

Your Parish Council

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WHAT ABOUT JOINING THE TEAM ?

**WISBOROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL
HAS TWO PARISH COUNCILLOR
VACANCIES**

Are you looking for a new challenge?

Do you want to make a positive difference?

Would you like to influence decisions that
affect your community?

The Parish Council is an elected tier of local Government. The role of a Parish Councillor is to bring local issues to the attention of the Council and to help make decisions on behalf of the community.

You will need to be able to attend the Parish Council meeting held one evening each month and spend extra time on areas of specialism or interest. Enthusiasm and commitment are more important than experience. The position is unpaid.

You must be aged 18 or over, an elector, and have been a resident or worked within 3 miles of the Parish for the past year.

**For further information, please contact the Parish Clerk,
Louise Davies, on 01403 701102.**

How to contact your Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Louise Davies
Wisborough Green Parish Council
PO Box 255, Wisborough Green
Billingshurst, West Sussex RH14 0WT
T: 01403 701102
E: clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org

Alternatively, letters can be posted in the Parish Council letterbox at the Village Hall.

Wisborough Green Parish Council Parish Council News

Issue: 24

June 2016

Chairman's Message

There is much to say and celebrate in this edition. The first is the Neighbourhood Plan result, Your Parish Council is delighted to say that the Plan went through a successful referendum on 5th May 2016. There was a 36.58% turnout, with around 83% of voters in support. The Plan will now be 'made' (effectively adopted) by CDC for the area outside the South Downs National Park (SDNP) and by the SDNP Authority for the area within the Park. A report will go to CDC Cabinet on 7th June and will then move to Council for agreement to be 'made' on 19th July 2016. The SDNP Authority will adopt the Plan on 9th June. Once adopted by CDC and the SDNPA, the Neighbourhood Plan will be a key component of Planning Policy, setting out the local policies to inform the future development of this community. It also means that the Parish Council will receive 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy paid on development which will be used for a number of infrastructure projects in the village. This has been a long journey for the community so thank you to everyone who has been involved and to all those who voted.

Additionally, the complete refurbishment of the Old Workhouse is finished; our Clerk has suddenly become a building expert! We thank Louise for her sterling work in overseeing this large project.

You will also see a very different way of marking the Queen's Birthday (We do like to do things differently in WG!) and we do hope that you will join us at the School Festival on the village green on Saturday 11th June. It should be a great party atmosphere and celebration for all to enjoy.

Turning to the membership of the Council, unfortunately Craig Vit and Mike King have stepped down. We take this opportunity to thank both sincerely for their contributions to life in Wisborough Green. We now seek to co-opt two new members, so if you wish to be involved for the well being of our village, please contact the Clerk.

Details of the events on the August Bank Holiday Weekend have also been included. You will see that this year there is a special cricket match and event planned for Thursday 25th August. Be sure to make a note and look out for further details later in the summer. As always, our grateful thanks to all those who are involved in all our wonderful community events throughout the year. They most certainly make Wisborough Green a very special place indeed. Have a lovely summer.

Keith Charman, Chairman

Gatwick - An Update

Since the last update there has been frantic activity but little to actually show for it – my feeling is that corners are about to be turned.

2nd RUNWAY: It is hard to work out what is happening on the runway decision. We are set up to send personalised emails to every member of, and senior civil servants involved with, the Cabinet Runway sub-committee but we cannot discern what is going on. We simply don't know what buttons to press. I had a meeting with Nick Herbert, our MP, recently and he said that he couldn't remember something being played quite so close to the Government's chest (my words not his).

APCAG: To the east of the airport is a campaigning group made up solely of elected councils, HWCAAG (if you need to know what it stands for Google it!) is a powerful organisation that represents 26 Councils and carries the authority of representing tens of thousands of people; no similar group, until recently, existed to the west of the airport.

