future of its Sports & Community Centre with vast improvements to its Lifestyles Fitness Suite.

Virtually unchanged for more than a decade the gym has been extensively refurbished with a new look to its décor, flooring, lighting – and, most important of all – its state of the art Technogym equipment.

“In planning the changes we looked at everything,” said Centre Manager Allan Bone. “The process began last September and was finally completed at the re-opening in early May”.

“The gym had been much the same for 13 years, just one or two pieces of new kit from time to time. From customer feedback people were commenting on the age of the equipment”.

“The prospect of a new gym was welcomed by our customers who

shared our view of establishing a nice, friendly fitness suite – a gym for everybody.”

“The final product is a fitness suite with two fully air conditioned rooms housing over 40 pieces of equipment”.

“I think we have achieved an amazing community gym, a gym for all which in no small part is due to the enthusiasm of our fitness instructors who have gone the extra mile in support of our customers.”

“Another additional feature in the gym is the new functional area in which customers will be able to use corebags, medicine balls, kettlebells and the brand new visual screen pro 7 power plate!”

“All in all there is a new buzz about the place,” added Mr Bone.

As well as the new equipment the opening of the revamped Lifestyles Fitness Suite coincided

with the introduction of a Direct Debit membership system which has helped maintain if not increase membership levels.

Customers signing up for gym membership by Direct Debit pay £20 a month for adults for unlimited use and for the over 60s the price drops to £10 per month.

Backing up the Centre’s claim to be all inclusive, staff are launching a Junior Gym Club. Designed for 12 – 16 year olds, a qualified instructor will be on hand to prepare special workouts and fitness routines suitable for this age group. The times are as follows:

Summer Hols: Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday 1100-1300

Term Time: Tuesday & Thursday 1600-1700 and Sunday 1100-1300

“We also have different membership options for this with a Direct Debit only £10.00 a month!”





# Greasley Sports & Community Centre

## CENTRE CUSTOMERS TO HAVE THEIR SAY

Staff at the Greasley Sports & Community Centre have set up the Centre's first ever Customer Forum.

It is the intention to hold quarterly meetings of the Forum, alternating between morning and evening sessions to make them as accessible as possible.

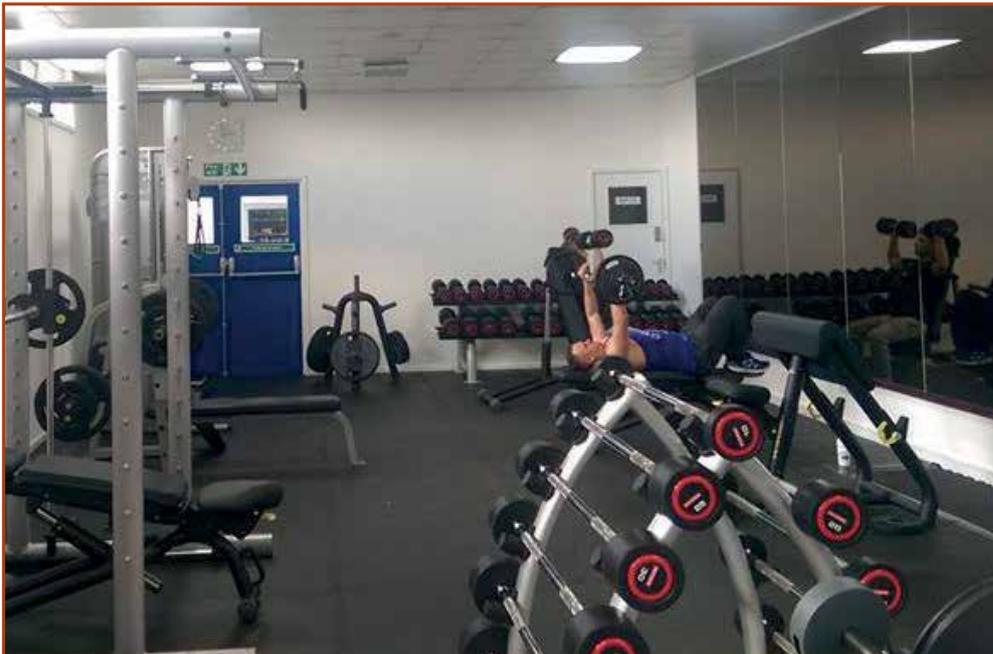
Manager Allan Bone told the Globe, "We want the community to be involved and feel that a Forum is a good way for our customers to have a voice".

"It is always good to have feedback from people who use the facilities and the Forum will also give members an insight into future happenings".

"There could be a lot of positive's to come out of this."

For anyone wishing to join please contact reception on 01773 760072 or email [greasleycm@btconnect.com](mailto:greasleycm@btconnect.com)

Next meeting: Thursday 1st October 2015 10am



# THE DAY... THE SUPPORT... THE ATMOSPHERE – SUPERB!

## **GREASLEY'S GATHERING PULLS IN THE CROWDS**

Once again the sun decided not to shine but this was of little consequence to visitors – from Greasley and beyond – who enjoyed a family day out at the Greasley Gathering.

Red double decker buses are almost as familiar in Greasley as they are in London but their popularity proved to be greater than ever – no doubt helped by the on-board singing and “guide.”

All the venues reported great crowds during the day with many people extending their stay into the evening. The hub of the event was the Greasley Sports & Community Centre where Gathering opener, Mayor of Broxtowe Cllr Sue Bagshaw and fellow civic guest, Greasley Parish Council Chairman Cllr Margaret Handley were welcomed by a colourful Brazilian Drumming Band.

