



Newton Dee Community
Guiding Vision Statement



Wellbeing of individual and community

Doing jobs both good and bad

Understanding the stars

Supporting each other

Spiritual life

Relaxation

Friendship

Festivals

Housework

Tea break

Growing

House

Food

Work

Plays

Rituals

Sharing

Serving

Birthday

Devotion

Neighbours

Club space

Nourishment

Togetherness

Nature/Environment

Helping each other

Not too many meetings

Balance individual and community

Small houses but sharing with others

Guiding Vision Statement

Newton Dee Community

Newton Dee is a Camphill Community, with the aim of building a social therapeutic community inspired by anthroposophy

Expressions of Ideals

The healthy social life is found
When, in the mirror of each human soul
The whole community finds it's reflection
And when in the community
The virtue of each one is living

The community recognises the value of and nurtures the realm of life-sharing, mutuality, friendship and a sense of belonging.

The community recognises the uniqueness of each individual and will, within the boundary of community possibility, actively encourage the social/spiritual development of each person and the development of personal responsibility.

The community offers each individual a fulfilling life with meaningful work and activity throughout the day.

The community strives to create an inclusive, lively, inspiring and challenging cultural/social and spiritual life.

The community draws it's inspiration from the ideas of Rudolf Steiner

The community wishes to care for the earth in a way that is consistent with bio-dynamic principles.

The community provides life enhancing buildings for both living and working situations.

Strategy

It is recognised that there is an inevitable discrepancy between Newton Dee's ideals and the daily reality of community living. The striving to bridge this gap is the essence of our community building.

The community strives to achieve its ideals in the following manner:

-The basis of our living together is one of interdependency with all members participating in a mutual support network. Interdependence empowers the individual to realise his/her self worth, thus creating the potential for self development and support for the community.

-The day to day responsibility for the operation of the community is spread through the community by the operation of mandated working groups. This diffusion of power allows for the development of individual responsibility and accountability which in turn encourages the development of initiative.

-The community pursues a very active cultural life through a wide and varied programme of plays, talks, concerts, dancing, eurythmy, singing, conferences, exhibitions, arts and crafts, the celebration of festive occasions and services. Integration in the wider community's cultural life is actively encouraged. A rich social life is centered in the houses and in the sharing of individual biographies, community joys and sorrows through births, weddings, departures and deaths.

-Newton Dee aims to create an environment where each person has the possibility to achieve their full potential.

This is done through the reviewing of each individual's life and listening to their wishes and hopes in the context of their biography. Regular support and supervision for all co-workers is actively promoted. Individuals are encouraged to take part in education and training and achieve qualifications through: The School of Learning, The BASP and other Camphill courses, external courses, workshops and study groups.

-Meaningful work and activity through the day are realised by a wide variety of opportunities in: Homemaking, The Bakery, Confectionary, Metal Work, Joinery, Toy Shop, Store, Café, Gift Shop, Farms, Gardens, Estate Work. In addition alternative activities are offered through the morning and afternoon Activity Groups and by the Craft Studio. The aim of this strategy is to give each individual the possibility to make a contribution to the running of the community and build up their feeling of self worth, integration and fulfilment.

-The community works with the ideas of Rudolf Steiner and Karl Koenig in the social, economic, cultural and spiritual life.

-We seek to develop a wide range of living situations, which constantly evolve to meet changing needs. Housing is offered which ranges from supported flats and houses, to extended family models to a care house model. The houses are built with the aim to enhance the lives of the people living there through their design and use of materials.

-By caring for the earth through the use of bio-dynamic methods in the work of the farms, estate and gardens. By pursuing active policies on recycling, energy efficiency, sharing of resources, purchasing of "ethical goods".

-Finances are regulated through agreed, transparent and well monitored budgets. Budget responsibility is widely spread in the community through the mandated groups, work areas, households and neighbourhoods.

-Revenue support comes from the statutory authorities both local and national, individuals contributions from state benefits. The capital development of the community is met by gifts, legacies, donations and by the financial surplus of the community's work activities.

-There is a Five year development plan for the community which looks at all aspects of life in Newton Dee and this is regularly updated through a wide consultation process.

Forms and Structures

Newton Dee offers accommodation to about 180 people in a wide variety of living situations. Up to 87 of these people are adults with a learning disability. In addition up to 40 people come to the community on a daily basis as day placements, employees and volunteers.

The Council of the Camphill Village Trust carries legal responsibility for the management of the Trust's eleven centres and takes overall major policy decisions. Newton Dee has a Local Management Committee which is responsible for the centre and works hand in hand with committed members of our community who carry responsibility for the day to day operation. There are three key meetings in the community:

-The Newton Dee meeting which is a monthly forum for the whole community.

-The Overview Group meeting which is a regular meeting to share views, reflections on wider community issues

-The Responsibility Group meeting which is a regular meeting of committed long term co-workers to be consulted on and where necessary make decisions which are outside the remit of mandated working groups.

The Responsibility Group gives the mandates to all working groups which are primarily responsible for the day to day operation of the community e.g. Villager welfare, finance, employment. The day to day management group ensures that the mandate groups effectively co-ordinate and co-operate with tasks.

The community consists of four neighbourhoods. These neighbourhoods have the intention of offering a support network to each household in all areas of life.

Acceptance and understanding
Everyone can contribute
Taking responsibility
Less development
Quiet environment
Local community
Meaningfulness
Medical care
Experiment
Appreciation
Coffee bar
Fellowship
Social groups
Folk dance
Pets
Focus
Hobbies
Cows
Peace
Holidays
Diversity
Cultural life
Safe roads
Independence
Development
Francis house
Problem sharing
Care of the individual
Training and education
Non competitive environment