Following the publication of the Arrivals Review, CAGNE, a long established campaign group to the west of the airport, opposed one of the report's key recommendations, the widening of the swathe at which arriving aircraft join the ILS (the straight-in instrument led final approach to the runway). Ian Hare (Chairman of the Pulborough group PAGNE) and I realised that this was condemning people who, pre 2013, had experienced virtually no arriving aircraft were being subject to concentrated, life sapping, arrivals. Ian and I felt these people were not being adequately represented in the aviation debate and so, with much help from some extraordinary people (you know who you are), we established The Association of Parish Councils Aviation Group, the pithily acronymic, APCAG. APCAG is democratic, has agreed objectives and will pursue those on behalf of its member Councils. (There is a bit of news at the end of this note.)

APCAG now represents eight Parish Councils, almost 21,800 people, and will grow: strength in numbers.

ARRIVALS REVIEW: Last time I reported, the Arrivals Review had reported but we were waiting for Gatwick's response; it came on 31st March and Gatwick 'accepted or were minded to accept' all 23 recommendations. This is good news; how, when and in what order the recommendations are implemented is important but, when fully implemented, our lives should be better.

NOISE MANAGEMENT BOARD: One of the key recommendations of the Arrivals Review was the establishment of a Noise Management Board. My hope was always that this would not be a talking shop but a powerful instigator of change, something that could make a difference. (Looking back at what I said last time, my recommendations were not accepted entirely but the public meetings will feature.)

The make up of the Board is: Chairman – Bo Redeborn, a senior and experienced airspace planner, Senior representatives from: Gatwick Airport Ltd., NATS – controller of UK airspace, Civil Aviation Authority, ANS – provider of tower air traffic control at

There's no doggy right to roam

Now that the warmer and drier days have arrived, many of us are out and about in the countryside, enjoying the many beautiful walks around Wisborough Green. It is perhaps timely to remind everyone that many of the fields on which we walk are a farmer's livelihood, providing food for their animals and for us!

As far as the law is concerned, the entitlement to take a dog on a right of way is confined to the line of the path. A public right of way does not give dogs nor their owners the right to wander off the recorded route and roam freely across the whole field. There is no requirement for dogs to be kept on a lead but they are required to be kept under close control at all times. This means keeping them on a lead, to heel or being aware of what they're up to, knowing for sure they'll come bouncing back the moment they're called.

It is a criminal offence if a dog worries livestock on agricultural land. Worrying is defined as attacking or chasing so that injury, suffering, abortion or loss of value is reasonably likely to occur. Only in the case of sheep, and only when they are in an enclosure or field, is it an offence if a dog is not on a lead or under close control.

With the sun out, the ground is warming and the grass is growing. Not only is the land used for grazing, but much of this grass will be made into silage and hay to feed animals over the winter months. The National Farmers Union warns of diseases livestock can get from dog poo. Neosporosis causes abortion in cattle and Sarcocystosis results in lambs being rejected by abattoirs. However, carrier dogs rarely show symptoms but their poo can contaminate grass, water, feed and silage/hay. It is therefore important that dogs are regularly treated for worms – seek advice from your vet if you are unsure.

Unfortunately the farming industry continues to have a tough time, so please do think about the farmers when you are enjoying the countryside.

ENJOY THE COUNTRYSIDE RESPONSIBLY WITH YOUR DOG (Advice provided by the NFU in association with The Kennel Club)

- ⇒ Keep your dog close, under control, in sight and on a short lead around cows and sheep.
- ⇒ Cows are nosy and may come to investigate, especially if you have a dog with you.
- ⇒ Don't panic or run if cattle follow you – stay calm and walk quickly and quietly around the herd.
- ⇒ Remember cows can be protective of their young. Never get between cows and their calves – go around the herd and rejoin the path as soon as possible.
- ⇒ If you are threatened by cattle release your dog so you can both get to safety separately.
- ⇒ Dog poo can spread disease to farm animals. Bag it and bin it wherever you are, in any public waste bin.
- ⇒ For the health of your pet and farm animals, prevent your dog from getting into water troughs and follow your vet's advice on worming.

We may lose the monthly mobile skip

WSSC has just announced a consultation on proposed changes to the Household Waste Recycling Sites (HWRSs) across West Sussex. The consultation will open on Monday 16 May for four weeks until Sunday 12 June, and residents are encouraged to 'Have your Say' by going online and completing the consultation.

