

## Chairman's Message

We've all been there; you know there's something that you've been meaning to get around to doing then, before you know it, almost 55 years have passed and it suddenly becomes pressing. Such are the village's Byelaws. You might not be that aware of these aged rules but they are the statutes that covers the village's open spaces, what can and can't be done on the Village Green. The revised Byelaws are set out in this newsletter and this is your, **once in every two generations**, chance to have your say.

As I write, the prolonged summer has rapidly given way to a more traditional autumn: cold, very wet and dark evenings. It's a good opportunity to look back, wistfully, at some summer activities and achievements.

- The fête was another knockout success, maybe it's just me but it appears that post-pandemic it is becoming more and more popular. Huge thanks are due to the amazing fête team, who make it happen.
- If its regular use is any indication, the extension to the cricket net area and the addition of a five-a-side goal has been a great success. No longer will casual winter sport have to be conducted in the mud. Soon there will be a storage box containing balls for use there; however, when they're gone they're gone, for a whole year.
- The drainage system on the Green is not only working but the tracks are being topped up less and less and the grass is growing over them... at last.

Notwithstanding the great summer, the dark clouds of CDC's Local Plan Review are gathering, which means that four year's work on the village's Neighbourhood Plan will have to be restarted. What is more, the planning application for 25 houses on Glebe Fields, which the Parish Council (PC) fought hard and was withdrawn for reasons unknown, has, as predicted, morphed into a plan for 80 houses we believe. As a village we have to gird our loins for the turbulent times ahead and hope that whatever plan finally emerges for the village, will recognisably leave it as the wonderful place that is Wisborough Green.

On that cheery note it just remains for me to wish you all a happy Christmas.

**Peter Drummond, Chairman**

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**INSIDE: Neighbourhood Plan Update, Durbans Road Speed Limit, Replacement Trees, Dog Waste Bags, Be Prepared for Winter, Byelaws and more .....**

# Durbans Road Community Traffic Regulation Order



The PC is going to have another crack at reducing the 40mph speed limit through the residential area from the corner at Brookbridge to the current 30mph by Sweephurst. You may recall that the process was started in 2018 but fell foul of WSCC policy at that time – vehicles were going too fast to reduce the speed limit!

The WSCC process and policy has changed and the chances of it being approved have got better; fingers crossed. The hope is that the consultation and evidence previously collected will still be acceptable to WSCC; let's face it, speeds have got worse and not better. The Speed Indicator Device (SID) will shortly be moved to Durbans Road to start collecting data to support the new application. If you would like to support the application then please send an email with your observations to [clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org](mailto:clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org)

## Replacement Trees

The trees removed earlier in the year will shortly be replaced. The PC made the decision to replace them with a different species due to the disease affecting the Horse Chestnuts. When trees need replacement in the future, the PC plans to replace with Chestnuts on the main Green but look for alternative species for the peripheral areas.

**South end of the Green:** Red Maple 'October Glory' to complement the existing Red Maple by the War Memorial (planted to acknowledge the Canadian Forces based in WG and remembered on Dieppe Day in August each year).

**School Road:** Liquidambar links with the other two in the road verge.

**Opposite the Cricketers Arms:** Golden Norway Maple, located with the black barn behind, so should be a lovely feature and not too large for the area.

## Dog Waste Bags - please also buy your own

800 dog waste bags are being used every 3 weeks, as was previously reported, at an annual cost of £511.00. The bags are provided to encourage picking up, for those who forget a bag, but now appears to be being used as a free supply. People have been seen stuffing pockets and even pulling up in a car, taking a supply and driving off. Those of you who regularly walk around the Village Green will notice that the waste bag dispenser has now been relocated. The PC will be assessing use in the coming weeks with a view to removing the facility if this misuse continues.



## Remembrance Day Road Closure

The A272 will be closed from the top of Durbans Road to the Village Shop on **Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November from 10.58 am to 11.03 am** to prevent traffic noise disturbing the reading of the names and the two minute silence.

