

Welcome to the

FERNWOOD GAZETTE



Autumn Update 2025

It's been an exciting few months for Fernwood and continues to stay busy as we move into the Autumn and Festive period in the village. A highlight has undoubtedly been the opening of the new play park over the summer. After a long wait, it's been wonderful to see children and families enjoying the space and the feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Thank you to all residents for your patience while the project was completed and whilst we completed some additional works at the end of September. As discussed, we're now moving forward with plans to install CCTV to help keep the park safe for everyone.

We're also pleased to welcome two new councillors via co-option at our September meeting, Drew and Jules. They have already hit the ground running and bring fresh energy and ideas; you will likely see them at some of our events in the coming months!

Looking ahead, Fernwood will be taking part in Remembrance Day commemorations this November, and we hope many of you will join us in paying tribute. We've also been consulted about proposals for a new Tesco, Costa, and additional drive-thru facilities near the business park. At this stage, we are awaiting further information, but we will continue to update residents as soon as we know more.

As the year draws to a close, the excitement is building for our Festive celebrations.

The Christmas Craft Market and of course our Fernwood Community Christmas event will return for the third year – with Christmas crafts and a special visit from Santa and his grotto in the garden! Thank you, as always, for your continued support and community spirit. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming events.



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Contact us

Address: Fernwood Parish
Council, Fernwood Village
Hall, Ruby's Avenue,
Fernwood, NG24 3RS

Email:
office@fernwood-pc.co.uk
Telephone: 01636 613024

PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

Office opening times:

Monday - Friday

10am – 1pm

Fernwood Parish Council, Fernwood Village Hall, Rubys Avenue, Fernwood, NG24 3RS

Email: office@fernwood-pc.co.uk

Telephone: 01636 613024

A message from: Councillor Shepherd

I say this a lot, but it really has been busy in Fernwood recently. The new park, planning applications, events over the summer and planning ahead - we've got plenty going on! A special thank you to everyone involved in the first ever Safari Sale back in September. It was fun to organise and the feedback was excellent, so I look forward to planning another in 2026! Me and the team in the village hall are also busy planning Halloween and Christmas; plus we're already looking ahead to next year with some new events to bring the community together.

I have also taken on the challenge of organising a community group to oversee the new planters being fitted at the village hall. It's great to be joined by two new councillors! Being a Parish Councillor is voluntary; unlike other councillors we're unpaid and all of us undertake the role around day jobs and busy families. It is great that Drew and Jules are joining us at the Parish Council and their time is much appreciated. As always, if you have any questions or ideas for the Parish Council please do get in touch. We're all happy to chat!

Our meetings

Councillors meet most months to discuss issues raised by residents, planning & strategy. These meetings are published online beforehand. Residents are welcome at the first 15 minutes for open discussion, to raise any concerns or ask any questions regarding the agenda. Our minutes and agendas are posted online, as well as on our noticeboards which are on the side of the village hall and on Goldstraw Lane, opposite the clock tower.

Upcoming meeting details:

Council meeting

Monday 20th October

Monday 17th November

Monday 19th January 2026

Residents are always welcome to come into the parish council office in the village hall if they have any queries.

You can also follow our Facebook page for regular updates on the Council's work.





WHAT'S ON

FERNWOOD VILLAGE HALL

www.facebook.com/village.hall.fernwood/



MONDAY

9:30 - 10:30
Peaceful Possums
Yoga

11:45 - 13:15
Sit, Get Fit, Get
Healthy

17:30-19:30
Tae kwon-do

20:00-21:00
Zumba

TUESDAY

10:00- 12:00
Coffee Group &
Knit and Natter

18:00-19:00
Newark Karate
Academy

19:30-21:00
Fernwood Amateur
Dramatics

WEDNESDAY

17:30 - 18:30
Blossoms

19:30 - 21:30
Fernwood Ladies
Choir

19:30 - 21:30
(3rd Wednesday of
the Month)
Women's Institute

THURSDAY

9:30-11:30
Baby & Toddlers Group

14:00-15:30
Moving Together

19:00 - 19:45
Move with Char

FRIDAY

9:30-12:10
Caterpillar
Music

17:30 - 18:30
Blossoms

18:30 - 19:15
Dog Days

SATURDAY

09:30-11:30
Studio 29 Musical
Theatre

SUNDAY

10:30-13:00
Fernwood Community
Church

For contact details of group organisers, please visit:

www.fernwood-pc.co.uk/community/fernwood-parish-council-13053/regular-events/



FERNWOOD SAFARI

A huge thank you to everyone who took part in and supported the very first Fernwood Safari event in September! It was a huge success with lots of bargains to be found. From garden and garage stalls, to the craft fair at the Village Hall it was wonderful to see our community come together for a fun-filled day. Everyone was raving about some of the cakes baked and we hope you all enjoyed meeting neighbours & finding a bargain. The creativity and effort was lovely to see. We are especially pleased that the money raised from the sale of maps has been donated to local charity Gifts from Fairies, helping to spread the joy even further and also to St John's Ambulance.

