

LESBURY NEWS
Issue: Spring 2026
Sponsored by Lesbury Parish Council



Parish Council

We have a new parish councillor. Welcome to Mark Thackara.

Neighbourhood Development Plan

Lesbury NDP Review: The Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA): identifies potential housing sites for the next 15 years. Several sites fall within the Parish. 4 sites are currently considered developable in the longer term, with a theoretical capacity of around 62 dwellings. These would still require planning applications before any development could proceed. 3 further sites are currently discounted. The sites can be viewed on the interactive SHLAA map Further details for each site are available in the SHLAA Sites Assessment Summary Schedule (January 2024).

Lesbury Shop Update

Lesbury Community Shop held its 3rd Annual Members Meeting on 25th March 2026 in the Village Hall. It was attended by the shop's management committee and 31 members and volunteers.

It was reported that the annual turnover was up by approximately 6% over 2025 some of which is due to inflation, but the profit was down slightly on the previous year.

Successful grant application helped to employ a local person as the shop coordinator. The biggest expenditure was the purchase and installation of a new building adjacent to the shop known as 'The Hub'. Not only does the Hub enable customers to enjoy a snack and a drink, but it also provides a meeting place for community groups such as Book Club and Sewing Group. Other expenditure includes a large battery which can be charged overnight at cheap rates and power the shop during the day and provides resilience in case of power failures. Locals may also have noticed new tables and benches at the front and **a prominent sign to attract passers by.**

In the financial year 2026-27 the shop is currently funded only through sales. It is important we maximise the sales to ensure its continued success and community benefit and would like everyone to pledge to spend £5 per week to secure its future.

The shop has been fortunate to have dedicated fundraisers who staged various events in 2026 raising almost £3500. This year the shop is launching a **200 Club** to raise money. It will cost £24 per year and there will be monthly draw of 3 prizes of £60, £40 and £20. If you are interested in joining the 200 Club please call into the shop or send an email to admin@lesburyshop.co.uk

The band of shop volunteers have donated over 7,500 hours of their time both serving in the shop on a regular basis and in supporting the shop via stock renewal, managing the finances and cleaning activities. These activities are supported by a management committee who meet regularly and make decisions about the running of the shop. We are always looking for additional people to help, either as a volunteer or as part of the management committee. If you are interested, please contact us on admin@lesburyshop.co.uk or by ringing the shop on 07407394321

The shop is organising other fundraising events, so please pop these dates in your diary:



International Tea Day.

Come along and enjoy a cup of tea, have and select a home-made cake to take home with you. **Thursday 21st May 10.30am – 2.00pm**

3RD anniversary celebration of the Community Shop

August bank holiday weekend at the shop

Apple Pressing Day

mid September in front of the shop.

Singalong Grease film – in the village hall the first weekend in November

Saturday 14th November – Christmas craft fair in the village hall

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ST MARY'S CHURCH NEWS:

The faculty for the new heating system has now been approved, and we are currently awaiting the upgrading of the village transformer by Northern Powergrid before installation can begin.

NB: Services have now returned to the church.

A date for your diary: The Summer Fete will take place on **18th July 2026**.

LESBURY ART GROUP – Spring Weekend Exhibition

Lesbury Art Group is holding its Spring Weekend Exhibition, the first of two planned for 2026. The group has a well-established reputation for quality and variety, showcasing original paintings in a range of media, along with prints and cards—many inspired by the local area. Recent exhibitions have raised over £1,200 for The Hospice through the 'Big Give' scheme, and the group is proud to support this worthwhile cause again this year. There will be a separate raffle and refreshments on both days, and entry to the exhibition is completely free.

Venue: Lesbury Village Hall

Dates: Saturday 23rd & Sunday 24th May

Time: 10:30am – 3:30pm

LITTER PICK

The Lesbury in Bloom volunteers will hold their annual litter pick on Wednesday 13th May this year, starting at the village hall. Anyone is welcome to come along and help. Gloves and litter pickers will be provided. It only takes an hour or so. If you have any queries or want to join the volunteers you can contact them at lesburyinbloom@gmail.com

GARDEN CLUB

Meets: Second Tuesday of every month

Time: 7:30pm

Cost: £3.50 per session

Join us for friendly gatherings featuring regular guest speakers covering a wide range of **interesting gardening topics**. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just getting started, you'll find something to enjoy. **Everyone Welcome**

THE COACH INN

Exciting things are happening at the Coach Inn. With new management and new staff, the pub is stepping up its game with a fantastic menu and weekly themed food nights: Wednesdays: Burgers, Thursdays: Pie, Fridays: Fish & Chips Saturdays: Steak Night. And if you're out and about on a Saturday morning, treat yourself to coffee and cake from 10–12am. Help make the Coach Inn along with the Community Shop the centres of village life!

EVENTS AT THE VILLAGE HALL The Village Hall hosts a wide range of activities, groups, and events throughout the year. More details can be found at: lesburyvillagehall.co.uk

Lesbury Parish Council—Contact Details 2026

<https://lesbury-pc.gov.uk>

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Parish Council meetings are usually held in Lesbury Village Hall on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

All residents are welcome