NORTON NEWS

July 2024 Edition

Please email nneditor@nortonparish.com if you have anything you wish to be included in the Norton News

Public consultation on housing development on land at Brookelands, Tewkesbury Road

The Parish Council has been informed that Black Box Planning, agents for Wain Homes, will shortly be inviting Norton residents to take part in a public consultation on plans to build a selection of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 bedroomed houses on land at Brookelands, Tewkesbury Road, adjacent to the A38.

Black Box Planning describe the proposals as "intensification of the site", rather than a new development. Planning permission already exists to build 9 houses on this site, but the developer now wishes to increase that number from 9 to 45 dwellings.

A flyer setting out the proposals, complete with location and site layout plans, will shortly be delivered to local households inviting residents to send their comments to a dedicated website - www.blackboxplanning.co.uk/norton . The consultation will be open until Friday 19 July.

The Parish Council has asked Black Box Planning to hold a face to face public consultation, in addition to their online consultation. The Council pointed out that the proposals constitute a significant increase in the number of houses on this site. Residents should therefore be given the opportunity to discuss the proposals face to face with the developer's agents and have their questions answered.

This proposed development will be discussed at the next meeting of the Parish Council on **Wednesday 10 July**. A representative of Black Box Planning has been invited to the meeting.

July Parish Council Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 10 July at 7.30pm** in the Committee Room of the Village Hall. All parishioners are invited to attend.

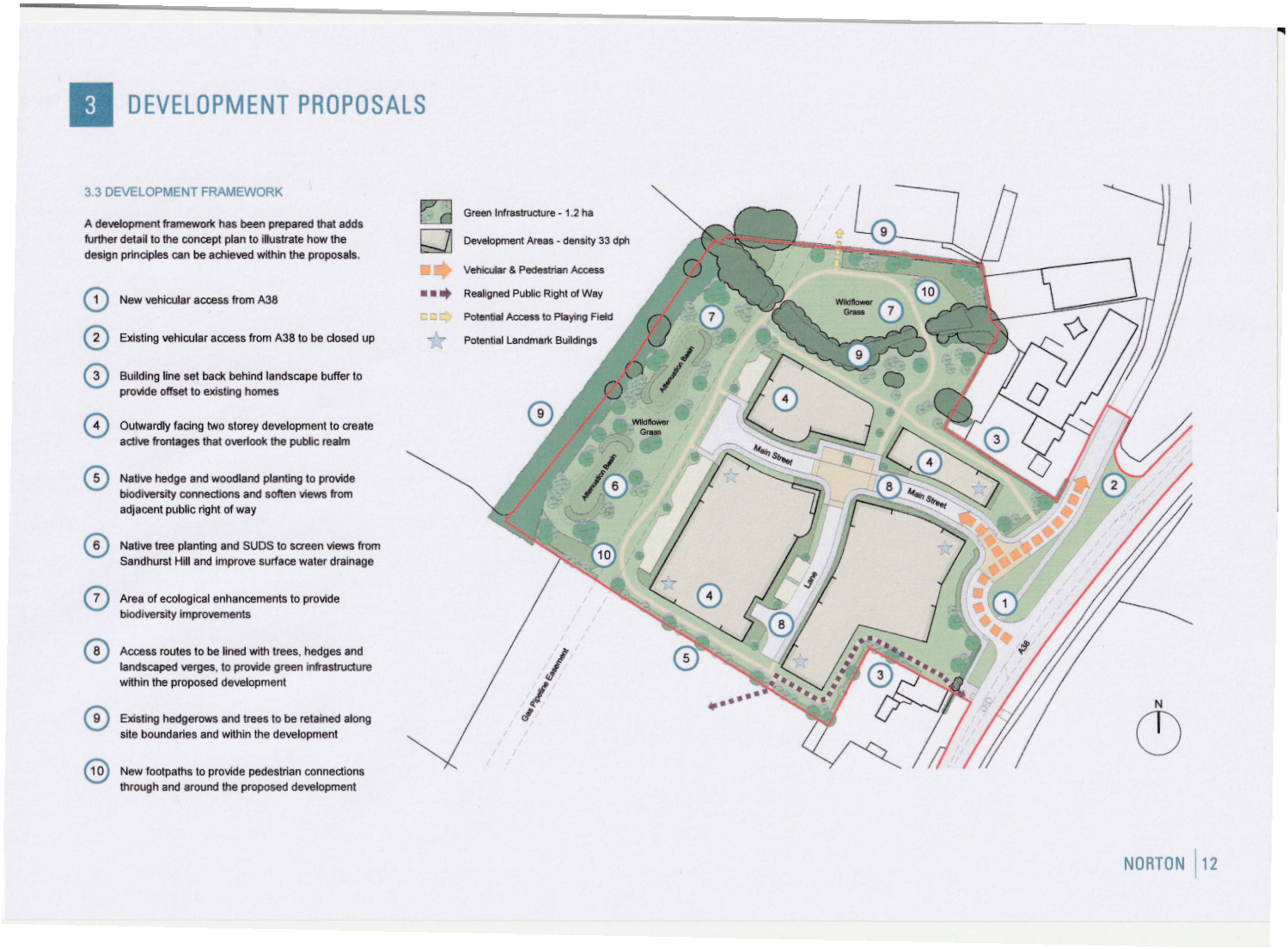
Housing Development on Land at Cold Elm

As reported last month, the Parish Council has been invited by Tewkesbury Borough Council to comment on a revised planning application for the erection of 35 houses on land between Cold Elm Cottage and The Teachers. This revised application includes amended plans to address objections made by the Highway Authority to the A38 access contained in the original application.