Thank you once again to all who joined in, whether by hosting, buying, or browsing. We look forward to making the Fernwood Safari an annual tradition and will see you all again next September. If you have any feedback or would like to get involved in planning do reach out to Councillor Shepherd for more information.





H A L L O W E E N



PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

THIS HALLOWEEN THE PARISH COUNCIL ARE ORGANISING A SPECIAL PUMPKIN CARVING
COMPETITION AT THE VILLAGE HALL

HOW TO ENTER:

CARVE YOUR PUMPKIN AT HOME THEN
DROP IT OFF AT THE VILLAGE HALL
PRIZES FOR THE BEST PUMPKINS!

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON HALLOWEEN AND ALL ENTRIES WILL BE DISPLAYED IN
THE VILLAGE HALL GARDENS ON HALLOWEEN NIGHT FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY.

BIG OR SMALL, SPOOKY OR SILLY — ALL PUMPKINS WELCOME!

PLEASE DELIVER ALL ENTRIES TO THE VILLAGE HALL BY 12PM ON
FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER



MEET OUR NEW COUNCILLORS

Drew Armstrong

I'm a former headteacher who specialized in Social, Emotional and Mental Health education. I worked in schools across Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire, specializing in the age ranges of 4 to 18. After 21 years i decided that I wanted a new challenge, a little closer to home, and decided to change careers. I now work at Currys following one of my hobbies as a Laptop engineer. I have lived in Fernwood since November 2011 with my family. We frequently take an active role in local community activities such as the Scarecrow competition and the recent Fernwood Safari. Previously, I had also volunteered as a marshal for the Fernwood firework displays. I'm looking forward to assist with the local community.



Jules Wood

I am an ex-member of the Armed Forces. I served 28 years in the Royal Air Force as an intelligence analyst until I left the service in October 2023. I am a standard bearer for Balderton Royal Air Force Association and carry the airbridge standard for Newark & surrounding areas.

I work in Fernwood at Onestop and also live in the village. Having lived on Fernwood for the last 10 years I would like to give time to the ever increasing Fernwood community.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

This November the Parish Council will attend a variety of Remembrance Day memorial events to represent residents of Fernwood. Remembrance Sunday is a national opportunity to remember the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms. As usual, this will include attending a parade in Balderton, formal event at the air museum and attending the church service in Claypole as well as laying wreaths at the war memorial on the Great North Road.

We remember the Armed Forces, and their families, from Britain and the Commonwealth, the vital role played by the emergency services and those who have lost their lives as a result of conflict or terrorism.

Fernwood has war history primarily tied to the use of the nearby RAF Balderton airfield during World War II as a troop carrier and transport base for both the Royal Air Force and the United States Army Air Forces. RAF Balderton Research Group have a wealth of information for any residents interesting in learning more about Fernwood's history throughout the war.





Fernwood Village Hall Christmas Market

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2025
1PM - 4PM

Variety of stall holders
&

Rocket Dogs food vendor

Rubys Avenue, Fernwood, NG24 3RS

TESCO APPLICATION

Plans were shared a few months ago regarding a new proposed Tesco supermarket, Costa and a unidentified restaurant for Fernwood. Whilst no formal plan has yet been submitted to Newark and Sherwood District Council, Newsholme Developments have asked for public feedback. The deadline has now passed but we hope residents did give feedback on the development during this time. It is worth noting that the Parish Council can only act as a consultee during planning applications and have no actual authority to approve or decline applications. Should a formal application be submitted it would likely be discussed by councillors at an upcoming meeting which residents will be invited to attend.



PARISH COUNCIL PROJECTS

Over the last few months the Parish Council have been busy dealing with multiple planning applications and updates including from Permission and speaking at the full council meeting. This includes reviewing the plans for the potential Tesco, Costa and drive thru restaurant. Alongside the team and councillors usual work of liaising with developers and other councillors, we've been focussed on lots of other projects. The play park is now open after 18 months of hard work, including phase two of introducing CCTV. We've continued to develop the village hall gardens with the introduction of new planters for the community plus looking forward to our bulb planting week in October.

