

Wisborough Green Parish Council

Parish Council News

Issue: 29

April 2018

Chairman's Message

As I settle down to write, Spring is 25 minutes old although, judging by the Mini Beast from the East, one could be forgiven for questioning this; I hope you all survived these intense cold snaps with fingers and toes intact.

The space in this newsletter only allows for a brief outline of the Parish Council's activities over the last few months. It has been a busy time, resulting in some additional and often long meetings. Meeting minutes are published on the village website or why not come along to the **Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 19 April** when I will be explaining more about the Parish Council's work over the past year, as well as providing an update on the Community Land Trust and the benefits for our village.

Some very recent news to start. The Appeal against the refusal of planning at Stable Field, Kirdford Road, has been rejected; this is good news. In the Inspector's lengthy and exceptionally detailed report, much weight was attached to the village's Neighbourhood Plan (NP) and the Conservation Area.

The preparation of the NP was a huge task undertaken by members of the Parish Council helped by other village residents (almost completed before I joined!). It is testament to their diligent work that it is not only a bulwark against unwanted development but also an increasingly sound guide by which planning applications can be judged. The Village Design Guide, another piece of exceptional work, has now been ratified as a further document to guide village development. Huge thanks are due to those who gave so much of their time in their preparation.

Much is happening in the village, nothing more noticeable than the start of the new development by Jones Homes on Petworth Road. The Runnymede Homes development at Winterfold will likely start on site some time this summer and with it will come the huge bonus to the Parish of a new open space: more about this to follow.

The Parish Council is also working with the Sports Association to finalise a plan for the new Sports Pavilion, and the plans for the extension and modernisation of the Village Hall are making good progress. Sometimes it's hard to keep up!

Wisborough Green is a busy village. Arrangements are already underway for the various annual events, as well as plans to mark the commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the end of the First World War. Look out for details of all events on the website or in Ad Vincula - there's a lot going on. In the meantime, I wish you all a very happy Easter.

Peter Drummond, Chairman

Discussions with Gatwick Airport are making reasonable progress: it is interesting to note that the Noise Management Board, established as a result of the immense public response to changes to and trials of new flight paths, are being fully consulted on the plans for Night Flight Trials in 2019: this wouldn't have happened 4 years ago. The Parish Council will provide more information about the Night Trials and include links on the village website when available.

Future Housing - progress update

Land South of Meadowbank, Petworth Road: You will have seen that work on building 25 homes has started. There will be a bit of inconvenience, however all residents in the area should have received site contact details from Jones Homes; if you have any concerns, please contact them directly.

Although the site is still being marketed as Bluebell Meadow, rest assured this will not be the road name. We are grateful to History Society members who investigated and provided the Parish Council with details from the Tithe Map, reference 1329, where the field was listed as 'Great Meadow', owned by George Tripp and occupied by George Tupper. **CDC has now confirmed that the site will be named 'Great Meadow'.**

Winterfold Fields: The Reserve Matters application, to provide the details and satisfy the conditions in the outline application, has recently been considered by the Parish Council. The PC has been working with Runnymede Homes to ensure that the development will sit well in the village and as such, raised no objections. Once approved by CDC, it is anticipated that the work will start very quickly.

In support of our Neighbourhood Plan policy for dark skies, both sites will not have street lighting.

Winterfold Community Land: The Parish Council has held several productive meetings with the developer to ensure that the new community open space will be a useful and valuable asset for the village. We are currently negotiating the provision of a 750m circular route around the area, which will provide a path accessible to all throughout the year. It is hoped that this path will provide a useful exercise circuit for the school as well as our village runners. We will keep you posted as plans progress.

Parish Precept for 2018/2019

As you will have seen on your recent Council Tax statement received from CDC, the Parish Precept has been increased by 2.2% for the next financial year. This is to cover inflation increases on the Council's activities and village maintenance costs. The Council will continue to do its best to provide the village with good value for money.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING THURSDAY 19th APRIL VILLAGE HALL AT 8.00 PM

Your chance to hear what the Parish Council has been doing over the past year. Explanation will be given to the Council's activities and expenditure, as well as an update on the establishment of a Community Land Trust. Refreshments will be served.

Traffic Management Plan

Cricketer's Crossroads: WSCC has confirmed that the Community Highway Scheme application to make safety improvements at the junction and improve pedestrian links will progress to the design stage in 2018/19. If the scheme is adopted it could be implemented the following year, funds permitting.

Newpound Lane Junction with B2133: Subject to agreement of boundary treatment, both landowners have now approved in principle to the cutting back of the current hedge to improve visibility.

Speed Indicator Device: Sites for the portable device that will be moved around the village have now been assessed and approved. The Parish Council will submit details of its preferred device to WSCC for approval.