<https://haveyoursay.westsussex.gov.uk/waste-management-services/hwrs>

(Hard copies are available in libraries). The proposals are:

- a) Reduce the daily opening hours at sites.
- b) Reduce the number of days some HWRSs are open each week.
- c) Introduce charging for non-household waste disposal and to no longer accept LGV, Tractor, Mobile Plant or any Commercial Vehicle tyres.
- d) Cease the Mobile HWRS Service.
- e) Restrict the access of trailers to those sites with "Large Vehicle Bays".

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS
In the Committee Room at the Village Hall, 7.45 pm on the following Tuesdays:

21 June
19 July
No meeting in August
20 September

Members of the public most welcome.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS
 Please refer to the agendas displayed on the village notice boards and website for information on when meetings will be held - a meeting will only be called to meet CDC deadlines.

Meetings are held on a Tuesday in the Committee Room at the Village Hall at 8.00 pm and are currently schedule for:

7 June, 5 July, 2 & 23 August

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND OF EVENTS

THURSDAY 25 AUGUST
275 YEAR ANNIVERSARY LEGENDS CRICKET EVENT

FRIDAY 26 AUGUST
WILLIE AUSTEN IN THE MARQUEE
RAISING FUNDS FOR CHESTNUT TREE HOUSE

SATURDAY 27 AUGUST 10 AM - 4 PM
VINTAGE FAYRE IN THE MARQUEE

SUNDAY 28 & MONDAY 29 AUGUST 11 AM - 6 PM
ART EXHIBITION IN THE BARN

MONDAY 29 AUGUST FROM 1 PM
VILLAGE FETE, HORTICULTURAL SHOW & DOG SHOW

Gatwick - An Update

Gatwick, an aircraft operator with a minimum of 10% of the movements at Gatwick, the Department for Transport, the Chair of GATCOM – the statutory Gatwick consultative committee, a County Council representative – alternating between West Sussex and Surrey (probably), a County Council representative – alternating between East Sussex and Kent, two Communities Representatives from west of Gatwick, two from the east.

An election was recently held to decide the Communities Representatives on the Board, the franchise was Parish Councils affected by noise and action groups. I am genuinely pleased that even though APCAG's inception was in early March and its public launch in April, I have been elected to serve as a Communities Representative on the Noise Management Board.

By design I will be representing everyone affected by Gatwick, however my remit will be all of us to the west. I will be on the NMB as an individual, not a representative of APCAG, but my growing local knowledge will count as will the input from the Councils that APCAG represents.

Lastly, I have just seen noise heat charts that show that, to the west of the airport, the village that is most affected by both arrivals and departures is Ifold. We should agree that dealing with this, and the blight suffered by Ifold's near neighbours, is hugely important for us all; this is a travesty for a village that until recently was largely undisturbed by aircraft noise (like WG).

By the time you read this I will have a new email address: chair@apcag.org
 Please get in touch if you would like to discuss anything about Gatwick.

Peter Drummond, Parish Councillor and Chair of APCAG

The Old Workhouse refurbishment is finished

Having been vacant since the end of October, we are delighted that the refurbishment is complete. Those who visited the property after the Annual Parish Meeting in April were pleased to be given the opportunity to view the property and see the amazing views, and were impressed with the finished result. Although the initial expenditure was anticipated at £45,000, due to the age of the building, a number of problems were identified as the project progressed – this also included the need to re-roof! The Parish Council therefore made the decision to take out a short term low interest loan to allow all the issues to be addressed and to restore an important village asset. The total cost of the project is about £65,000, but in the longer term, a commercial rent will provide the Parish with the funds to repay the loan and further support our community.

The letting of this property will be put into the hands of a local agent to ensure fair and equitable consideration of applicants. The details will obviously be available on the internet shortly, but if you are interested in renting the property, then please contact the Clerk for further information.

Be part of something BIG for the Queen's 90th Birthday



Join your Parish Council for this historic event in Wisborough Green as part of the Queen's birthday celebrations. We invite you to gather at the School Festival on Saturday 11th June on the village green at 3 pm to be part of an aerial photograph that will capture the centre of our glorious English village and its residents and visitors that day.

