



Fernwood

fanfare

<http://www.fernwoodra.com>

News and Events brought to you by Fernwood Parish Council and Fernwood Residents' Association

Spring 2015

Fernwood Amateur Dramatic Society



This years pantomime was a success with full audiences at all three performances. It has proved to be hard work to put on in early January with Christmas, so we have decided to put it on a little later next year, but we hope our audiences will still come along to cheer and boo as usual. February half term week has been booked as we thought this would be better for the children who take part as well as those who come to see us to have a non school week.

Obviously that will be advertised much closer to the time but for this year we have just begun work on a new murder mystery which we will be hoping to put on in Fernwood— with a supper evening— sometime in the spring, possibly May. Then another supper evening with a two one act act plays later in the year. Before we start rehearsals for the annual panto again.

We have taken on some new members and hopefully you will see them in this years productions but we can always welcome more, so if anyone wants to join us and have a laugh they are very welcome.

Dates for the murder mystery will be advertised in plenty of time so watch out for the posters in april. We look forward to seeing you all again very soon.

Mollie Weale
Fernwood Amateur Dramatic Society



FERNWOOD RESIDENTS ASSOCIA- TION

OPEN MEET- ING AND AGM

MAY 10TH 2015

Fernwood Village Hall

7-30pm

There will be guest speakers to give information on the village north development, youth service, maintenance, the school, police followed by an open forum and election of officers and committee for 2015

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Social Media at Fernwood

In order for the Parish Council and FRA to hold sway with Newark and Sherwood Council and the Developers it needs to demonstrate that it represents the views of the residents. The last Open meeting of the FRA had a good turnout of around 50 people. However another meeting with OM Management who maintain our village had only a few attendees.

A survey printed in the last issue of Fanfare elicited only 5 responses. It was reissued online and got a much better response although not fully representative. This newsletter is seen as an important means of distributing information but is a one way flow.

Social media would be the way to go and the FRA are looking to introduce a dedicated Website for the village which would enable everybody in the village to interact, unite the community and express their opinion. In the meantime I would urge everybody to use the existing website and facebook sites already set up by some of our residents or a new set up called Streetlife. -----Editor
.....Jeff.hobson.jh@gmail.com



Fernwood Petanque Club



The Petanque club is still very busy. We are in the middle of our winter competition. Two teams braved the cold weather to play at Mansfield in December and Bluebell in January. We are currently 4th in the league.

February is Fernwoods turn to host the competition the first on our 6 lane terrain, which I am sure will be a big success.

On Saturday 21st February we have been invited to play Boccia (Indoor Petanque) at the Indoor Bowls Centre at Newark Showground. We are really looking forward to this and hope to see what facilities other clubs have to offer. For residents we run a Boccia session in the village hall on Wednesdays from 11:30 to 1:30.

The spring bank holiday will see a number of our members joining the Twinning Association trip to Saint—Cyr—Sur—Loire in France. This will be an ideal opportunity to try Petanque the French way and perhaps a few glasses of wine.

We would be very pleased to see some new members. Interested please contact Elaine 01636 640350 or John 01636 673736.

.....Ray Dickinson.

Fernwood Residents Association

Another year is upon us and the Fernwood Residents Association wishes everyone a happy 2015.

This year looks to be interesting and exciting with events and developments in Fernwood. There is the proposed northern development to the village bringing with it extensions to the existing infrastructure. Stage 3 of the Fernwood Annex of Chute Ede School extending with extra classrooms in order to cater for a 2 form entry. Along with this comes the adoption of the majority of the village roads especially the 2 spine roads Goldstraw and Dale Way. This should open discussion regarding parking and a possible bus route, originally which stopped because of the unadopted road system.

We are still receiving the £5000 bursary from Barretts/David Wilson Homes and look forward to continued development of the village amenities with additional facilities.

HAVE YOU A CHILD AGED 5-12 YEARS?

