



Policy Framework

Approved by Council on 12th June 2007

Newhaven Town Council aims to:-

- ◆ Represent and promote the interests of Newhaven and all its people in all forums
- ◆ Pay particular attention to the needs of our children and young people
- ◆ Provide the best possible amenities and services by the efficient use of available resources
- ◆ Actively involve local people in decisions affecting activities in the area
- ◆ Promote equality of opportunity and oppose discrimination
- ◆ Be open and accountable in all it does
- ◆ Support development which is environmentally, socially and economically sound and sustainable
- ◆ Enhance quality of life by protecting and enhancing Newhaven's ecological and environmental assets

Top Priorities for 2007 to 2011

- ◆ To work in partnership towards much improved play, sport and recreational facilities and services for our children and young people, especially at Lewes Road and Fort Road Recreation Grounds. To achieve the investment that is needed the by working actively alongside other partners and voluntary groups.
- ◆ To work in partnership to enhance our amenity areas, open spaces and public areas in the town and encourage local people to play an active part in taking care of them.

Newhaven Town Council

Policy framework,

Working in partnership with and for local people

- When proposals come forward that are in line with our policy and the Newhaven Masterplan, we will try to find ways of contributing in cash or kind.
- We will continue to run a small annual grants programme to support voluntary groups.
- We will continue to represent local people on partnership and voluntary groups working to improve some aspect of the Town.
- We recognise the Newhaven Community Development Association as the collective voice of the voluntary sector in Newhaven and seek to work co-operatively with them
- We recognise the Newhaven Chamber of Commerce as the collective voice of the business sector in Newhaven and seek to work co-operatively with them. The Town Council is a member of the Chamber of Commerce.
- We will work to find constructive ways of working with Newhaven's young people.
- When we have a vacancy, we will consult with the Newhaven Community Employment Partnership to see if we can offer a job opportunity to someone who would otherwise find it difficult to get into employment.
- We will make sure that the Town Council office continues to be open and accessible to local people and making the meeting room available to groups working for the town.
- We will make a wide range of information available to local people about public and other services locally.
- When invited by voluntary groups to appoint representatives to their committees we will give priority to those whose work is broadly aligned with our priorities.

Caring for Newhaven's environment and open spaces

- This Council continues to oppose incineration as a waste management option.
- We will continue to look after the amenity areas that we currently manage, taking advice from the District Council Tree Officer and the County Council's Ecologist.
- We will continue to support Newhaven in Bloom.
- We will continue to provide Christmas lights.
- We will work with other partners to develop and implement the Open Spaces Strategy
- We will promote, whenever possible, green strategies and initiatives, and work towards zero waste.
- We will keep under review the mix of play equipment on our playgrounds, so that it is what is currently needed and wanted by Newhaven's children, parents and young people. We will work on this jointly with the District Council, which owns and manages some of our playgrounds.
- We will work with local voluntary groups to enhance and look after our amenity areas, hard and soft landscaping and support them in litter clearing etc.

Information services

- We will make sure information is easily available to residents and visitors from a welcoming, accessible Town Council Office.
- We will encourage local people to let us know when something needs fixing so that we can either do it or encourage the responsible body to do it.
- We will seek, and make good use of, opportunities to promote Newhaven to residents, workers and visitors, as well as to the wider world both sides of the Channel and beyond.
- We will place modern notice boards with local information at key locations and keep them up to date and tidy.
- We will run advice surgeries, in partnership where appropriate.
- We will continue to publish “What’s On in Newhaven”
- We will continue to take the lead in preparing future editions of the Town Guide and make it available from a wide variety of locations.
- We will publish a regular newsletter to residents, possibly in partnership with others.
- We will maintain a Town Council website with links to other local sites and information.

Calling organisations working in Newhaven to account

- We will expect organisations that we fund directly to present their work to council meetings so that town councillors can scrutinise this in a way that represents the needs and ambitions of our community.
- We will ask other organisations spending public funds in Newhaven to present their work to council meetings so that we can represent the needs and ambitions of our community.
- We will expect organisations looking for our support in their applications for grants from public funds to approach us early in the development of their ideas so that we can properly exercise our duties to represent local people. We will expect to see regular reports from those projects that we support.
- We will ask voluntary groups that apply for grants from us to supply their constitution and annual report.
- We will ask outside bodies on which the Town Council is represented to supply their constitution, annual report and minutes.

Amenities

- We will keep Meeching Hall, Denton, East Side and Lewes Road Social Centres in good repair and work closely with users.
- If opportunities arise that would let us significantly improve or replace these buildings we will give them serious consideration.
- We will continue to provide and care for the Town's cemetery as a place of quiet repose.
- We will continue to provide allotments behind the cemetery.