

Your Parish Council

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 E: clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org

Alternatively, use the Parish Council
 Post Box located at the Village Hall.

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PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU THINK !
SEE PREVIOUS PAGE FOR EXPLANATION AND RESPONSE DETAILS.

1. Street Lighting

What kind of street lighting should new developments in Wisborough Green have?

Description of Lighting	Please tick one option only
None	
Low	
Full	

2. Affordable Housing Allocation: The CDC Affordable Housing Letting Policy has a condition that restricts occupation of new housing to residents with a local connection but for the first occupancy only. Would you like the local connection restriction to be in perpetuity?

YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Please respond by 24 October 2014

Wisborough Green Parish Council Parish Council News

Issue: 19

October 2014

Chairman's Message

After such a super summer, what a pity the Bank Holiday Monday weather was appalling for our village fete. Nevertheless, our intrepid Fete Society and helpers put on a great event which made the best of a very wet day! The Brocante Fair on the Saturday was an added bonus and helped the Horticultural Society fund the cost of the marquee. As usual, the whole weekend was filled with a variety of events, from the Willie Austin night, Art Exhibition to the Horticultural Society Show and Fete, which all make this weekend a highlight in our village calendar. Congratulations and thanks to all who gave up their time to make this happen.

After a very successful campaign resulting in the rejection of the Oil & Gas application, all is quiet at present, but the applicant has until 22 October 2014 to appeal, so we watch this space. This was one success, but unfortunately the outline planning application for 25 houses on land south of Meadowbank was permitted by CDC, despite the Parish Council and local residents raising strong concerns about traffic speed and prematurity to our Neighbourhood Plan.

Turning to the other big issue facing us at present, that of Gatwick Airport and flight paths. Your Parish Council objected to the revised flight path proposals after we all experienced the effects. Despite a new flight path trial ending in August, we do seem to be experiencing an increased amount of noise from incoming aircraft at most hours of the day and night. Whatever you may feel about the benefits Gatwick provides, if you consider that the noise levels are intrusive, it is imperative you make your views known. Further details included in the newsletter and on the village website.

Your Parish Council has had a lot on it's plate over the past year or so, all relating to incredibly important issues for the village. There have been two councillor vacancies for sometime now and as a result, it is becoming more difficult for the Council to work effectively and perhaps make the most of the opportunities being made available to us. It is therefore vital that we fill these vacancies or at least have candidates for the election in May. Please give this your serious consideration. For an informal chat about the role, please contact our Clerk, Louise Davies, on 701102.

Finally, as you will receive a communication from the Council later this year regarding the Neighbourhood Plan, there will be no December newsletter, hence the very early reminder of winter precautions! Have an enjoyable autumn.

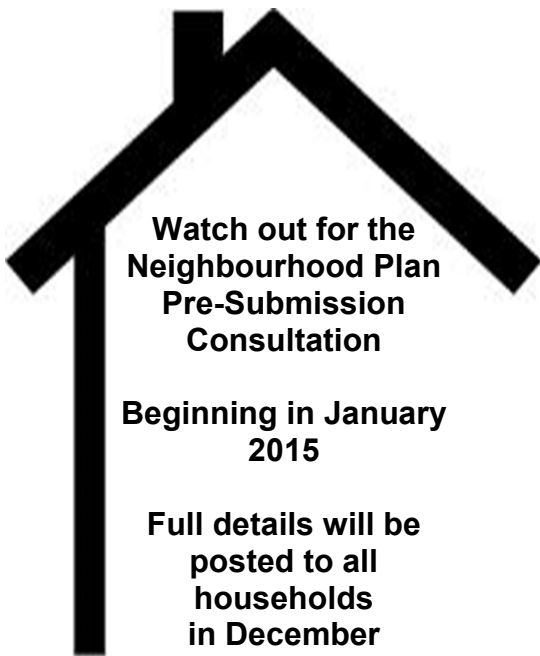
Keith Charman, Chairman

Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Neighbourhood Plan team have spent a busy summer developing the first full draft of the Wisborough Green Plan. This has involved detailed analysis of the considerable evidence base that we have built up over the last two years. Our village information, along with both national and local (Chichester District) plans, have been used to shape a series of local planning policies, which, when approved, will help guide the future development of our community. Once this draft document is complete, which we hope will be in early October, we will then be planning a consultation process whereby everybody in our community will have the chance to review and comment upon the Plan.