The Residents Association are in discussion with Nottinghamshire Youth Service to provide facilities and activities for the young people of Fernwood. Following a meeting with Linda Cobb (Voluntary Sector Technical Specialist)

- It was decided that there may be a need for some local consultation around the possible provision of a play scheme or youth club.
- We discussed the possibility of developing initially a play scheme for children aged between 5 and 12 years in Fernwood, it would be great if local parents and carers could be involved in its development (support would come from Linda providing DBS checks and training, supporting meetings etc).
- It would be a good idea if we could get the youth bus onto Fernwood at the 'Party in the Park Event', to help with consultation and gather interest in either a play scheme or youth club.
- It would be a good idea if local parents visited the open meeting in September with Linda Cobb attending.
- Information will go out in the Fanfare and Fernwood Facebook providing a good information sharing opportunity (a chance to see if there are local people that would like to be involved, as a play scheme or club would be a volunteering opportunity for local people).

These things only happen if there is sufficient interest, support, enthusiasm and involvement from the community as a whole. So your support and involvement is needed.

John Proctor (Chairman Fernwood Residents Association)

Useful Contacts

Local Police: Tel 101
 Emergencies: Tel 999
 Fernwood Village Hall: Tel 613024
 Doctors:
 Balderton Primary Care Centre: Tel 705826
 Newark Hospital: Tel 681681
 Newark & Sherwood District Council: Tel 650000
 Fernwood Parish Council: clerk@fernwood-pc.co.uk
 Email: jrproctor@talktalk.net
 Fanfare copy to :jeff.hobson.jh@gmail.com

Maintenance Issues

For any maintenance issues regarding charges, payments etc contact:

John Jeys
 OM site office at the rear of 112 Goldstraw Lane
 OM Property Management: omfernwood@fsmail.net
 Mob: 07738 738910

Fernwood Residents' Association:
www.fernwoodra.com

Development funding for Fernwood donated by David Wilson/Barratts Homes



Thanks to a very generous donation from the developers, DWH/Barratts Homes, we are now in a position to continue to make some positive changes to Fernwood's infrastructure. We have just about to receive our third amount of £5000.

If you have got any ideas for projects to improve and develop the Village make your application now. We are sure that you have wondered why a village of this size has not been built with certain facilities and/or planting schemes – so now is the time that you can contribute to change.

Residents or resident groups are invited to submit initial ideas for projects which will benefit the village as well as the group. Just let us know what you have in mind.

It is hoped that there will be many applications coming forward so the sooner you let us know the better.

The user group – Project Review Group – will review the

merits of any projects submitted and prioritise those for immediate consideration.

It is aimed to make the application process as straightforward as possible so an attempt has been made to simplify any rules/conditions governing an award. However, they will include:

(a) The applicant shall give brief details of what the project is and how it will benefit the group and the development of the village and residents.

(b) a condition that any project is completed within one year

(c) the validity of any application must be supported a bank account and/or Minutes from the group or supporting user group – thereby giving confidence that there is sufficient backing to both control the expenditure and delivery of any project

(d) If a project fails or comes in under budget all excess money will be returned.

Initial enquiries should be directed to the Chairman of the Project Review Group, John Proctor – final submissions by the end of April.

John Proctor (Chairman Fernwood Residents Association)

HIGH SPEED BROADBAND IN FERNWOOD

This from Dennis Doyle who lives on Phoenix lane and after failing to make any progress with BT and BT open-reach contacted Notts CC via Newark and Sherwood council..This is their response:

We can confirm that Newark Cabinet 78 which you are connected to is outside our current rollout plans. Better Broadband for Nottinghamshire is a £19.8m programme which will extend fibre broadband to 95% of

homes and business across Nottinghamshire by 2016. The network is designed in such a way as to maximise coverage within available funding constraints. Regrettably there is simply not enough funding to reach 100%

For your postcode, it is hoped through project efficiency savings, and with new technologies becoming available, more properties will be able to benefit as part of the current rollout; potentially

towards the end of the programme in 2016, although no promises can be given.