## Catch the allotment bug!

Allotments available from April 2024



For more information and an application form please call Louise on 701102 or email [clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org](mailto:clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org)



# Neighbourhood Plan Update

## CDC blows up 4 year's of work ... the saga continues

Recently, meetings have been held with CDC to ascertain where we stand with the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) review. Frustratingly, we will be starting the NP process again after the Local Plan has been through examination; the hearing is likely to be held in April/May 2024, with the examiner's report expected late summer/early autumn. We are therefore repeating this article as it confirms the current position.

*"The Local Plan and NP Review continues. Although the PC acknowledges that it is beneficial for the district to have a Local Plan in place to guard against speculative development, for the recent Local Plan consultation the PC submitted a strong objection to the housing allocation for WG (75 new homes). Not only will it be a struggle to find development sites that will not impact upon the historic and rural landscape, but we have raised concerns about the lack of infrastructure to support these new homes. The PC has also requested to be involved in the examination to be conducted early 2024 and will be highlighting to the examiner the difficulties experienced by many in completing the consultation. Some might say that this was intentional!*

*Frustratingly, it does mean that our NP process remains stalled until the housing allocation has been confirmed. A lot of work has already been undertaken to inform the site selection process but it is very likely that much of the process will need to be repeated. As you will understand, the NP Steering Group and PC are unhappy with the CDC's prevaricating and lack of communication since we started the process in 2018, responding to CDC's strong request to complete to Regulation 14 by early 2020. Frustrating beyond belief. We are highlighting this to our MP, Andrew Griffith, not least for a waste of volunteers' time and tax payers money for the grant funding we received."*

## Byelaws - we need your feedback by 1st December

The Village Green Byelaws were confirmed by the Secretary of State on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1969 and came into operation on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1969; they have served the village well, but life and activities have changed since then. As mentioned in the last newsletter, the PC intends to update the Byelaws, both in terms of use and the fines that can be imposed, for the Green and will introduce the same Byelaws at Songhurst Meadow. PC consent can obviously be sought for events or activities that would be in breach of the Byelaws.

It is necessary for the PC to demonstrate that it has consulted with the village. We therefore need your views. Please complete the questionnaire at the end of the newsletter and return to the box in the village shop, or send your responses by email to [clerk@wisboroughgreenpr.org](mailto:clerk@wisboroughgreenpr.org)

Silence is compliance; the Parish Council will assume that no response is acceptance.

**The PC proposes to adopt Model Byelaws with appropriate amendments. The proposed Byelaws are published, in their entirety, on the website but we have summarised and removed non-relevant details on the following pages. The response form is on the back page of this booklet.**

## We remind you every year - don't get caught out

Hopefully the berries on the Holly and Hawthorn trees are not an indication of a harsh winter to come. Perhaps this is a warning so don't get caught out.

Now really is the time to get prepared, just in case of power loss this winter. Winter power loss is far more challenging so check camping gas and log supplies, torch batteries, candles, generators and other items that your household may need.



We haven't had snow for a while but just in case, arrangements have been put in place to have key areas in the village cleared should we have heavy snow this winter. 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, please do your bit to keep the village moving, and also look out for your neighbours.

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 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 village grit 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 paths - using more salt may help.

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

**21 November**  
**No December meeting**  
**16 January 2024**  
**20 February**  
**19 March**

### **PC PLANNING COMMITTEE** **MEETINGS**

Please refer to the agendas displayed on the village noticeboards and website for information - a meeting will only be called to meet CDC deadlines. Meetings are held at 8.00 pm on a Tuesday in the Village Hall .

**7 November**  
**5 & 19 December**  
**2 January 2024, 6 February**

### **CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Clerk: Mrs Louise Davies  
Wisborough Green Parish Council  
PO Box 255, Wisborough Green  
Billingshurst, West Sussex  
RH14 0WT

E: [clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org](mailto:clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org)  
T: 01403 701102

**AGENDAS & MINUTES ON**  
**[www.wisboroughgreen.org](http://www.wisboroughgreen.org)**

# Proposed Byelaws - PENALTY FOR CONTRAVENTION IS £500

Byelaws made under section 164 of the Public Health Act 1875, sections 12 and 15 of the Open Spaces Act 1906 by Wisborough Green Parish Council with respect to the Village Green and Songhurst Meadow Open Space.