We realise that this whole process is taking longer than originally envisaged (and reported in this newsletter!) but it is a complex topic and the Parish Council is of the view that it is better to spend the time now getting it right than have weaknesses pointed out at a later date through the formal inspection process. So bare with us, a Plan will be emerging shortly upon which we will be seeking your views. Further information about the consultation will be sent to every household in December.


The Parish Council welcomes your comments but please let us know who you are rather than write anonymously - the Council may wish to report back to you on the issues raised.



Watch out for the Neighbourhood Plan Pre-Submission Consultation

Beginning in January 2015

Full details will be posted to all households in December



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 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. For more information do contact either the Chairman or Clerk.

Snow - with your help we can keep the village moving !

Arrangements have been put in place to have key areas in the village cleared by E P Clark. However, we have to be realistic about what can be done and therefore help from the community to clear pavements is needed. If we do get heavy snow this winter, then please do your bit to keep the village moving!

The following article has been taken from the Government information website. (<https://www.gov.uk/clear-snow-road-path-cycleway>)

You can clear snow and ice from pavements yourself. It's unlikely that you'll be sued or held responsible if someone is injured on a path or pavement if you've cleared it carefully.

When you clear snow and ice:

- * do it early in the day - it's easier to move fresh, loose snow
- * don't use water - it might refreeze and turn to black ice
- * use salt if possible - it will melt the ice or snow and stop it from refreezing overnight (but don't use the salt from salting bins as this is used to keep roads clear)
- * you can use ash and sand if you don't have enough salt - it will provide grip underfoot
- * pay extra attention when clearing steps and steep pathways - using more salt may help

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Your thoughts please !

Included in the Neighbourhood Plan are policies that will influence the design of future development in the village and must be supported by evidence of the community's wish. You've told us a lot so far, but there are two questions that we now need your opinion on.

Could you please email your responses to clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org or cut off and return this slip to the box in the Village Stores or the Parish Council letter box at the Village Hall by **24 October 2014**.

PLEASE ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

THANK YOU.

Winter Power Loss—don't get caught out !

The possible scenario of Wisborough Green village being isolated due to blocked roads, no power, limited communications, damaged homes and people requiring medical attention is concerning and is considered a Major Emergency. As such, the Parish Council has put in place a community based Major Emergency Plan to respond in an appropriate manner to assist the Local Authorities and Emergency Services.

However, the Parish Council is only able to help in the case of a Major Emergency. It is therefore important that as individuals we all take responsibility and prepare for electricity loss and when weather conditions become more challenging.

So with winter fast approaching can we please remind you to get yourselves prepared for the extreme weather and power loss that we have experienced in recent winters, and remember, do look out for your neighbours! The checklist below may be a useful aide memoire :

- ⇒ Do you have a camping stove? If so, do you have any gas including a spare? Best buy now whilst stocks are plentiful.
- ⇒ Check your supply of candles/matches and obtain spare batteries for torches.
- ⇒ If you have an open fire, ensure that you always have a supply of logs, coal and firelighters. Has your chimney been swept and is your fire ready for use?
- ⇒ Do you have a corded telephone somewhere in the house? This is worth remembering as the cordless ones we so frequently use generally don't work without power.
- ⇒ Do you have a flask that could be filled with hot water if required?
- ⇒ What about a traditional hot water bottle (without power the microwaveable ones can't be heated).
- ⇒ Perhaps some tinned/packet soups and other non perishable food stocks would be useful to those who would be unable to leave their homes in treacherous conditions.

Autumn Litter Picking

We will be organising another community litter picking session on Saturday 11th October 2014, meeting at the Sundial at 2.00 pm. Gloves, litter picking sticks, bags and bag holders will be provided. If you require any further information then please call the Clerk on 701102, otherwise just turn up on the day.

We look forward to seeing you!

School Road One Way System

Now that the school has re-opened after the summer break, a reminder to all that the voluntary one way system in School Road will be in operation for school drop-off and pick-up: enter from the pond off the A272 between 8.30 – 9.15 am and 3.00-3.45 pm.

Thank you for supporting this scheme – it has certainly gone some way to ease congestion and improve road safety during these busy times.



Hedges - please cut back

In order to allow clear pedestrian access, especially for those with wheelchairs and pushchairs, it is important that hedges and vegetation bordering pavements are cut well back this winter (and before the birds start nesting again, officially from 1st March!). Over the years, hedges often grow further out, and without being cut back hard, some have now encroached onto the pavement making it more difficult and dangerous for pedestrians. This is a general note to all households and the Parish Council will be dropping a reminder into properties where there is a particular concern. Thank you for your cooperation.

