

Wisborough Green Parish Council

Parish Council News

Issue: 34

November 2019

Chairman's Message

It is hard to credit that another summer has passed, it's time for the clocks to go back and we are preparing for dark evenings. In this short introduction I will run through what has been happening and what we have to consider for the village going forward.

Very recently we had two village consultations; the consideration of sites for the Neighbourhood Plan review and the design for the replacement Sports Pavilion. The first thing I need to do is thank everyone involved. The Neighbourhood Plan Review Team, made up of both Parish Councillors and others, put an extraordinary amount of work into the consultation with less support from CDC than last time. Wisborough Green Sports has worked tirelessly through many design iterations. This has been a stout effort to square the circle of meeting sports governing bodies' requirements, so that they qualify for grant funds, and the need to create a pavilion building that is in keeping with its unique location and does not dominate the Green unduly. Lastly, every single one of you who came to the consultations and provided responses.

There is much in the national news about 'democratic consent' and responding to these consultations provides this village 'buy-in' so that we can go forward together. At the time of writing I have yet to see the responses and anticipate them with interest. Finding an additional 25 building plots in a small, perfect, village like Wisborough Green is difficult and we haven't yet had final confirmation of this number from CDC.

There is much international discussion about sustainable living and in Wisborough Green we are lucky to have the powerful force that is Heidi Lang who has been looking at this. Heidi is making a presentation to the Parish Council at our November meeting, to which I would remind you that you are all welcome, and it is something the Parish Council will be taking into account in the future. One doesn't have to join Extinction Rebellion to know that there are myriad small ways that we can all make a contribution to minimising our environmental impact, from recycling to rationalising our use of resources, without unduly hampering the way we live.

We have included our usual reminder about preparing for winter. A hard winter keeps being mentioned in the press, so get prepared just in case. What about growing your own veg? There are several allotment plots available and taking on now would give you a head start on next year's growing season.

These newsletters only provide a snapshot of the Parish Council's work. For full details please do refer to the Parish Council meeting minutes published on the village website or better still, come along to our meetings.

As we plunge into the gloom may I, on behalf of the whole Parish Council, wish you all safe and enjoyable 'Guy Fawkes' celebrations; do support and enjoy the school bonfire and fireworks on Friday 8th November.

Peter Drummond,

Neighbourhood Plan Review

Repeated in this newsletter in case you missed it in the Ad Vincula.

A big thank you again once again to all who attended the Public Consultation event in the Village Hall last month. We very much appreciate the time and interest you took in understanding the information displayed and then providing us with your feedback. All the resulting data from the questionnaires is now being entered before being analysed and validated by independent consultants. This is a lengthy process.

Meanwhile, we wait to hear from Chichester District Council about their Local Plan Review and confirmed housing numbers.

As previously advertised, it was our intention to circulate a community questionnaire this year, but with Christmas fast approaching, it will now be circulated to every household in January. We hope you will again take the time to let us know your thoughts and feelings about our village and its community.

We would like to stress again that the Neighbourhood Plan consultation event was a first step in a long process of review. It forms part of the evidence gathering process and will feed into a later decision making stage which will involve further public consultation. We will continue to keep you fully informed.

Wisborough Green Neighbourhood Plan

New Pavilion Consultation

At the same time as the Neighbourhood Plan consultation event, plans for a new sports pavilion on the Green were on consultation. Thank you to those who spent additional time to review the plans and provide valuable comments, and to the Wisborough Green Sports (WGS) representatives who were on hand to answer questions for the duration. The feedback has now been evaluated and discussed by the Parish Council. In summary:

- 96 responses were received, the significant majority were in favour of replacing the pavilion.
- New design 'liked', 'about right', and 'acceptable' was the dominant response in all key questions.
- Strong support for being a combination of traditional and modern design.
- General acceptance that latest design achieves a balance of facilities against impact to the Green, as well as being an improvement.
- A minority of concerns were raised; concerning materials and traditional look, the extent of glazing, and the extent of social space.
- Overall response appears consistent from WGS members and non-members, with balanced representation across the community.
- Conclusion is that the consultation response gives result with clear direction of support for new design.

The Pavilion Project Team, consisting of Parish Council and WGS representatives, will now meet to consider how concerns can be addressed before seeking a pre-application meeting with CDC to take the project forward. We will keep you posted as the project progresses.

Traffic Management Plan

Cricketer's Crossroads: Over the summer you may have noticed surveying work being undertaken around the crossroads. This is in support of the community highways application which was made to WSCC to improve pedestrian connectivity in the centre of the village, extend the existing layby and create another layby and pavement on the edge of the Little Green along Durbans Road. Members of the Parish Council had a meeting with WSCC in October to discuss how the project can now move forward; it is hoped that WSCC will fund and undertake this work within the next year.