## **Protection of structures and plants**

No person shall remove from or displace:

- a) any barrier, post, seat or implement, or any part of a structure or ornament provided for use in the laying out or maintenance of the ground; or
- (b) any stone, soil or turf or the whole or any part of any plant, shrub or tree.

No person shall walk on or ride, drive or station a horse or any vehicle over:

- (a) any flower bed, shrub or plant;
- (b) any ground in the course of preparation as a flower bed or for the growth of any tree, shrub or plant; or
- (c) any part of the ground set aside by the Council for the renovation of turf or for other landscaping purposes and indicated by a notice conspicuously displayed.

## **Unauthorised erection of structures**

No person shall without the consent of the Council erect any barrier, post, ride or swing, building or any other structure.

## **Climbing**

No person shall without reasonable excuse climb any wall or fence in or enclosing the ground, or any tree, or any barrier, railing, post or other structure.

## **Grazing**

No person shall without the consent of the Council turn out or permit any animal for which they are responsible to graze in the ground.

## **Protection of wildlife**

No person shall kill, injure, take or disturb any animal, or engage in hunting or shooting or the setting of traps or the laying of snares.

## **Gates**

No person shall leave open any gate to which this byelaw applies and which that person has opened or caused to be opened.

## **Camping**

No person shall without the consent of the Council erect a tent or use a vehicle, caravan or any other structure for the purpose of camping.

## **Fires (*includes barbecues*)**

No person shall:

- (a) light a fire;
- (b) place, throw or drop a lighted match or any other thing likely to cause a fire; or
- (c) release a lighted sky lantern into the atmosphere.

This Byelaw shall not apply to the lighting of a fire at any event for which the Council has given permission that fires may be lit.

## **Missiles**

No person shall throw or use any device to propel or discharge in the ground any object which is liable to cause injury to any other person.

## Proposed Byelaws - PENALTY FOR CONTRAVENTION IS £500

### **Interference with life-saving equipment**

No person shall except in case of emergency remove from or displace within the ground or otherwise tamper with any life-saving appliance provided by the Council.

### **Horses** (*Horse riding prohibited*)

No person shall ride a horse except in the exercise of a lawful right or privilege. Where horse-riding is permitted by virtue of a lawful right or privilege, no person shall ride a horse in such a manner as to cause danger to any other person.

### **Cycling**

No person shall cycle on any footway or carriageway in such a manner as to cause danger or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to other persons using the footway or carriageway.

### **Motor vehicles** (*includes electric scooters*)

No person shall without reasonable excuse bring into or drive in the ground a motorcycle, motor vehicle or trailer except in any part of the ground where there is a right of way for that class of vehicle, or with consent of the Council.

### **Overnight parking**

No person shall without the consent of the Council leave or cause or permit to be left any motor vehicle in the ground between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

## **PLAY AREAS, GAMES AND SPORTS**

### **Children's play areas**

No person aged 14 years or over shall enter or remain in a designated area which is a children's play area unless in charge of a child under the age of 14 years.

### **Children's play apparatus**

No person aged 14 years or over shall use any apparatus stated to be for the exclusive use of persons under the age of 14 years by a notice conspicuously displayed on or near the apparatus.

### **Skateboarding, etc** (*Skateboarding, etc permitted but must not cause danger or annoyance*)

No person shall skate, slide or ride on rollers, skateboards or other self-propelled vehicles in such a manner as to cause danger or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to other persons.

### **Ball games** (*Ball games permitted throughout the ground but designated area for ball games also provided*)

No person shall play ball games outside a designated area for playing ball games in such a manner:

- (a) as to exclude persons not playing ball games from use of that part;
- (b) as to cause danger or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to any other person in the ground; or
- (c) which is likely to cause damage to any tree, shrub or plant in the ground.