In addition, we have secured an additional £5.2m investment from central government and the D2N2 LEP Growth Deal which will enable us to extend countrywide fibre coverage beyond the current 95% by 2017. We are currently going through the procurement process for a Contract 2 rollout. The County Council are prioritising three districts

with this additional investment; These being Newark and Sherwood, Rushcliffe and Bassetlaw.

We hope to award the contract early next year and will be in a position to publish maps of the areas which will benefit in spring 2015. We would advise checking our website in the spring to find out if your street will be covered between 2016 and 2017.

ACCIDENT BLACKSPOT IN FERNWOOD

Once again the problem of speeding along Dale Way and Goldstraw Lane has resulted in complaints from residents. There have been several accidents over the last few years but the recent cold weather caused several accidents near the junction with Gilmores Lane resulting in a tree knocked down, a cat killed and many cars receiving damage to their axles and wheels when hitting the kerb. More

concerning was that of a van with a trailer where the trailer finished up on the pavement. Had there been a pedestrian such a child walking to school or a dog walker they could have been injured or killed.

The other issue that raises regular complaints is that of parking along Goldstraw. We are all aware of the shortage of parking in the village however at the last Open Meeting

of the FRA on the 10th January David Wilson Homes unveiled their outline plans for the next development to the north of the village for another 900 homes. There will be no access allowed under the A1 to Spring lane so that all access will be via Goldstraw Lane or Dale Way then through Phoenix Lane with Hollowdyke lane used for site traffic. Potentially double the current traffic volume!

Fernwood Parish Council are doing their bit with strong objections to the current DWH proposal but speeding and parking is down to our residents. When Goldstraw lane is adopted in the near future it will be then possible to enforce speed restrictions

PLEASE

SLOW DOWN



Winter is nearly over and Spring is in the air, thank goodness, with some very busy months ahead for the Village. Most of the roads will be adopted by the time you read this newsletter – all things being equal that is – so that we can get to grips with the issue of inconsiderate parking. A meeting with Highways should help us to work out plans to tackle this. Better news is that having been advised of icy patches

on some areas of our spine road, Highways have agreed to put grit bins at strategic points for use by residents and have also promised gritters at the first sign of bad conditions, paying particular attention to the hotspots.

There has also been an increase in dog fouling which is puzzling as practically everyone should know by now the seriousness of allowing this anti-social behaviour to keep on happening – not only the inconvenience and mess of taking it home on shoes, tyres, wheels etc. but the spread of disease. There is a fine of £1,000 if anyone should be caught not picking up.

Meetings are being held regarding the development of the village as it stands and the new builds, which, of course, will bring up the question of access and exits to the new builds. The flood levels will also be discussed as they could be a problem.

Surprisingly, Balderton Parish Council did not find any objection to the 2,600 new homes to be built in the Lowfield Lane area, despite the obvious problems of build up of traffic, which should have been considered.

This brings me to another worrying congestion problem, the closure of several rural railway crossings in the area. Bullpit Lane, Whitecross Lane and Barnbygate are all scheduled for closure, although Barnbygate will have a road bridge. Also, the Claypole crossing, which will have a definite affect on Fernwood. An underpass is being considered but with the water levels involved it could be interesting. There is no doubt that this community will be affected by all the traffic being diverted. I sometimes wonder whether our County and District Councils can see the bigger picture but, there again, most of them do not live here.

Finally, I come to the OM problem which affects most of us. Strictly speaking this is not a Parish Council concern, but a Residents' Association one. Of course, being a resident myself it does become personal. Not only are their bills extortionate but their contract is "open ended" which gives them the freedom to do as they please. They close open spaces at their whim and if they are allowed to manage the "Meadow" they could destroy everything which Fernwood residents love about it.

