

## PRESS RELEASE

Date: 15 March 2018

### KEEP NEWBURY CLEAN – ANNUAL COMMUNITY CLEAN

Newbury residents are being asked to join Newbury Town Councillors in the Annual Community Clean on Saturday 24 March 2018. Starting at 1pm groups of residents, including Newbury Town Councillors will meet at the following locations to complete a two hour Community Clean litter pick.

- Falkland Memorial, Wash Common
- The Riverside Centre, Turnpike
- Corner of Northcroft Lane and Northcroft Park

Cllr Margo Payne, organiser of the event, Newbury said, "We are lucky to live in such a beautiful town, it is such a shame that it is spoilt by people who do not take responsibility for their own litter and dispose of it responsibly."

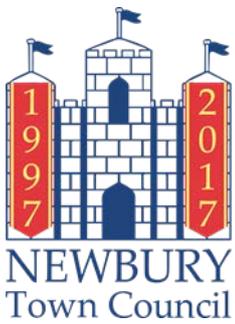
Just to prove how much we want to make a difference, Newbury Town Council are inviting residents to join Councillors and go out into the streets and open spaces of our town on Saturday 24 March and litter pick. By these actions we hope to show the rest of the community how big a problem litter is, and to encourage them to start disposing of it properly.

Figures released by the UK's biggest anti-litter campaign, Keep Britain Tidy, have revealed:

That council taxpayers in the UK pay £1billion a year to clean the streets.

- Over 30m tonnes of litter are collected from our streets each year
- People can be fined £80 for dropping litter. In 2016, 44,000 people were prosecuted.

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The Community Clean will begin to tackle rubbish starting at the locations listed above at 1pm on Saturday 24 March 2018. It is hoped that as many volunteers as possible will come and join the Councillors and that the rest of the community gets the message that dropping litter is 'simply not on'.

The Mayor of Newbury, Cllr David Fenn, "This clean-up will show others that we care about the future of our local environment and that we are not prepared to live, work and play in an area that is blighted by rubbish. What is good about working together like this is it creates a sense of community and for some of our younger volunteers it is their first taste of active citizenship. Please join us."

END

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