

# Wellow Parish Council

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## NEWSLETTER      MARCH 2010

Dear Residents

There are a number of issues which we would like to bring to your notice.

Many of you know that our Clerk has been ill since the end of May last year. We wish Annette a full recovery. We still have no information about her return to work. This has been a difficult time for the Council. We are very fortunate to have the services of Carol McFarland as our locum Clerk and cannot thank her enough for the professional way in which she has taken over the administration of Parish business. This however is not a full replacement for the Clerk as Carol's main occupation is as Clerk to Romsey Extra Parish Council and members of the Council are filling in the extra hours.

The Clerk's absence means that we are not using our office to the full extent which we had envisaged. Everything we need to carry out our functions is now in the office and someone is there at some stage every weekday. Once the situation with the Clerk is clarified we shall advertise the hours when the office will be open. In the meantime we can be contacted on the office phone or email [wellowparish@btconnect.com](mailto:wellowparish@btconnect.com) or you can contact me on 323141 or [veronica@royperry.org](mailto:veronica@royperry.org).

At the March meeting the Council decided to hand over the management of the Council tennis courts to the Tennis Club. This was not an easy decision to take for either the Council or the Club, but we all hope that this will result in an easier booking system for people wanting to play casual tennis and the Club has given a guarantee that there will always be one court available to the public. The only exception to this is when the Club has a match (this has always been the case) and New Year's Day when traditionally the Club has had full use of the Council courts.

### **The courts remain in Council/public ownership and available to all.**

The Club will pay an increased annual rent to the Council and will fund the necessary refurbishments to maintain the courts in a safe, playable condition. This will release money, which had been set aside for the tennis courts, for refurbishments at Lower Common Road Recreation Ground.

The Club will introduce a coaching programme for young people and will be encouraging others to take up, or return to, playing tennis.

The Council has obtained a grant for ten years for maintenance works on Wellow Common. This means that there will be no need to spend Council Tax money clearing gorse or bracken, and tree-felling.

Last month there was some gorse-clearance at Monkey Jump and this month the National Trust is removing some Silver Birch trees adjacent to the A36 opposite Maurys Lane.

There will not be any clear-felling and good specimen trees will be left together with screening along the A36. No oak trees are involved in this work.

Mrs Tillyer, who has done superb work keeping the Rec. free of litter, has retired. Our grateful thanks go to her for her work over the years and our good wishes for many years of retirement.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> in the Village Hall and we hope to see many of you there.

We have stopped holding an interim Planning Committee meeting – all plans are now dealt with at the monthly meeting (first Monday of each month).

Please feel free to contact any of the Parish Councillors if you have anything you want to raise with us or come to the meeting each month when the first 15 minutes are available to you to raise any matters you wish with us.

Yours sincerely  
Veronica Perry

## CONTACT DETAILS

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