After speaking to an officer at District I have been told that the general way forward is for a maintenance contract to be issued for every new build, which is something for the future. Our District Council get their share of our Community Charge but are slow in recognising their responsibility for maintenance care. This should not be allowed to happen.

Parish Council—Jim Gould

One of the significant issues, in terms of complaints received by the Residents' Association (FRA) and Parish Council (PC), is that of dog fouling – this problem is worsening and features regularly at the joint FRA/PC/OM maintenance meetings.

Indeed our Parish Council is looking at installing more dog bins and related warning signs with consideration being given to participating in the "We are watching you campaign" – the 'dog mess' menace is growing and must be curbed.

Many of you will have read the article highlighted in the 12th February issue of the Newark Advertiser: "Keen to conserve meadow", and

which demonstrates how residents value this communal area. Well, the facts are that the farmer who mowed the area for haylage advised that he could no longer do so because the ground had become contaminated. An actual count, following this decision, revealed that there were 200+ instances where there was uncollected dog mess. Following the decision by the farmer to discontinue the FOC service the problem was then passed over to OM who have been in dialogue with the joint FRA/PC/OM and Conservation Group – the 'Walkabout Group' – to consider various proposals to return the area to a valued and usable asset appreciated by all

Dog Fouling

residents. Of course, these would be at a cost to residents and estimates vary depending on the solutions offered eg. return to a wild grass area, a wild flower area or establish as a closely cut turfed area and/or a combination of these and more with conservation issues high on the agenda. A decision will be made by the Parish Council.

It is a great pity that we have arrived at the situation where the subject area is now in an unsatisfactory state – distressing because of a minority of irresponsible dog owners (many of whom, we are informed, are visitors from neighbouring villages). Residents can help our community by always report-

ing incidents of dog fouling to the dog warden at Newark & Sherwood District Council (NSDC). If you notice persistent offences simply record the date, time and area with a description of the dog and its owner. You do not have to become directly involved – the officers at NSDC will monitor the situation and progress as necessary including any legal redress. However, if you feel reluctant to take this step forward your record/notes to the Parish Council – they will be progressed by the 'Walkabout Group.'



Because of the earlier icy conditions – and we're still not free of the Winter or early Spring potential for adverse weather conditions – incidents of dangerous road conditions have been reported with damage to vehicles. An appeal is made for drivers to slow down on potentially untreated road surfaces – further: reports have been received of a tree being knocked down and a cat being killed.

The road systems within Fernwood are now the responsibility of the Highways Department at Notts County Council, and you should always report difficulties. On one occasion the drains had not been cleared, and the backed-up water had frozen into a skating rink. Advise your Parish Council so that detailed reports can be submitted for further consideration and action following the Development meetings which engage all stakeholders to the village.

The key message as advised by a concerned resident, is: *"Take care, slow down and warn others to do so. Save a life."*

Dear Sirs,

Re: Application reference 14/00465/OUTM – Fernwood North

We the undersigned, residents of Fernwood, are opposed to any outline approval being granted in respect of the proposed North development and until the following issues have been acknowledged and fully addressed:

Flood potential: reassurances are required that there is no risk to the proposed north development, and following completion of which will not impact in any way on the existing Fernwood village.

Hollowdyke Lane: it is understood that this will be the primary access route (although there is no programme to indicate when any contemplated upgrade would be completed) – however, in terms of safety and suitability (including drainage considerations), reservations are expressed whether this is the best option. It is suggested that other access routes be investigated eg. the design of another purpose built road via the Gt. North Road (in the vicinity of the turn off to Claypole village).

Facilities: there is no provision for the introduction of further shopping and community facilities within the new development. Bearing in mind the problems of access and parking provision to the existing centre (now referred to as Fernwood Central) the outline plan should be re-visited to accommodate such arrangements. There absolutely should have been some measurement of the traffic movement through the Central area, use of the shop units and the village hall – initial investigations would have revealed that usage and access is at near capacity.