Durbans Road: An application for a Traffic Regulation Order to reduce the 40 mph speed limit to 30 mph was submitted. However, despite passing the first stage of the process, the Parish Council was advised by WSCC Highways that "The speed data has now been collected and the average speeds range between 26.5mph to 41.5mph, with four out of the six survey results exceeding the maximum average speed (32.9mph) intervention level defined in the Policy. Consequently officers cannot promote a 30mph speed limit for Durbans Road." Words fail sometimes! The Parish Council has therefore requested speed data where speed limits have been reduced, such as the A285 through Halnaker and also the A29, between Coldwaltham and Watersfield. We will follow-up with WSCC Highways and Janet Duncton, our County Councillor, will be supporting us in our endeavours.

Hughes Hill, Newpound Accident

We were all shocked and saddened at the beginning of the year to hear of the tragic accident on Hughes Hill at Newpound. Newpound is an important area of our Parish and the Parish Council shares residents' concerns about this stretch of road. Speeding and traffic were raised as key concerns during our Neighbourhood Plan process and, since then, the Parish Council has been working with WSCC Highways to try to address some of these concerns: speeding on the B2133 as well as visibility when exiting Newpound Lane. The Parish Council has no power to make changes and can only research and suggest possible improvement options; the PC can only apply pressure to the highways authority which ultimately makes the decisions.

Like you, the Parish Council is frequently frustrated that, as local people, we see, hear and are aware of the issues yet the highways authority seem to rely on procedure, quoting statistics and blaming driver behaviour.

The recent fatal accident has amplified these concerns and revived memories of similar incidents on this stretch of road. The Parish Council has requested a meeting with the WSCC Highways as soon as the accident report has been released when residents' concerns and suggestions will be raised.

Stable Field, Kirdford Road - Appeal Dismissed

The outline planning application for 30 extra-care units with associated buildings and uses was refused by CDC and was then appealed by the applicants. The appeal was heard by a Planning Inspector in public at the end of January. We are delighted that the Inspector dismissed the appeal. The full report is available on the CDC website but it is perhaps worth highlighting the inspector's comment which demonstrates the importance of a Neighbourhood Plan.

"However, these factors are outweighed by my conclusions that the scheme would conflict with Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan policies that seek to resist development in the countryside outside settlement boundaries and within a local gap, that the area's character and appearance would be materially harmed with regard to the scheme's landscape and visual effects, and that the unacceptable harm that would be caused to the significance of the Wisborough Green CA would outweigh the scheme's benefits. In reaching this assessment, I am mindful that the appeal scheme would conflict with the NP. Paragraph 198 of the Framework states that where a planning application conflicts with a neighbourhood plan that has been brought into force, planning permission should not normally be granted. To my mind, allowing the present appeal would act to undermine confidence in the neighbourhood planning process that has taken place in Wisborough Green."

Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan Review

Chichester Local Plan Key Policies (2014-2029) was adopted in July 2015 (the WG Neighbourhood Plan). The Inspector required the Council to complete a review within five years to ensure sufficient housing is planned to meet the needs of Chichester District (excluding the area in the South Downs National Park). The government gives high priority to increasing housing delivery and the Chichester District will be expected to take its share of new development. If the plans are not updated the district might be subject to speculative applications for new development which could lead to additional unplanned housing being imposed.

At this stage, we are unsure what effect the Local Plan Review will have on Wisborough Green and its current NP. We anticipate further information in June, but in the meantime, we are establishing a working group to review our own NP and policies. If anyone would be keen to join this group you do not need to be a Parish Councillor and new eyes and thoughts could make a useful contribution. Please contact Louise, the Parish Clerk either by telephone or email.

There But Not There

There will be more detail in the next Parish Council newsletter and the Ad Vincula but at this stage it is worth reporting that Wisborough Green was one of the Founder Partner Parishes for this immense and exceedingly important commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of the signing of The Armistice: the official end of the First World War. It is a world-class project and it is worth having a look at: <https://www.therebutnotthere.org.uk/>



Community Land Trust (CLT)

We mentioned in the January newsletter the possible formation of a CLT; thank you to all those who responded positively and to those who have volunteered to be involved. The Parish Council has now agreed that a CLT should be established. There is still time to get involved, so if you are interested and feel that you have skills that would help, please contact Peter Drummond on 01798 865546 or come to the Annual Parish Meeting on 19th April to hear more and have a chat.

A few pointers about a CLT:

- ◆ In the first instance the WG CLT could own some of the village's housing, which would eventually become valuable village assets generating income.
- ◆ These homes would be for people that WG wants, and needs, living here.
- ◆ A CLT could, in the future, build homes, which would be available to house our own and the people we want to come to our village.
- ◆ A CLT could, if needed, take-over and/or build village assets like the shop.
- ◆ The form it takes is quite fluid, we decide. The ownership of the CLT entity can be nominal or alternatively it could be owned by way of WG villagers buying shares, such as recently promoted for the new Fittleworth Community Shop; if every man, woman and child were to spend just £10 each to buy a share this would give everyone a genuine stake in the village and its future and a financial base to help get the CLT underway.

