

## Your Parish Council

**Keith Charman (Chairman) T: 700545**

keith.charman@wisboroughgreenpc.org  
Local Council Associations, Planning,  
Major Emergency Plan, Neighbourhood Plan,  
Pavilion

**Andrew Jackson (Vice Chair) T: 700574**

andrew.jackson@wisboroughgreenpc.org  
Planning (Chairman), Affordable Housing,  
Neighbourhood Plan, Pavilion

**Andy Burbridge T: 701902**

andy.burbridge@wisboroughgreenpc.org  
Green Coordination Group, Planning

**Peter Drummond T: 01798 865546**

peter.drummond@wisboroughgreenpc.org  
Gatwick Airport, Planning, Road Safety and  
Transport Issues

**Mike King T: 700713**

mike.king@wisboroughgreenpc.org  
Neighbourhood Plan, Tree Warden,  
Youth Activities

**Sheena Overington T: 700732**

sheena.overington@wisboroughgreenpc.org  
Affordable Housing, Major Emergency Plan,  
Neighbourhood Plan, Village Hall,  
Winter Management Plan

**Alex Stone T: 700340**

alex.stone@wisboroughgreenpc.org  
Affordable Housing, Green Coordination  
Group, Planning, Road Safety and Transport  
Issues, Youth Activities

**Howard True T: 700150**

howard.true@wisboroughgreenpc.org  
Major Emergency Plan, Planning, Playground  
Inspections, Road Safety/Transport Issues,  
Winter Management Plan

**Craig Vit T: 700369**

craig.vit@wisboroughgreenpc.org  
Areas of responsibility to be confirmed.

**Although the Council has a full compliment of members at the moment, vacancies do occur from time to time. If you would be interested in joining the Council at any time, please contact the Clerk.**

**Keep up to date - minutes are published on the village website.**

## 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: 21

July 2015

## Chairman's Message

It's the start of a new council term and I am delighted to be able to report that we have a full council; please refer to the back page for Council details. With a good blend of experience and those who bring a fresh perspective to the Parish Council, we have a well balanced team to take us forward. In May I was pleased to be re-elected Chairman for another year, with Andrew Jackson as Vice-Chairman.

The Neighbourhood Plan is now in the hands of CDC having gone through its formal and final consultation stage. The next step is onto the independent examiner. It is very important for our village that the Plan is supported and becomes our guiding legal document in planning terms. It is this which gives our Parish protection from unwanted or unsuitable development and which best expresses the wish of the people of Wisborough Green. Further information on this and the CDC Local Plan later in the newsletter.

One of our next tasks will be to look at the elements of the Community Action Plan which are also so important for the future of our Parish. These are the ideas put forward by residents during the consultations over the past few years, and the possibility of introducing these will now be explored further.

In this regard and looking forward, sustained community action is required to ensure that the operators of Gatwick Airport fully understand the effect of their operation on our community. As with so many things in life, this is a question of balance as Gatwick is economically important to the area and to many of us individually as users. However, we should all expect a reasonable quality of life, and if you feel that the current numbers, routes, altitude and hours of operation of aircraft using Gatwick impinge on this, it is important that your view, whatever it may be, is heard. Contact details in this newsletter or on the village website.

On a lighter note, weren't we lucky with the weather for the School Festival and Open Gardens weekend in June. It was a super occasion and one which underlines the vibrant community in which we live. Long may it continue.

Have a great summer enjoying the wonderful amenity of our village and we all look forward to the festivities around the August Bank Holiday weekend, not forgetting the Annual Fair on Friday 18th and Saturday 19th September.

**Keith Charman, Chairman**

## Chichester's Local Plan has passed examination

Chichester's Local Plan has been given the go ahead by the planning inspectorate following a thorough examination process. The Plan will now go to July's Cabinet and Full Council meetings with a recommendation that it is formally adopted.

The Local Plan provides the policies against which planning applications will be assessed and it will set the direction of future development in the district (excluding those areas within the South Downs National Park). The Plan allows CDC to introduce the Community Infrastructure Levy which will require developers to contribute directly towards vital infrastructure and community needs.

The inspector's report concludes that the Chichester Local Plan provides an appropriate basis for planning the future of the district (excluding those areas within the SDNP), providing a number of modifications are made to the Plan. All of the modifications were suggested by CDC, including an early review to take account of the possible upgrading of the A27.

The importance of this Plan cannot be over emphasized. This is great news for the district as a whole and will strengthen CDC's ability to resist harmful speculative development.

## Neighbourhood Plan Update

Adoption of Chichester's Local Plan is also great news for the village as the Local Plan provides the basis for our own Neighbourhood Plan (NP) and strengthens the community's wish for the future of Wisborough Green.

As advertised in the village, the Submission Plan has recently been on Regulation 16 consultation organised by CDC. An examiner has been appointed who will consider the Plan's content, look at the evidence and review comments from the recent consultation. The Parish Council hopes that this will lead to a successful referendum in the autumn.