### **Archery**

No person shall engage in the sport of archery except in connection with an event organised by or held with the consent of the Council.

### **Field sports**

No person shall throw or put any javelin, hammer, discus or shot except in connection with an event organised by or held with the consent of the Council.

# Proposed Byelaws - PENALTY FOR CONTRAVENTION IS £500

## **Golf**

No person shall drive, chip or pitch a ball of any kind.

## **WATERWAYS / PONDS**

No person shall without reasonable excuse bathe or swim in any waterway.

## **Ice skating**

No person shall step onto or otherwise place their weight upon any frozen waterway.

## **Model boats**

No person shall operate a power-driven model boat on any waterway.

## **Blocking of watercourses**

No person shall cause or permit the flow of any drain or watercourse in the ground to be obstructed, diverted, open or shut or otherwise move or operate any sluice or similar apparatus.

## **MODEL AIRCRAFT** (*includes drones*)

### **General prohibition**

No person shall cause any power-driven model aircraft to take off or otherwise be released for flight or control the flight of such an aircraft in the ground; or land in the ground without reasonable excuse.

## **OTHER REGULATED ACTIVITIES**

### **Provision of services**

No person shall without the consent of the Council provide or offer to provide any service for which a charge is made.

### **Excessive noise**

No person shall, after being requested to desist by any other person in the ground, make or permit to be made any noise which is so loud or so continuous or repeated as to give reasonable cause for annoyance to other persons in the ground by:

- (a) shouting or singing;
- (b) playing on a musical instrument; or
- (c) by operating or permitting to be operated any radio, amplifier, tape recorder or similar device.

The above Byelaw does not apply to any person holding or taking part in any entertainment held with the consent of the Council.

### **Public shows and performances**

No person shall without the consent of the Council hold or take part in any public show or performance.

### **Aircraft, hang gliders and hot air balloons**

No person shall except in case of emergency or with the consent of the Council take off from or land in the ground in an aircraft, helicopter, hang glider or hot air balloon.

### **Kites**

No person shall fly any kite in such a manner as to cause danger or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to any other person.

### **Metal detectors**

No person shall without the consent of the Council use any device designed or adapted for detecting or locating any metal or mineral in the ground.



# Proposed Byelaws - PENALTY FOR CONTRAVENTION IS £500

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Obstruction

No person shall obstruct:

- (a) any officer of the Council in the proper execution of his duties;
- (b) any person carrying out an act which is necessary to the proper execution of any contract with the Council; or
- (c) any other person in the proper use of the ground.

### Savings

It shall not be an offence under these byelaws for an officer of the Council or any person acting in accordance with a contract with the Council to do anything necessary to the proper execution of his duty.

Nothing in or done under these byelaws shall in any respect prejudice or injuriously affect any public right of way through the ground, or the rights of any person acting lawfully by virtue of some estate, right or interest in, over or affecting the ground or any part of the ground.

### Removal of offenders

Any person offending against any of these byelaws may be removed from the ground by an officer of the Council or a constable.

### Penalty

Any person offending against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale. *(The proposed Penalty is the maximum £500)*

### Revocation

The byelaws made by Wisborough Green Parish Council on 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May 1969 and confirmed/approved by the Local Government Board on 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 1969, relating to the ground are hereby revoked.



**Please attach a separate sheet for your comments & return via the box in the shop or email your responses to [clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org](mailto:clerk@wisboroughgreenpc.org)**  
**Please submit your comments by 1st December 2023. Thank you.**

WG Household - Postcode: .....

I agree with the Contravention Penalty being set at the maximum £500 Yes / No  
If no, why not?  
.....

I agree with the 1969 Byelaws being updated Yes / No If no, why not?

I agree with the proposed Byelaws Yes / No If no, why not?

Please provide details of where / why you disagree with the proposed Byelaws:  
.....  
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