A children’s fun fair took pride of place on the attached recreation ground where this year’s top attraction was international sheepdog competitor Tom Longton and his prize winning sheep dogs rounding up some independent minded ducks!

Charity stalls at the Gathering reported record donations. The Royal British Legion’s “Poppy Man” attracted a lot of attention, the Cheese Stall seemed to be swamped by a permanent queue and Bowls England made their debut at the event hoping to encourage more people into their sport.

In the Parish Hall the homemade cakes sold out and the tombola ran out of prizes. Refreshment takers were entertained by Daniel Scott in the morning and by the magic of Don Chambers plus the Pulp Friction Glee Choir in the afternoon.

Singers from The Community Choir held two wonderful performances in the sports hall while outside demonstrations from the Taekwondo Group proved very popular as did the PlayWorks and Creation Station activities.

Down the road at St Mary’s Church the Craft Fair and Open Day was a huge success, visitors were amused by the themed scarecrows and hugely impressed by the display of vintage wedding dresses.



“There’s another one behind”



Sheepdog and ducks proved a winning combination

Across the way at Beauvale Priory, belly dancing proved to be an unexpected hit – especially with audience participation.

Venue for the Scarecrow competition was Colliers Wood where prizes were awarded to Greasley Beauvale Primary School (Queen’s Guard) and to 1st Greasley Guides (Queen of Hearts).

Sister and brother Lucy and William Martin shared the children’s prize in the “loyalty” collection card challenge. The adult prize was won by Amanda Thompson.



Mayor of Broxtowe Cllr Susan Bagshaw is given a musical welcome from the Brazilian Drumming Band



Vintage wedding dresses in St Mary's Church



A thrilling display from the Taekwondo group pulled in the crowds



Classic Cars - and drivers - of all shapes and sizes



The Glee Choir were in fine voice



Another top class performance from The Community Choir

Planning has already started for next year's event – Bank Holiday Monday 31st May. The Gathering is always looking for new events and entertainments – please contact the Secretary if you have something to offer.

Similarly local charitable groups are welcome to use the Gathering to promote their activity and perhaps recruit new members. The Gathering itself welcomes new people to join the organising group. If you're interested please contact the Secretary on 01773 710011.



Scarecrows had a field day

## MORE OF THE SAME

For the fifth successive year councillors in Greasley have been able to freeze the parish precept.

By returning a “no increase” budget it means that parishioners living in a typical Band D property will pay a council tax – for parish purposes – of just £49.86p per year – equivalent to 96p per week.

“It is a particularly pleasing report to make given the prevailing financial conditions,” said Finance & General Purposes Committee Chairman Cllr Bob Willimott.

By continuing the Council's history of sound financial management he said that a standstill budget had not prevented the Council undertaking a thorough overhaul of facilities in the Lifestyles Fitness Suite. Major improvements were now being planned for other areas of the Sports & Community Centre. “We are making progress, but at an affordable pace,” said Cllr Willimott.

Whilst as before, the budget had been achieved partially through the use of reserves, the Council had still been able to fully support the Greasley Gathering, that together with the iconic red buses has become an annual fixture since beginning with celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee.

In addition, the Council are also planning to repeat the Christmas Cracker event at the Sports and Community Centre in December, involving a local school, lights switch-on and a spectacular fireworks display.

Cllr Willimott rounded off by stating that the financial picture had been completed when the Council was recently given a clean bill of health following the independent annual audit.

## ROOMS FOR HIRE

Value for money meeting and function rooms are available for hire at the Greasley Sports & Community Centre.

The committee/meeting room seats around 25 people and comes with a projector and screen if required.

The Parish Hall can accommodate around 75 people for a dance

or around 150 for a lecture or film show. It comes with a stage and also a kitchen. It has hosted everything from tea dances and children's parties to craft fairs and dance sessions.

Call the Centre on 01773 760072 for availability.

# CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL AND YOUR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVES

## PARISH COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAILS

### Councillor S.D Ackroyd

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### Councillor Mrs M Barry

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### Councillor Ms D Booth

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### Councillor M Brown

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### Councillor I.M Coupland

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### Councillor J Handley

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### Councillor Mrs M Handley

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### Councillor Mrs J Layton

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### Councillor P.E Pickering

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### Councillor Mrs B Willimott

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### Councillor R.D Willimott

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## LOCAL COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBERS

### Councillor J Handley

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### Councillor P Owen

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## LOCAL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS

### Eastwood Hall Ward

#### Councillor T Harper

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### Greasley Ward

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#### Councillor M Handley

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### Councillor S Rowland

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### Watnall & Nuthall West Ward

#### Councillor D Burnett

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### Councillor J Owen

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## LOCAL MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

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## OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

### Clerk & RFO

#### - Lorraine Murphy

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### Sports & Community Centre

#### Manager - Allan Bone

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## GREASLEY PARISH COUNCIL/COMMITTEE CYCLE 2015/16.

### COUNCIL

#### 2nd Monday in Month

#### 2015

8th June  
13th July  
14th September  
12th October  
9th November  
14th December

#### 2016

11th January  
8th February  
14th March  
(4th - bank hol)  
11th April (Annual Parish)  
9th May (Annual Parish Council)

### COMMITTEES

#### 4th Monday in Month

#### 2015

18th May (4th - bank hol)  
22nd June  
27th July  
28th September  
26th October  
23rd November  
21st December (Christmas)

#### 2016

25th January  
22nd February  
21st March  
25th April

Council meetings start at 7.30pm and members of the public are able to attend. A public question time forms part of the council agenda. The two committees meet on the same night and start at 7.00pm.