The importance of having a NP in place cannot be over stressed. We have already seen a misguided decision by CDC to allow development on the Land South of Meadowbank as our NP had not been published (delayed due to the oil planning application). Although the Parish Council disagrees with the size of this site, it has been approved and will be developed at some point; there is no going back. It is therefore important that this site is included in the NP to ensure that these 25 homes are part of the village housing allocation of a minimum of 60 and not in addition!

However, the Parish Council is already beginning to see that policies within our NP are being recognized by CDC and that the NP is now carrying more weight in planning terms. CDC will ultimately always make the planning decisions for our village, but as with the Local Plan, having a NP in place will again strengthen CDC's ability to resist harmful speculative development. We will continue to update you as the process progresses.

## Would you like to keep up to date with village news ?

As mentioned previously, the Parish Council is planning to update the website and move with the times in terms of communication! The Council will continue to send out a regular newsletter, but there are perhaps times when email communication to residents would be useful. Do bear with us as changes are made, but if you would be interested in receiving information by email, please send an email to [clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org](mailto:clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org)

## Green Co-ordination Group - Community Member needed

The Green is our most valuable village asset and sets Wisborough Green apart from many other villages. This area is important for all users, whether for sport, village events or for the daily walk of our 4 legged friends! A few years ago, the Parish Council set up a small advisory group to discuss issues relating to the Green, from use, maintenance, funding needs, possible issues etc. The membership includes Parish Council and Sports Association representatives, as well as community members; ideas or concerns are fed back to the Parish Council for consideration. The Parish Council is currently looking for a resident, with no connection to any particular user of the Green, to join this group to offer a 'community' perspective. The group meets twice each year – autumn and spring. If you would like to know more, then please contact the Parish Clerk, Louise, on 01403 701102.

### PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

**In the Committee Room at the  
back of the Village Hall  
7.45 pm on the following  
Tuesdays:**

**21 July  
15 September  
20 October  
17 November**

No meetings in August & December.  
Additional meetings may be called.  
Members of the public are welcome to attend. The agenda is published on the village notice boards and website. It includes a Public Questions item, which allows you to make any comments or raise concerns to the Parish Council.

### .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 July  
4 & 25 August  
29 September  
3 November  
1 & 15 December**

## History Project - can you help ?

**Cultural heritage is “a record of how people have lived, worked, shaped and been inspired by the landscape over thousands of years”**

*South Downs National Park Authority*

Arun and Rother Connections (ARC) is looking for local people to interview for an oral history project on the cultural heritage of the Arun valley. They are keen to hear from anyone with stories and local knowledge that relate in some way to the rivers Arun and Rother, local wildlife or the area’s cultural heritage.

Perhaps you’re working on a local dig, or you’re an artist inspired by the Arun and Rother. Whatever your area of interest they’d love to hear from you!

They would only need a couple of hours of your time in either July or August. One of their friendly volunteers would visit for a chat.

The aim of the project is to capture personal accounts that are often forgotten in the history books. They will share the recordings with the wider community at an end of year exhibition. Recordings will also be stored locally for future generations to enjoy.

**Please get in touch today if you can help with this fascinating community project or would like to recommend someone to them!**

**Help record and edit:** ARC is also looking for volunteers who can help with interviews or editing. Free training from a professional oral historian would be given.

**For further information please contact ARC project assistant**

**Deborah.Coggles@rspb.org.uk**

**01273 763 378**

  
**AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND OF EVENTS**  
**FRIDAY 28 AUGUST**  
**‘WISBOROUGH’S GOT TALENT’ IN THE MARQUEE**  
**RAISING FUNDS FOR THE**  
**FOOTBALL CLUB - TICKETS FROM THE CRICKETERS**  
  
**SATURDAY 29 AUGUST 10 AM - 4 PM**  
**VINTAGE FAYRE IN THE MARQUEE**  
  
**SUNDAY 30 & MONDAY 31 AUGUST 11 AM - 6 PM**  
**ART EXHIBITION IN THE BARN**  
  
**MONDAY 31 AUGUST FROM 1 PM**  
**VILLAGE FETE, HORTICULTURAL SHOW & DOG SHOW**

## Parking on Double Yellow Lines !

The double yellows around the crossroads in the centre of the village were installed to keep visibility clear and to improve safety at the junction. Sadly, we still get the few drivers who decide to compromise the safety of other road users rather than walking that little bit further! The Parish Council appreciates that at times parking in the village centre is more difficult, but please do not park on the double yellows – they are there for a very good reason. The responsibility for enforcement action falls to CDC and your Council has requested enforcement officers to attend on an ad hoc basis to issue penalty charge notices on any cars parked on the lines – you have been warned!