In order to alleviate a potentially difficult situation it is recommended that consideration be given to:

- (a) a one way system through the existing village's shops and community centre – through negotiating a separate access via Balderton Hall to Dale Way.
- (b) building a new overflow car park adjacent to the village hall ie. facing the communal green areas.
- (c) developing a new access road into the central area via the existing roundabout leading to Goldstraw Lane.

Character of the new village:

Affordable Housing: provision has been made for the build of Affordable Housing – 30% of the total build programme – but this would not reflect the character of the build programme within the existing village at 10%. Already, the high density (lower cost housing) build within the existing Fernwood is causing problems re. parking and speeding therefore the 30% proposed needs to be re-visited.

Design: based on the experiences suffered to date it is suggested that when designing the new housing stock that adequate parking provision is made to the frontage of each dwelling – resulting in better usage of space and utilisation of allocated parking lots.

Maintenance charges: at some point the arrangements for the new village need to be addressed to avoid the anomalies and acrimonious exchanges that currently exist between residents and the maintenance team.

Delivery of the new build programme: it is recommended that as part of the process that Fernwood residents should be involved in the ongoing development via a management group consisting of the NSDC, developers as well as residents (through representatives of the Parish Council and Residents' Association)..

Further :

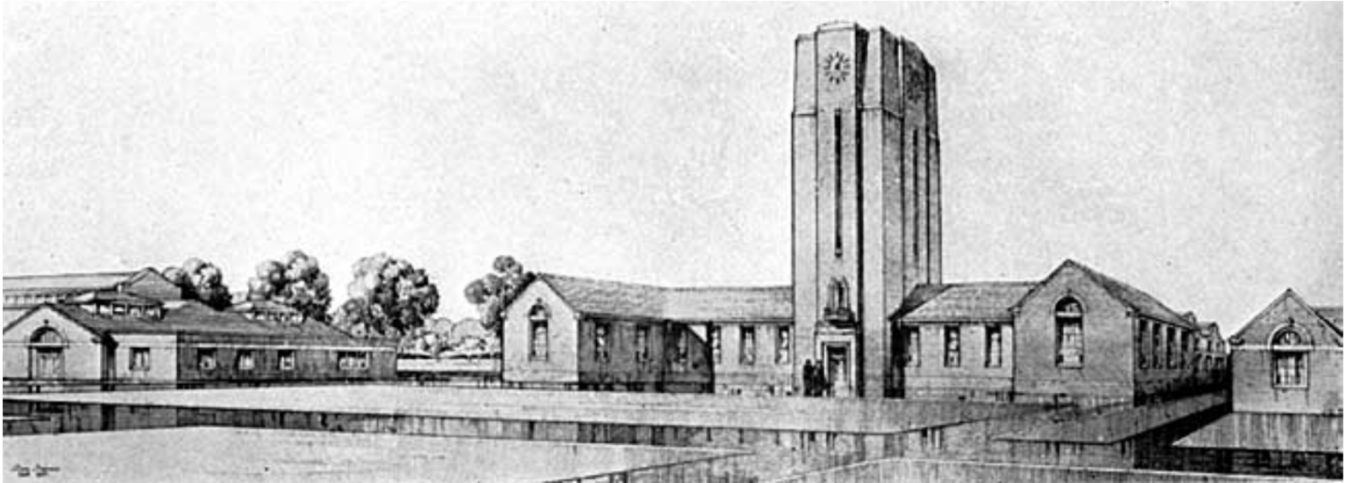
- (a) reassurance that provisions are being made to attract businesses within the immediate area to support employment opportunities for the increased population.
- (b) other essential support systems eg. medical provision, school places for Fernwood children have been catered for.
- (c) that all works, build and enhancements (including full road adoption) to Fernwood Central should be completed prior to the commencement of the North development.