Dog Fouling - a unpleasant problem !

Dog fouling has been reported, not only on the village green but in the playground. This is a potential health hazard for children so please keep dogs out of the playground (as indicated on the signs) and clear up after your pets. Thank you.

Loxwood Surgery - Repeat Prescription Service

Many people now complete repeat prescriptions online, but if this is not possible for you, then please do remember that the Post Office holds a locked box into which repeat prescriptions can be posted if you are registered at Loxwood Surgery. The box is taken to Loxwood at 2 pm on a Tuesday, with the medication being ready for collection on the Friday. Thank you Penny for undertaking to do this every week – much appreciated.

Flooding - what can we all do to help ?

Christmas 2013 is a time that some in the village would like to forget – the moment that water started to encroach into their homes. The weather was exceptional, prolonged torrential rain on already water logged ground, but the lack of ditch clearing potentially contributed to the flooding, particularly on the roads.

The Parish Council has in the last couple of years cleared the ditches in the centre of the village and has made application to WSCC for funding to have other ditches cleared. It is perhaps unknown to many that watercourses (ditches), other than main rivers, are the responsibility of riparian owners. You are a riparian owner if your property or land is on, or very near, a watercourse. Riparian owners have a duty to keep the watercourse clear of any obstruction to flow and the County Council can serve legal notices on riparian owners to deal with obstructions. Certain "strategic" watercourses, that are known to pose a high risk of property flooding if they become blocked, are checked and maintained on a regular basis by the Environment Agency. More information is available on the Environment Agency website, but if you do have a ditch running through your property, then please think about those who were affected last Christmas and clear your ditches. Thank you.

Bonfires - it's not just the 'Guy' who doesn't like them !

Can we please remind you to be considerate of your neighbours should you feel that a bonfire is really necessary. Smoke can ruin people's enjoyment of their garden, prevent them from opening their windows or hanging washing out, and can have severe health implications for susceptible people such as children, asthma and bronchitis sufferers or those with heart problems.

Smoke from bonfires adds to air pollution and contains the poisonous gas carbon monoxide and other noxious or irritating compound, particularly if plastic, rubber or painted material are burnt. This is also relevant to those who are perhaps burning household rubbish on open fires and woodburners!

Please follow the Good Bonfire Guide!

- ◇ Always check for wildlife or pets lying in the rubbish before lighting fire.
- ◇ Only burn dry material.
- ◇ Never burn household rubbish, rubber tyres, or anything containing plastic, foam or paint.
- ◇ Never use old engine oil, meths or petrol to light the fire or encourage it.
- ◇ Avoid lighting a fire in unsuitable weather conditions – smoke hangs in the air on damp, still days and in the evenings.
- ◇ Avoid burning when the wind will carry the smoke over roads or into other people's property.
- ◇ Avoid burning at weekends and on Bank Holidays when people want to enjoy their gardens.
- ◇ Never leave the fire unattended or leave it smouldering—douse it with water or soil if necessary.

Playground - sadly vandalised

We had a short term problem in the playground when some of the safety matting was pulled up and damaged, which unfortunately coincided with the start of the summer holidays. We had to close off the swings for a short while to allow the grass to grow and hold the mats down until new mats arrived. The mats have now been replaced, but eventually, funds permitting, a more permanent surface, less prone to this sort of issue, will be installed. The repair cost this time was a few hundred pounds which will have to be found from the budget and potentially impact upon other projects. How regrettable that the actions of a few affects the enjoyment of many.

Gatwick Airport

We have just been advised by the Gatwick Area Conservation Campaign that they will be organising a protest about the new flight paths and to express opposition to a new Gatwick runway on **Saturday 22 November** (afternoon). At the time of writing, the location has yet to be confirmed, so do keep watch on their website (www.gacc.org.uk). More details available on the village website including an interesting link to a plane tracker and a link to CAGNE (Communities Against Gatwick Noise Emissions) website (www.cagne.org).



Gatwick Noise Complaint Line

Email: noise.line@gatwickairport.com

Put 'Complaint' in the subject line and give your postcode

Tel: 0800 393070

Ask for a written response.

Vacancies **PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS**

In the Committee Room at the back of the Village Hall
7.45 pm on Tuesday:

21 October
18 November
20 January 2015
17 February
17 March

No meeting in December.
Additional meetings may be called.

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 Vine Room at the Village Hall at 8.00 pm and are currently schedule for:

04 November	06 January
02 December	03 February
16 December	03 March