Hughes Hill: The long awaited work has now been completed despite the weather's best endeavours to curtail it. We all sincerely hope that this will now be the end of accidents on this part of the B2133 but only time will tell. The Parish Council will continue to maintain a record to monitor unreported incidents so if accidents do continue, please report to the Parish Clerk on clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org

£££ Budget Preparations £££

The Parish Council Finance Committee will shortly be reviewing the Council's 5-year objectives and considered potential projects to inform next year's budget and the Precept request (money paid by you, via CDC, to the PC).

As a result of the development in the village, the Parish Council will also be in receipt of Community Infrastructure Levy. We have already identified some projects in the village which would benefit from this funding, but if you have any ideas, then please do drop us a line to clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org

Gatwick - the latest news

We have previously mentioned Gatwick's new masterplan that increases the capacity of its main runway, turns its standby runway into a second runway and is holding land for a third runway. Should these plans be successful, flights would increase by circa 40% and passengers by 50%. Apart from increased noise, this growth would increase strain on our infrastructure and increase housing demand.

To counter this threat, community and Parish Councils from all areas around Gatwick have come together to form the 'Gatwick's Big Enough' campaign group. The campaign has questioned Gatwick's attempts to bypass full scrutiny of the increase in the main runway capacity and is preparing a challenge to Gatwick's submission to the Planning Inspectorate in relation to the standby to second runway plan.

Gatwick's Noise Management Board (NMB) remains 'paused' and feedback is awaited from the airport regarding its recommencement. The process for selecting the independent Chairs on both the Executive and Community NMB is underway although, disappointingly, community groups have been excluded from the process.

Following the resignation of District Councillor Natalie Hume (Green Party) on 30th September 2019, a By-election for the Loxwood Ward (which includes Wisborough Green) will be held on Thursday 21st November. Polling will take place in the Vine Room at the Village Hall so those at the Village Lunch can combine the two!

Great Meadow Housing

Following our earlier article about the affordable housing allocations at Great Meadow, we have been made aware that some village residents did not bid for these properties because it was believed that there was a restrictive covenant on owning and parking a van on this site. If true, this is very frustrating because the allocation policy gave priority to local connection for Bands A - D for first lets.

We have been in contact with Greenoak Housing Association to discuss this and although there was an initial intention by Jones Homes to place this restriction on tenancies, it was not applied.

To correct any continuing misunderstanding, we would like to make clear that Greenoak tenants can own and park a van up to the size of a Transit. There is also no restriction on pets, including chickens, although common sense should dictate that perhaps some pets are more suitable than others in small gardens!

Greenoak is keen to allocate homes to people with local connection when re-lets become available. If you have an interest in a tenancy please bid for the property as it is OK to withdraw from the process if you feel it is not suitable for your needs after viewing the property.

Urgent Plea for Fete Committee Members

The summer fete on August Bank Holiday Monday is a well-established and much-loved Wisborough Green tradition that is under threat. The Fete Committee, like many things that happen in the village, relies on volunteers. Many people join in and help out on the day, but we are not being alarmist when we report that if no new volunteers come forward to join the committee there is a chance that the event itself could change.

Whether you are new to the village or have been here, seemingly, forever, we beseech you to consider helping out; it will take less time than you imagine as the arrangements are now so finely tuned! Let's all do our best to keep this wonderful tradition going.

Do call Louise on 701102 for more information or come to the AGM in February.

***** SAVE THE DATE *****

**FETE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AND FIRST MEETING TO DISCUSS THE 2020 FETE**

**THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2020 AT 8PM
IN THE CRICKETERS ARMS**

Parish Councillor Training

The Parish Council's role over the years has changed and the demands on the Council are constantly increasing. There are a number of new councillors, so a training session has been organised in December, to which other local councils have been invited. We hope this will build on councillors' skills so they can contribute positively to Council meetings and that the session will provide a valuable networking opportunity.

Think owning your own home in the heart of Wisborough Green is unaffordable?



If your household income is less than £80,000, you may be eligible to part buy, part rent a brand new, high quality two bedroom home in the village.

Buy a 25% - 80% share

Priority will be given to households with a strong local connection.

Don't miss your chance to get on the housing ladder with a smaller deposit.

Only two properties available - contact us for more information:

housing@greenoakha.org



Example of costs based on 25% share

Buy a 25% share of a 2 bed MT house

Open market value	£315,000
Value of 25% share	£78,750
Estimated Mortgage *	£378
Rent (inc. service charge)	£437
Estimated monthly costs	£816

Other costs

Mortgage deposit (5% assumed)	£3,938
plus legal fees & arrangement fees	

* estimated mortgage payment based on £74,813 at 3.5% over 25 years

Buy a 25% share of a 2 bed ET house

Open market value	£325,000
Value of 25% share	£81,250
Estimated Mortgage *	£390
Rent (inc. service charge)	£451
Estimated monthly costs	£841

Other costs

Mortgage deposit (5% assumed)	£4,063
plus legal fees & arrangement fees	

* estimated mortgage payment based on £77,188 at 3.5% over 25 years



Winter Advice - we say it every year just in case !