Transportation: the suggestion that there are adequate public transportation links is refuted, and must at least be on a par with our near neighbours in Balderton.

Fernwood "Water" Tower

Many will know that Newark and Sherwood District Council are considering a planning application for 7 houses in Fernwood that require the demolition of the Water Tower. The Parish Council and many individuals have made their objections to the demolition known to the Council so we must await their deliberation.

Have read through some of the responses from consultees, one interesting fact that emerged is that it is not a water tower at all but a chimney for an engine house from which the side wings have been demolished.



Construction of the tower appears to have started in the 1930s, but wartime halted construction when a large Victorian house on the site was used by officers from Balderton airfield. Work recommenced in 1945 but was not finally finished until 1957 - when it was opened by the Minister of Health Enoch Powell. The architecture of the tower design is reminiscent of the Home Ales Office tower in Arnold (Nottingham) which was designed by T.C Howitt (1936) - the central portion of the Arnold building is a water tower and has a similar clockface. The Fernwood tower is apparently architecturally more elegant in its form. In recent discussions with English Heritage, the tower was considered informally for listing but deemed unlikely to be successful due to its loss of context.

With thanks to Newark and Sherwood District Council Conservation Officer.

£9,000 refund for the village.

A notable success for your Maintenance Strategy Group in December was the agreement of our maintenance company OM to refund £9,000 that had been incorrectly charged to us. This is a great achievement for the new group which is equivalent to almost 2 years of awards from Barratts / David Wilson Homes for Village improvements. You will see this in the accounts under "Gardening Cost Refund". Whilst the Maintenance group had only been running for 6 months, Sue Taylor of the Group had been toiling away for years analysing the accounts and expenditures and it is her work that has resulted in this success.

A change that you may have noticed is that following our discussions with OM, your statement of accounts now includes explanations of major items of expenditure. Following our requests, there has also been a public meeting where OM have presented the accounts to residents and also been available to answer questions. At last residents are starting to get the opportunity to have a say in their maintenance. There were some unanswered questions from the meeting that OM agreed to provide in 10 days and these will be posted onto the Residents Association web site and also publicised through the Fernwood Facebook site.

A survey has recently been compiled by the Group amongst Fernwoodians that will enable the Group to better identify exactly where maintenance problems lie and to gain local representatives to report back on maintenance quality issues. Over 50 responses have already been received and we will ensure that the results are published for all to see.

Discussions are ongoing with both OM and Barratts/David Wilson Homes regarding maintenance and accounting.

You can keep in touch with what is going on and let us know your thoughts and concerns through social media on the Fernwood site <https://www.facebook.com/groups/71767408822/> and fernwoodra.com

Beaumont . House . Community . Hospice.



Do you have an item of designer clothing in your wardrobe that no longer fits or that you have never worn and are willing to part with?

Any donations of clothing, shoes, hand-bags, accessories or even coat hangers or clothing rails will be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to donate any items please bring them along to Beaumont House, if you would like any more details of the event, please contact the Beaumont House Fundraising Team on 016 36 610556.



**DOGGY FUN DAY
SUNDAY 17TH MAY, FROM 12 pm**



70's Disco with Freddie Mercury Tribute at Fernwood Village Hall

Billy West, Europe's No. 1 Freddie Mercury Impersonator

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH

doors open 6.30pm

Come dressed for the occasion

70's Buffet included

Buy Tickets from Fernwood Village Hall Facebook Page

Tickets
Adults £10.00 per person
Children £6.50
Family £26.00
(2 Adults & 2 children)



I didn't believe my wife when she said she was a big fan of the MONKEES. Then I saw her face.....