## Boxal Bridge

We are currently awaiting the results of the next survey before any further steps can be taken. Both Kirdford and Wisborough Green Parish Councils will be advised of the results and involved in any decisions on the future of the bridge.

## Gatwick Airport

There is little more to say at this time. The Airport Commission’s final recommendation on whether a new runway should be built at Heathrow or Gatwick is expected sometime late June/early July (although this may be delayed by the need to process the responses to the air quality consultation).

More details available on the village website including a link to a plane tracker and the main protest groups for our area, CAGNE (Communities Against Gatwick Noise Emissions - [www.cagne.org](http://www.cagne.org)) and GACC (Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign - [www.gacc.org.uk](http://www.gacc.org.uk)). **Continue to complain !**

### **Gatwick Noise Complaint Line**

**Email: [noise.line@gatwickairport.com](mailto:noise.line@gatwickairport.com)**

**Put ‘Complaint’ in the subject line and give your postcode**

**Tel: 0800 393070**

**Ask for a written response.**



**Do remember that you can report potholes directly to WSCC:**

- Telephone 01243 642105 with the location details.
- Report via the WSCC website – link on village website home page.
- Use your Smartphone. You can download a free smartphone app from the App Stores – simply search for Love West Sussex and install.
- Send a Text or MMS message to 07725 20 20 20 with LCS-LWS in the subject field.

## Pledge to Save Dark Skies

The South Downs National Park Authority has launched a project to get International Dark Sky Reserve Status for parts of the South Downs National Park. Although only about the southern third of the Parish is within the Park itself, the areas immediately outside the boundary are considered equally as important. As such, the Parish Council has written in support of this application and would also like to promote the protection of dark skies across the whole Parish.

The Parish Council has already made reference to dark skies in policies within the Neighbourhood Plan, but we also need you to do your bit to reduce light pollution in the Parish. As well as reading about the National Park project, and perhaps signing the pledge, you can also help in the BATTLE OF THE PHOTONS 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**

The following information is taken from the SDNPA website which explains more about the Dark Skies project:

*With settlements like Lewes, Brighton and Chichester casting a glow into the sky each night, you might think this is not the place to enjoy a nocturnal star show. However, the South Downs shield the north of the National Park from these towns' lights. Anyone who has driven the wooded lanes around Bepton and Petworth on a moonless night knows how dark it gets. On the likes of Butser Hill and Blackdown, amateur astronomers regularly set up their telescopes to explore night skies considered some of the best in the country.*

*With this in mind, the South Downs National Park set out in 2013 to create an International Dark Skies Reserve. We hope to join the likes of Big Island in Hawaii and wilderness regions in Canada in being recognised by the International Dark Skies Association for the quality of our night skies. Where the other reserves are known for their remoteness, however, we will be the first found so close to several towns and cities.*

*We started by asking residents to look up on clear nights and see if they could spot certain astronomical sights that serve as markers of a truly dark sky. We also asked them to record the status of nocturnal lighting in their area, so we can explore ways*

## Pledge to Save Dark Skies

*of removing unnecessary artificial glare from the night sky, without making it harder to see on the ground. Some of these improvements will soon be underway, such as replacing street lamp bulbs with LEDs that don't cast their light upwards.*

*As well as bringing galaxies and nebulae back into view, we're hoping to help the bats, birds, moths and other nocturnal species that depend on darkness for survival. They are often disoriented by too much light and their hunt for food may get disturbed. A darker sky will be one not only filled with stars, but wildlife too.*

### **Pledge to save the dark skies**

*You can help protect the dark skies of the South Downs (and therefore the wildlife) by showing your support for the SDNP's application for International Dark Skies Reserve (IDSR) status. As part of this bid we need to show that people living in and around the South Downs support the application, so take the Dark Skies Pledge:*

[www.southdowns.gov.uk/darkskiespledge](http://www.southdowns.gov.uk/darkskiespledge)



## Calling all Local Businesses - advertising opportunity

As you may recall, one of our recent battles has been to save the village toilets. We know from the responses received at the time, that these facilities are extremely valuable for the village and appreciated by those who visit them; people who are just passing through on the A272, attending events on the Green, visitors to this lovely village, trade and delivery drivers in the area, and residents, caught short! Although CDC still pays the service costs, it is now the responsibility of the Parish to pay the annual cleaning cost, which is about £5500 per year.

In order to help meet this cost, the Parish Council has now installed advertising frames in the facilities and is asking local businesses for their support to take up this opportunity and help fund our facilities. Some frames have already been taken, but if you would like to know more, please contact the Clerk, Louise Davies, on 701102.

**PLEASE BE AWARE**

**LITTER OR  
DOG WASTE BAGS**

**LEFT BESIDE THE  
LITTER BINS ON THE  
VILLAGE GREEN  
WILL NOT BE  
PICKED UP BY CDC.**

**IF A BIN IS FULL,  
PLEASE WALK TO  
THE NEXT ONE!**

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR COOPERATION.**