New Sports Pavilion

Over the last months and years the Sports Association has been putting time and money into developing plans for a replacement pavilion on the village green; it is another huge voluntary effort. As it will be a large new structure on the village's prime asset, the green, it is essential to 'get it right' as any error cannot be undone.

Keep your eyes open for the final consultation, and your opportunity to have your say; details will be included in the Parish magazine, Ad Vincula.

Our New Information Point

Having looked in a sorry state for some time, we are pleased to say that the telephone kiosk will shortly be restored and converted into an Information Point. As a result of the kiosk's condition and the presence of lead paint, this has turned into a bigger project than we originally intended. Hopefully starting in May or June, a professional contractor will be used to return the kiosk to its former glory. This will be followed by the installation of a village map and leaflet dispensers to provide a reference point for visitors to the village as well as residents. Obviously the Parish Council will monitor the condition and ensure that it remains tidy, but any help would be much appreciated: would anyone like to step forward to take on the role of Grand Keeper of the Kiosk? Please let the Clerk know if you are prepared to help.



WG Noticeboard

Please Notice This



You will see that we have a new noticeboard on the side of the bus shelter. This is for use by anyone in the community, whether it is to advertise community events or village businesses.

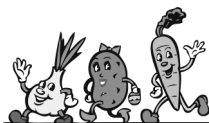
Can we all please do our bit to keep it looking tidy. Do return to remove notices once events have taken place and perhaps remove other notices that are out of date. Thank you.

We will be organising another community
litter picking on
Saturday 7th April
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!

It's not too late to grow your own veggies this year?



There is still a small allotment available in Harsfold Lane. It has been well maintained and productive for the past year and will be available from 1st April (no joke!). For more information please call Louise, Parish Council Clerk, on 701102.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Please refer to the agendas displayed on the village notice boards and website for information - 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 scheduled for:

3 April
1 May
5 June
3 July
7 & 21 August

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

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

17 April
15 May
19 June
17 July

No meeting in August

Members of the public most welcome to attend.

Community Speed Watch

We have now established a group in the village which will be out and about when the weather warms up.

We are extremely grateful to those who have already volunteered but there is still time to get involved. If you are concerned about speeding traffic in the village and have a few hours a month to help, please contact the village coordinator, Howard True, on 700150. **As they say, many hands make light work!**

What is Community Speed Watch?

- ◆ A locally driven initiative where members of the community, with the support of the Police, monitor vehicle speeds using detection devices.
- ◆ Speeding vehicles are referred to the police with the aim of educating drivers to reduce speed.
- ◆ Volunteers receive training and are supported by the neighbourhood policing team.
- ◆ The scheme aims to cater for the problem of real or perceived speed related offending.

More information can be found at: www.communityspeedwatch.co.uk

ENJOY THE COUNTRYSIDE RESPONSIBLY WITH YOUR DOG

(Advice provided by the NFU in association with The Kennel Club)

As the warm weather arrives, a reminder about walking in the countryside and that farmland is also someone's livelihood.

- ⇒ 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 re-join 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.

Bonfires: Now that the warmer days are arriving, a reminder that smoke can ruin peoples' enjoyment of their garden, prevent windows from being opened and washing hung out. Please do not burn any plastics or obnoxious materials on fires or wood burners/indoor fires as this can have severe health implications. Thank you for your co-operation & enjoy the summer.

Your Parish Council

Peter Drummond (Chair) T: 01798 865546

peter.drummond@wisboroughgreenpc.org
Finance Committee, Gatwick Airport, Local
Council Associations, Pavilion, Planning
Committee, Traffic Management Plan

Andrew Jackson (Vice-Chair) T: 700574

andrew.jackson@wisboroughgreenpc.org
Finance & Planning Committee (Chairman),
Affordable Housing, Pavilion

Nick Beresford T: 701908

nick.beresford@wisboroughgreenpc.org
Planning Committee, Playground Inspections

Andy Burbridge T: 701902

andy.burbridge@wisboroughgreenpc.org
Green Coordination Group, Planning
Committee, Youth Activities

Keith Charman T: 700545

keith.charman@wisboroughgreenpc.org
Finance Committee, Major Emergency Plan,
Pavilion, Traffic Management Plan

Michael Newell T: 701171

michael.newell@wisboroughgreenpc.org
Finance and Planning Committees

Sheena Overington T: 700732

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

Howard True T: 700150

howard.true@wisboroughgreenpc.org
Finance Committee, Major Emergency Plan,
Planning Committee, Traffic Management
Plan, Winter Management Plan

Martin Watson T: 07836 700923

martin.watson@wisboroughgreenpc.org
Affordable Housing, Planning Committee

The Council currently has a full complement of members, but vacancies do occur from time to time. If you are interested in joining the Council please contact the Clerk.

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

What's on in the village ?
Check out the village website
www.wisboroughgreen.org

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

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Thursday 19 April 2018

Village Hall, 8.00 pm

This is your opportunity to hear more about the role and work of your Parish Council and all are welcome, in fact we would encourage you to attend!

The Annual Report will be available on the website soon!