Summer Issue June; copy to
jeff.hobson.jh@gmail.com by 18th May

FERNWOOD SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Our Sports Association is holding its inaugural AGM at the village hall on Tuesday 31st March @ 7pm

If you have any sporting interest and wish to become involved please contact: E: secretary@fernwoodra.com

At the moment we have fast developing sporting groups: Petanque, Boules, Football, Tennis, Nordic walking, Running – and we are anxious to resurrect interest in Netball

Join our local association - as a participant (all ages) or as a volunteer

ST GILES CHURCH—Balderton

Thursday 12th March
Sunday 15th March
Thursday 19th March
Thursday 26th March
Sunday 29th March
a Parade to

Mothering Sunday

Palm Sunday

Thursday 2nd April
Friday 3rd April
Saturday 4th April
Sunday 5th April

Maundy Thursday
Good Friday
Easter Saturday
Easter Sunday

7 pm Lent Course in St Giles
9.30 am Family Service with Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday
7 pm Lent Course in St Giles
7 pm Lent Course in St Giles
10.30 am Holy Communion Service starting at The Methodist Church, followed by St Giles and being joined by members of the Salvation Army.
9.45 am Holy Communion at St Giles
10 am Hot Cross Bun Service followed by Children's Easter Workshop
7 pm Service of Light
9.30 am Family Service with Holy Communion at St Giles

Normal Services at St Giles are
First Sunday of the Month

Last Sunday of the Month

All other Sundays

Every Thursday

8.00 am Holy Communion
9.30 am until 10.15 am All Age worship
6 pm Evensong
9.30 am Family Friendly Holy Communion Service
6 pm Evensong (or Refresh fourth Sunday of the month)
9.30 am Holy Communion
6 pm Evensong.
9.45 am Holy Communion

NORDIC WALKING

Fancy shedding that extra few pounds, completing your first half marathon or relishing fitness in the splendour of the great outdoors?



If so, **Nordic Walking** may just be the exercise that you've been looking for!

Nordic Walking is a fitness activity that uses specially designed poles to engage the upper body's musculature. It offers a variety of benefits regardless of your fitness level, age or experience. The potential to improve your health and fitness is right in the palm of your hands, literally! **Nordic Walking** combines poles and physical strength to move the body weight forward and over the ground. It provides both cardiovascular and strength work out simultaneously. The combination of continuous, rhythmic motion and the resistance generated by the tips of the poles creates powerful momentum.

Many benefits associated with Nordic Walking are:

- Cardiorespiratory fitness Heart health Postural development
- Bone density Injury rehabilitation Pain Management
- Reduced stress levels Muscle strength and endurance
- Mobility, stability and balance Reduced impact on joints
- Aid to weight loss programme

Interested Contact Deb Watts
 Debwatts100@hotmail.com
 01636922404
 07415 115509

Party in the Park
 Fernwood Village
 End of June
 Date to be determined

Fernwood Maintenance Strategy Group Survey Responses ...extracts

1. 51% of respondees were unaware that OM has an open ended contract to maintain our village.
2. The main areas of grievance were litter, lack of weeding and hedge trimming, dog faeces and the meadow.

Full details at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SMJTRMW277/>

Fernwood being placed on the map



Fernwood Taekwondo club will soon be hosting a regional event which will highlight the growth of the club and the local community.

On the 8th March the village hall will see junior Taekwondo students travelling from across the Midlands region to take part in an afternoon of exercise, team games and fun activities with some of the Country's most experienced coaches.

Club instructor Daniel Pearce is pleased to be acting as host for an event which has previously attracted large numbers of participants. He said it was a boost for the club which has continued to grow and develop over recent months.

"We have recently seen more families taking up Taekwondo together, and our membership has grown rapidly since the Christmas break. I am delighted that other coaches and instructors in the area have recognised this success by allowing us the opportunity to host this event."

The club is welcoming new participants all the time and wants to encourage more families with a special offer. If any parents want to come and try Taekwondo with their children then classes will be half price for the whole family during March. If anyone would like to give Taekwondo a try they should pop down to the village hall on Monday nights or contact Daniel on 01476 570616, or at info@tkdclubs.com.