The photo will be made available, free of charge, on the village website and will be a lasting memento of a significant moment in our Queen's, our country's and our village's history – and we want you to be part of it.

You may choose to wear something bright and you will be asked to face towards the Durbans Road/A272 corner, stand about an arm's length apart and look up and follow the aircraft as it flies around. **DO COME ALONG.**

Please think of your neighbours this summer

Many people are unaware of the effect that their loud music or other noisy activities may have on other people. Chichester District Council can take action where a statutory noise nuisance exists but there are many factors to be taken into consideration. An informal pleasant approach to the person responsible could resolve the matter without involving the need for a formal complaint. In most cases this is the most effective way of dealing with such a problem and the least damaging to relationships. As the summer fast approaches, windows are opened and when the sun is out, we understandably head out to make the most of the weather so please be mindful of your neighbours this summer:

- ◆ **House Alarms:** If you are going away for any length of time, please ensure that you have a nominated contact or neighbour in case your alarm goes off. House alarms should be fitted with a device that silences it after 20 minutes if it has misfired.
- ◆ **Barking Dogs:** We are more tolerant of our own dogs, but please be aware that a continuously barking dog can be annoying to your neighbours.
- ◆ **Chickens:** As the day lengthens, the birds wake earlier and earlier. Chickens are a part of rural life, but the early morning call of a cockerel can be very disturbing to others. If you do own a cockerel, keep him inside until a reasonable hour, perhaps 7 am, as many don't appreciate an early alarm call!
- ◆ **DIY/Home Improvements:** We all undertake home maintenance and improvements, but please don't be too keen and start too early or finish late!
- ◆ **Loud Music and Parties:** We all have events to celebrate and in the summer, parties can move outside. Again, please be mindful of your neighbours. Pop a note through their door or invite them to join the celebrations.
- ◆ **Bonfires:** Not a noise nuisance, but a reminder that smoke can ruin peoples' enjoyment of their garden, prevent windows from being opened, washing hung out and can have severe health implications.

Dark Sky Reserve gets the thumbs up !

On 10th May 2016, the International Dark-Sky Association (IDA) named the South Downs National Park as the world's newest International Dark Sky Reserve. The Executive Director of the IDA, said:

"We are pleased to announce the designation of South Downs National Park as an IDA Dark Sky Reserve. It is remarkable that a true dark-sky experience remains within reach of nearly 17 million people in Greater London and southeast England, and a testament to the hard work of South Downs staff and area residents in keeping it that way."

In April 2015, Dan Oakley, Dark Skies Lead and Ranger, spoke passionately about the project at our Annual Parish Meeting, encouraging us all to take the Dark Skies pledge to reduce our lighting. Over the past three years, Dan and a group of dedicated volunteers have been mapping out the quality of night skies across the National Park and it's great news that their hard work and dedication has paid off. The new reserve is the second in England and only the eleventh to be named in the world.

The Parish Council has already made reference to dark skies within the Neighbourhood Plan, but we also need you to do your bit to reduce light pollution in the Parish, particularly as Wisborough Green is a gateway to the National Park. You can help by:

- * **Using lower wattage light bulbs.**
- * **Using light bulbs that are 600 lumens or less (says on the box)**
- * **Don't over-light the area needlessly**
- * **Use timers**
- * **Use proximity sensors (PIR)**
- * **Use warmer colours – oranges and reds**
- * **Turn lights off when not needed**
- * **Angle lamps so that light falls down – eliminate side spill**
- * **Close your curtains**



Doggy doos !

The Parish Council has received reports that dog fouling is becoming more evident, not only on the Village Green but also in Butts Meadow and Carters Way. It is appreciated that most dog owners clean up after their dogs, and it is just a few offenders who earn dog owners a bad name. Not only is it unpleasant for us all, but dog poo can carry and transmit disease to children, particularly Toxocariasis which can cause blindness. Owners do have a legal obligation to clean up and failure to do so constitutes an offence which can result in a fine. Can we please remind all owners to use the dog bins provided (or in fact, any litter bin will do!) and if you feel unable to approach, report any regular offenders to the Clerk (in confidence) on 701102.