These amended plans propose closing the existing junction of Old Tewkesbury Road with the A38 and the construction of a new vehicular access from the A38 to serve both the proposed development and village traffic. (See the attached plan.) The Parish Council has submitted robust objections to the proposals and a copy of their objections has been posted on the Council's website: nortonparish.com .

The section of proposed new road is adjacent to Norton Primary School. Its proximity to the existing junction with the A38 means that traffic drives past the school well below the current speed limit of 30mph. But this is unlikely to be the case if the new access is constructed. A longer stretch of road between a new A38 access and the school means that traffic will inevitably pick up speed before reaching the school site.

The Parish Council has therefore suggested that if a new vehicular access serving the village is constructed, the speed limit on Old Tewkesbury Road between the new access and the junction with Wainlode Lane should be reduced from 30mph to 20mph to ensure the safety of children and their parents when walking to and from school.



Storm Water and Flooding Report

At its last meeting the Parish Council discussed the need to collect evidence of flooding in the village, particularly in Cold Elm and on Wainlode Lane, in order to put pressure on Severn Trent Water to improve sewer capacity in the area. To help collect evidence, the Council has decided to set up a google database to enable residents to report issues with stormwater and flooding in the parish using the following link:

https://forms.gle/yboVyWTe9bZLK4686

Reports received via this link will be added automatically to a spreadsheet with a timestamp and the resident who submitted the report will receive an email confirming their submission.

The Council have also set up a designated email address - nortonpcreporting@gmail.com - which will be displayed at the end of each submission so that residents can also send in supporting photographs as well - photographic evidence is particularly valuable. This means that flooding submissions and related photographs will be collected in the same place.

Emails sent to this address will receive an auto response confirming receipt. Please note that this email address should only be used for flood reporting. Questions about flooding or any other council matter where a reply is needed should be sent to nortoncouncil@gmail.com as usual.

This reporting system is up and running now and the Parish Council urges residents to report every instance of flooding that they encounter.

Norton, Leigh & District 74th Horticultural Show



Norton Bus Shelter

The new Norton Bus Shelter is now complete (photo taken just prior to completion of paintwork).



Norton Nurturing Nature

While some verges require cutting to enable visibility when driving, the need to keep a roadside verge as manicured, sterile lawn is changing, particularly on our motorways, rural verges, and some urban highways as communities recognize the potential for reduced management costs, less use of fuel and the opportunity to increase biodiversity.

While cutting a small strip alongside a footpath may be required to stop long wet grass falling across a path, species-rich verges enhance the local character and visual interest and help the road blend into the wider, natural landscape.

Verges rich in native wild flowers support more wildlife, are more resilient to environmental change, enhance ecological connectivity and provide better ecosystem services such as pollination. When maintained through a cyclical management regime, grassland verges provide a cost-effective management option and represent an important opportunity for biodiversity and homes for bees and insects so vital.



So, lets embrace, enjoy and cherish the rich diversity, wild flowers and verdant potential offered by the verges and hedgerows in our parish! The natural world will thank you.

https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/sites/default/files/2019-09/Managing%20grassland%20road%20verges.pdf

Only cutting a narrow strip enables the wild flowers and insects to thrive.

Useful Links and Contacts

https://nortonparish.com
https://seventowers.org.uk
nortoncouncil@gmail.com
Norton History
NHS 111
Police Non-Emergency number : 101
Norton Village Hall Website

Did you know there is a Norton branch of Neighbourhood Watch?

With over 100 villagers in the group, it's a great way to keep in contact. Please email to join:

christine1williams@btinternet.com

There is a Regular Collection of donations for the Gloucester Food Bank at St Mary's in Priors Norton. Please drop any food or toiletry items every other Wednesday morning.

Pizzas, Bar and Euro 2024 Cup Final Fundraiser For Norton Village Hall
Sunday 14TH July

Fundraiser for Norton Village Hall: Euro 2024 Finals with Pizzas and Pop-up Bar from British Polo Gin. Sunday 14th July - Pizzas and Bar from 7PM!

We are delighted to announce that the Norton Village Hall Committee will be holding their fourth, monthly Food and Drink event on Sunday 14th July in the Village Hall to raise funds for the upkeep of the hall. This coincides nicely with the Euro 2024 Final at 8PM :)

British Polo Gin will be cooking up their delicious Pizzas from 7PM. The pizzas can be enjoyed before, during and after the cup final or simply ordered as a takeaway. Prices £10 and £12. There will also be a full service bar featuring draft lager, organic wines, organic G&Ts and soft drinks from 7PM until 30 minutes after the match ends. We want to establish this quiz / pop up food offering as a regular event to raise funds for the Village Hall - so do come on down and check it out. If the weather is fine there are new outdoor tables for you to enjoy your food and drink in the sun!

You are more than welcome to arrive on the day, but it would be helpful if you could register your interest in advance. For further information, or to register your interest, please contact Rich at British Polo Gin on richard@britishpologin.co.uk / 01452730770.