We're now heavily focussed on planning the festive activates this winter; the pumpkin carving competition, Christmas market and Fernwood Community Christmas event, plus small community events such as the MacMillan coffee morning in September. The Village hall staff are instrumental in delivering these projects and they have also been busy recruiting a replacement caretaker since ours retired in the summer. We are also pleased to announce that Claire has accepted the role of Assistant Clerk and will continue to support Darryl on all things Fernwood. Councillors all tend to work collaboratively on projects, whilst also having our own areas of interest. If there's something you think would benefits residents or the village, please do reach out to the Clerk or to councillors directly to discuss any ideas.



Fernwood in Bloom, Spring 2026

Join us for Bulb Planting Week, 18th October - 2nd November 2025

Further information to follow! Check FaceBook
and notices at the Village Hall

Fernwood Parish Council



FERNWOOD COMMUNITY CHURCH UPDATE

Want to learn more about Christianity?

It has been so good to see many new faces at our Sunday services. It seems that in Fernwood and surrounding area, something similar is happening as what we're hearing from across the county. Last year, a nationwide survey was held, showing a significant increase of Bible reading, Bible sales and church attendance. A 'quiet revival,' that's how the researchers of the Bible Society called it. 'Quiet', because it's not some big show or society-shaking change, but rather a 'surely but steady' increase. God is at work, the good news about Jesus Christ is going out!

Perhaps you've been wondering too, seeing recent events in the news, or hearing Christians speaking on many big-name podcasts. Perhaps you'd like to learn a bit more, or read a Bible. You're not the only one! But maybe you don't know where to start, or you've got some serious questions. We would love to help you, get to know you, share more about our hope and confidence and joy! If this is you, please don't hesitate to get in touch, via

hello@fernwoodchurch.org.uk or

<https://www.facebook.com/FernwoodChurch> -- or, even better:

come and join us on a Sunday, and you can ask your question over a cuppa after the service! You'll be very warmly welcomed, and see something of what it means to know and worship God.

See you soon!?



FERNWOOD COMMUNITY
CHURCH

Church Activities

All welcome!

Sunday Services

10:30am

Including Sunday School

6pm

Each week except 1st of the month

**Explore The Truth That
Makes The Difference**

See web for details of more activities
fernwoodchurch.org.uk

[Facebook.com/fernwoodchurch](https://www.facebook.com/fernwoodchurch)
hello@fernwoodchurch.org.uk

Still Smiling

10:15am

2nd & 4th Tuesday each month.

Babies & Toddlers

Thursdays 9.30-11.30am



FERNWOOD COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

FERNWOOD VILLAGE HALL
SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER
3PM - 7PM

Join us for a festive sing song at the village hall, live music and entertainment for all ages, including:

Performance from Newark Town Brass Band

Fernwood Ladies Choir

Children's Christmas Crafts

Write & post your letters for Santa

Fully licensed bar & mince pies

Plus Santa's Outdoor Garden Grotto!

Tickets for visiting Santa must be booked in advance. Limited tickets available. £5 per child or £12 family ticket up to 3 children. Tickets purchased from the village hall. Families will be allocated a 5 minute time slot in order to manage wait times.

Terms & conditions apply.



FERNWOOD FOOD VANS

As you will have seen, the village hall has been hosting many delicious food outlets in the carpark. It's proven really popular and we're excited to continue bringing delicious tastes from around the world right to our doorstep. We'd like to say a huge thank you to the team at the village hall who came up with this idea and work hard to coordinate behind the scenes!

Residents can look forward to a tempting variety of cuisines, with Korean street food from Kola Kitchen, freshly made waffles from Rose & Anchor, and authentic Greek dishes from George is Cooking! It's the perfect chance to enjoy something different without travelling far. Plus the village hall team are always on the lookout for new vendors to add to the collection. If you know of any, please feel free to drop an email over so we can investigate!

The schedule changes constantly, so be sure to keep an eye on the Village Hall Facebook page for updates on which trucks will be visiting and when. Make sure you come along, support these local traders, and treat yourself to some fantastic food!



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THURSDAY EVENINGS @ 7:00PM - 7:45PM

FERNWOOD VILLAGE HALL

£7 A SESSION

BRING YOUR OWN MAT

CONTACT - MOVEWCHAR@GMAIL.COM

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Residents have spoken heavily about wanting allotments in the village.

Unfortunately, as the Parish Council do not own any suitable land, we are awaiting news from the developers on their timescales to deliver allotments as part of their plans.