Winter Power Loss – Get Prepared

Power loss in the winter is far more challenging so a reminder to get prepared for winter now. We never know if or when bad weather or power loss will arrive, so don't get caught out.

Dealing with Snow and Ice

Arrangements have been put in place to have key areas in the village cleared should it snow this winter. However, we have to be realistic about what can be done and therefore help from the community to clear pavements is needed. The following article has been taken from the Government information website (<https://www.gov.uk/clear-snow-road-path-cycleway>). **If we do get heavy snow this winter, then please do your bit to keep the village moving!**

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.

We have received more reports that dog fouling around the village is increasing. The Parish Council hopes that it is not village residents who are acting irresponsibly and thoughtlessly towards others. Please pick up and use the dog or general litter bins.

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:

**5 November
3 & 17 December
7 January 2020
4 February
3 March**

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

No meeting in December
21 January 2020
18 February
17 March
21 April

**Members of the public most
welcome to attend.**

Important Consultation for all library users

WSSC has advised that there is a public consultation running until Wednesday 13th November on proposed budget savings within the Library Service.

It asks people for their views on proposals:

- To cease the mobile library service.
- To reduce the evening opening hours in the four main libraries (Chichester, Crawley, Horsham and Worthing) by one hour, from 7pm to 6pm from April 2020.

WSSC is keen for as many library users as possible to take part in the consultation and share their thoughts on the proposals.

The consultation will help inform the decision due to be taken in November by the Cabinet Member for Fire and Rescue and Communities. The decision is one of a number of options being considered to take forward in the 2020/21 budget to help meet the funding gap currently faced by West Sussex County Council.

To find out more and to take part, visit the WSSC website:

<https://haveyoursay.westsussex.gov.uk/libraries/libraryoffer/>

Hedge Cutting Reminder

Please do remember to cut back hedges over the winter (and before the birds start nesting again, officially from 1st March!).

Landowners have a responsibility to cut roadside hedges; it's important to keep road signs visible and allow cyclists and pedestrians space to move off the road. Likewise, clear pedestrian access, especially for those with wheelchairs and pushchairs, is important, so please cut back vegetation bordering pavements in the village centre.

Litter Picking - Thank You

Despite the inclement weather, a small group of residents turned out to help with the autumn litter picking. Yet again we collected several bags of litter and also brushed out the telephone box and bus shelter. It was lovely to meet and welcome two new WG residents who have recently moved into Great Meadow. A HUGE thank you to you all, and especially the younger members of our community. Our next litter pick will be organised in April so look out for details next year. We look forward to seeing you!

**ALLOTMENT PLOTS AT HARSFOLD LANE NOW AVAILABLE
ANNUAL RENT FOR A LARGE PLOT CURRENTLY £32
DIFFERENT SIZE OPTIONS TO SUIT YOUR TIME**

Is the thought of growing your own fruit & veg appealing but yet you haven't enough space in the garden? This is your chance. Call Louise, Parish Council Clerk, on 701102 for more details.

Your Parish Council

Peter Drummond (Chair) T: 01798 865546

Finance Committee, Gatwick Airport, Local Council Associations, Planning Committee, Traffic Management Plan

Andrew Jackson (Vice-Chair) T: 700574

Finance Committee, Neighbourhood Plan Review, Planning Committee (Chairman), New Pavilion Project, Pavilion Trustee Liaison

Andy Burbridge T: 701902

Green Coordination Group, Planning Committee, Youth Activities

Judith Dandy T: 701001

Green Coordination Group, Traffic Management Plan, WG School Liaison

Michael Newell T: 701171

Finance Committee (Chairman), New Pavilion Project, Pavilion Trustee Liaison, Planning Committee

Sheena Overington T: 700732

Major Emergency Plan, Neighbourhood Plan Review, Traffic Management Plan, Village Hall, Winter Management Plan

Steve Rollinson T: 700167

Major Emergency Plan, Neighbourhood Plan Review

Howard True T: 700150

Community Speed Watch, Finance Committee, Major Emergency Plan, Planning Committee, Traffic Management Plan, Winter Management Plan

Martin Watson T: 07836 700923

Finance Committee, Planning Committee, New Pavilion Project

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. Members can be contacted directly by telephone or by email through the Clerk.

Meet your District Councillor

Cllr. Gareth Evans (Loxwood Ward, Liberal Democrats)

Unless otherwise stated (*), drop-in surgeries (walk-in one to one meetings) will be on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, from 11am to 1pm, with the next dates being:

Saturday 2nd November, Kirdford Stores, Kirdford

Saturday 23rd November (*), Onslow Arms, Loxwood

Saturday 7th December, The Stag Inn, Balls Cross, Ebernoe

Cllr Evans would also be open to your ideas and suggestions for other surgeries or 'Meet your Cllr', events as part of other community group meetings or activities to help him be as accessible to residents as possible. Please feel free to contact him telephone (07958918056) or by email gbevans@chichester.gov.uk