

VICTORIA PARK - UPDATE

The Bowling Green works are continuing, the green has been re-constructed and seeded and after the removal of the leylandii trees a new fence has been erected around the area which allows good security but is subtly inconspicuous. Visitors can now see the whole of the Park through to the boating pond and play areas beyond. The football pitch has now been levelled and re-seeded.

The new café project, which has been in consideration for a number of years, has been given the go ahead by the Council and we are currently refining the plans which will include an indoor and outdoor seating area, full café facilities and toilets. It is hoped that work will be completed for Summer 2017.



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NTC NEWS

WORKS START ON NEW TENNIS COURTS IN VICTORIA PARK

Newbury Town Council commenced further works in Victoria Park in October, with the refurbishment of the tennis courts. The project is expected to cost in excess of £100,000 and will be funded from the legal settlement secured by the Council last year, together with a £39,893 grant from the Lawn Tennis Association. The works will be completed by the end of November and will include a new online booking system called 'Clubspark' to allow people to register and book online. The yearly cost to the public will initially be £36 which will allow a whole family to play unlimited times within a year. You can also book online on a 'pay and play' basis, costing £6 per game.

We are very excited that finally the tennis courts will be refurbished to a high standard and will be available at a very reasonable rate for members of

the public to give tennis a try or enjoy improving their skills. Competitions and mini tennis for the under 10's, a wider range of sessions for older juniors and adults, including some recreational coaching, cardio tennis and disability tennis are also being considered. We are also very pleased to be working with and the Lawn Tennis Association on this project.



WHARF TOILETS



Berkshire Council in March, to ensure they were kept open for coach parties, visitors and residents of Newbury.

After a 3 month trial period, a contractor will now be appointed to operate the toilets on our behalf and turnstiles will be installed. To ensure that the toilets can remain open in the future there will be a nominal charge for members of the public to access the facility.

Newbury Town Council have been running the toilets at the Wharf since they were closed by West

The Town Council is very pleased that we have been able to keep this impressive

facility open for the people of Newbury and visitors to the town centre. We are confident that the toilets are now better maintained and controlled from the Town Hall. The caretaker, Richie Sharpe (left), is doing a great job and the Council has been complimented on the improvements.

We felt that it was such a good news story that we entered into the "Loo of the Year Awards." We were delighted that the toilets were judged to be Gold Standard!

Event Dates

14th Nov - Planning and Highways Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm

21st Nov - Civic Pride, Arts and Leisure Meeting Town Hall, 7.30pm

27th Nov - Christmas Light Switch On Parade, (starts at) 4.30pm

05th Dec - Planning and Highways Meeting, Town Hall, 7.30pm

LOCAL DEMOCRACY WEEK 2016



During two weeks in October, Primary Schools in Newbury have been learning about the role of Newbury Town Council and its Councillors. The events were organised by the Council to coincide with Local Democracy Week, a European wide event to encourage people to find out how their local Councils work.

The Primary School children spent 2 hours at the Town Hall meeting Councillors and enjoyed an interactive presentation, which included trying on Councillors' robes and dressing as the Mace Bearers. They also saw how the Council works, how Councillors are elected and the various responsibilities the Council has around the town. The children left after some lively question & answer sessions. They then enjoyed a tour of the Town Hall and learning about the 400 year old history of Newbury's Charter and notable citizens such as John Winchcombe and John Rankin.

For the first time since the Local Democracy visits started in Newbury, children who are home educated also attended a session and were shown around the Town Hall, particularly enjoying the history of the recently renovated paintings of Queen Charlotte and King George III.

Councillors visited Park House School and Trinity School and had very interesting question & answer sessions with children from years 7-9, with subjects such as road safety and local libraries.

ALLOTMENTS IN NEWBURY

Newbury Town Council has 6 allotment sites within the Parish and, due to a number of current vacancies and short waiting lists, it has been agreed that residents from adjoining Parishes can now apply for an allotment plot.

If you are interested in having a plot please contact the Community Services Team on 01635 35486 or email towncouncil@newbury.gov.uk for information.