In the meantime, we are excited to have added four new planting boxes to the village hall garden. This is with the intention of a small community group looking after the garden. The Parish Council will support with funding for bulbs, tools and equipment. We are also working with Blossoms and Fernwood Day Nursery to give opportunity for children in Fernwood to get involved with the garden.

If you'd like to get involved feel free to reach out to Councillor Shepherd for more information.

What's On This Christmas at The Tawny Owl

CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR

Saturday 29th November
9am - 11pm
£5 per table

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

2nd and 3rd December
From 7pm
£30 per person

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER

3PM-6PM
£5 PER CHILD

FAMILY GAMES EVENING

Sunday 14th December

A PLACE WHERE YOUR KIDS ARE
WELCOME & ENTERTAINED TOO

CASH PRIZES TO BE WON

The Tawny Owl

Hosted by K&A Entertainment

MAD FRIDAY MADNESS

Friday 19th December 2025
7PM - 12AM
Free Entry

Breakfast With Santa

20th and 21st December 2025

From 9am
£12 per child

SANTA PAWS

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



Sunday 14th December
From 9am

£7 per dog - includes meeting Santa, a doggy
treat and gift



CHRISTMAS SPEED QUIZ

20TH DECEMBER
FROM 6:30PM
£1 PER PERSON

GROUCHMAS PARTY

TUESDAY 23RD DECEMBER
9:30AM - 11:30AM



Tawny Owl LIVE

Michael Bublé Tribute

Friday 26th December
4pm - 6pm
Free Entry



2026

NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION

TICKETS:

Adults - £15pp Child* - £10pp
*under 18's

31st December 2025
7pm - 1am

BOOK NOW TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT

If you're interested in any of these events,
please contact us via:

www.tawnyowl.newark@marstons.co.uk or call us on 01636 703765



Save the Date!

Tickets £3

Charity Race Night
22nd Nov 2025

at Fernwood Village Hall.

Visit www.theFLC.co.uk for tickets

Hosted by Fernwood Ladies Choir,

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10am – 12pm**

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Everyone is welcome





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County Councillor Update

It was a great privilege to be re-elected in May, and I am honoured to continue representing you for the next few years until the unitary authority elections are held. Serving our community is something I never take for granted, and I am determined to keep working hard on your behalf.

One of the proudest moments of my time as councillor has been pushing forward the long-awaited expansion of Fernwood Primary School. This is something I have worked tirelessly on for three years, and I am delighted that it is finally moving ahead. With our community continuing to grow, this investment in our children's education is vital.

I also welcomed the opening of the missing section of the Southern Link Road (SLR). It has been a long time coming, and its completion will ease congestion and support future development, while giving residents better connections across the area. I now look forward to the next phase of the SLR opening next year, which will be another major step forward for the whole community.

Looking ahead, highways remain one of my top priorities. I have already secured significant resurfacing works in parts of Balderton and Newark, and I am continuing to press for improvements in and around Fernwood. Speeding, safe crossing points, and road repairs are all issues I know matter to you, and I will keep raising them with Nottinghamshire County Council until we see real results. I will also continue to focus on protecting local green spaces and making sure Fernwood gets its fair share of investment as our community grows. Thank you again for the trust you have placed in me. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have concerns or ideas you would like me to take forward.

Cllr John Lee



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SAVIOUR
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Our Mission

To add value to your business & contribute to your success from our base in Fernwood, Newark.
We provide accountancy services for Small & Medium companies, Charities, and Personal Clients.
With over 25 years experience we pride ourselves on providing a personal service.



Accounting

Bespoke analysis and submission of Limited Company Accounts to HMRC for Corporation Tax purposes



Bookkeeping

Experts in number crunching we provide both ad hoc & regular services to sole traders and limited companies.



Compliance

Maintaining your companies secretarial duties to inform Companies House of any in house changes



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Facebook: [@saviouraccounting.co.uk](https://www.facebook.com/saviouraccounting.co.uk)



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Tom, 50, assumed that contributing to his workplace pension would be enough.

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Christmas at..

The Brews Fernwood

an independent, family owned little pub

S A N T A ' S
O N H I S W A Y

Christmas Menus
served from
Monday 24th November

X M A S O P E N I N G H O U R S

Christmas Eve-
Drinks 12-10pm - Food 12-3pm, 4-8pm

Christmas Day-
Drinks Only 11-2pm

Boxing Day-
Closed

New Years Eve-
Drinks 10-1am - Food 10-3pm, 6-9pm

Otherwise normal opening hours apply



www.thebrewsfernwood.co.uk
The Brews, Rubys Avenue, Fernwood, NG24 3RQ
01636 705475