



# NIGHTINGALE TIMES

*The On-line Newsletter for Wellow Parish Council*  
website: [www.wellowparish.org.uk](http://www.wellowparish.org.uk)

Parish Council elections 7th May 2015

Stand for election

Find out more about standing for election as a parish councillor on the [National Association of Local Councils \(NALC\) website](http://www.nalc.org.uk) which provides these publications:

- [All about local councils](#) - A NALC booklet for anyone wanting to know more about parish, town, neighbourhood and community councils and the role of councillors
- [It takes all sorts: Local councils: represent your community, make a difference](#) - NALC and Electoral Commission

You can also find guidance and resources for parish and community election candidates on the [Electoral Commission parish and community election pages](#)

Welcome to our new Parish Councillor

Mr Mike Jones was elected to the Parish Council on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2014. We welcome him and wish him well in his new role.

Wellow Commemoration of the start of WW1

On Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2014, villagers gathered for prayers and 2 minutes' silence at Wellow's War Memorial in Romsey Road. The Service was conducted by Rev. Peter Clemett.



## Wellow Poppy Appeal

The 2014 Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal begins on Saturday 25 October 2014, if anyone has any spare time and would like to assist with the appeal, please contact Phil Stenner on 01794 323846.

The Royal British Legion Women's Section will be holding their annual Poppy Appeal Jumble Sale at Wellow Village Hall on Saturday, 18th October 2014 and the Christmas Sale will also be held at Wellow Village Hall on Saturday, 15th November 2014.

## Walk the Wellow Ways

A Walk the Wellow Ways was held on Sunday 7 September 2014, when a small number of volunteers walked 9 of the 22 footpaths to check access, cut back any summer growth and report any problems such as broken stokes, signs or blocked paths.



Public Rights of Way-Footpaths, bridleways and byways are an important means of enjoying the countryside, part of our national heritage.

Rights of Way have always served local needs, linking village farms, schools, churches and places of work. They have their origins in pre-history, used by pilgrims and drivers.

In modern times these paths are mainly used for the increasing popularity of walking for pleasure. Wellow Parish has approximately 7 Miles of Rights of Way with lovely contrasting views over beautiful local countryside.

Arrangements are now in hand to check the remaining footpaths and rectify any identified problems. If anyone would like to volunteer to assist in maintaining our footpaths please contact the Parish Clerk to register your interest.

## Pavements, public footpaths and highways

We would respectfully remind all parishioners and landowners of their responsibilities for maintaining their hedges, in particular those that are adjacent to the highway, pavement or a public footpath. They should be cut back to the property boundary, as some overgrowth has severely narrowed the footpaths. It is important for the safety of users that overhanging foliage is cut back. If anyone encounters any difficulties with overgrowth, please contact the Parish office.

## Appointment of Lengthsman

The Parish Council has joined partnership with Bramshaw, Netley Marsh and Copythorne Parish Councils to participate in the Lengthsman scheme. We have now appointed Mr Kevin Bennett to the role and welcome him. He will commence working in the Parish from October for one day per month undertaking highway related tasks including cleaning road signs, clearing Parish owned ditches, hedges and clearance of public footpaths. His role is partly subsidised by a grant from Hampshire County Council.

## Flooding

Are you concerned about flooding in the village? - *If so, do you know how you can help prevent flooding by maintaining a watercourse?*

What is a watercourse?

Watercourses are any natural or artificial channel above or below ground through which water flows. Watercourses are classified as either 'Ordinary Watercourse' or 'Main River'. Main Rivers are typically larger streams and rivers, but some are smaller watercourses of local significance. Main rivers are nationally managed by the Environment Agency (EA).

Ordinary Watercourses are watercourses that are not part of a main river and include streams, ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dykes, sluices, sewers (other than public sewers) and passages, through which water flows. Landowners or residents who own land or property situated next to a main river or ordinary watercourse are legally termed riparian land-owners and they are responsible for maintaining ordinary watercourses.

## Rights and Responsibilities

- If your land boundary runs next to a watercourse it is assumed you own the land up to the centre of the water-course, unless someone else owns the land over which the watercourse flows.
- If you own land with a watercourse running through or underneath it, it is assumed you own the section of the watercourse on your land.
- If a watercourse is the responsibility of a third party it should be noted in your deeds.
- You have the right to protect your property from flooding and your land from erosion. If this work may affect the flow or storage of water, you need to seek consent from Hampshire County Council.

Please note: If the ditch connects with a culvert (pipe) then the bottom of the ditch should be excavated (and maintained) to a few inches below the entrance of the pipe to help prevent leaf litter and other debris from entering the culvert and blocking it. No wire grates/mesh should be placed before an inlet to a culvert unless prior consent has been given by Hampshire County Council. For further information and advice, please see:

<http://www3.hants.gov.uk/landowners-flood-risk-guidance-leaflet.pdf>

## New Look Wellow Village Hall

Throughout the School holidays a major refurbishment of our Village Hall has taken place. At the time of writing this report in early September most works have been completed, it should all be finished by the end of September.

Our new look Village Hall has been redecorated throughout, with new flooring and curtains in the Main Hall, Nightingale, Embley and Wellow Rooms, together with new carpeting throughout the entrance hallway. New disabled toilet facilities including baby changing facilities. A new efficient gas condensing boiler for heating and hot water has been installed. A new sound system is also being installed in the main hall. Some improvements have also been made to Wellow Room, also providing a new storage area.

Outside a new pathway has been laid around the Parish Office, and also a new path around Wellow Room with wheel chair friendly ramps and safety handrail. A defibrillator is also to be

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installed at the main entrance in case of medical emergency; training is to be given to hall users in due course. We also have new larger dragons' teeth around the car park.

These works have cost in excess of £35,000, The Wellow Village hall Management Committee would like to thank Viridor Credits for their grant of £24,000. We have also received grants from Hampshire County Council, Test Valley Borough Council, Wellow Parish Council and numerous other organisations.

### Barn Dance on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2014 - 7.30pm

The Wellow Village Hall Management Committee, in conjunction with Wellow Twinning, is arranging a Barn Dance on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> October 2014 at our new look Village Hall. There will be live music, bar and Ploughman's supper. Price - £12.50 per head. Contact Peter by email: [p\\_thaxter@hotmail.com](mailto:p_thaxter@hotmail.com) Tel: (01794 322414) or Sandra (01794 322852). Tickets are also available from the Post Office.

### Wellow Village Hall Local Recycling Centre

Test Valley Borough Council have advised the following quantities have been recycled at the above centre between August 2013 and July 2014 - Tonnes of Glass 78; Textiles in Kg 11,870. A big thank you to all concerned.

### Issues in the Village re Environment and Planning Enforcement

These issues should be reported to Departments direct; not to the Parish Council as we cannot do anything about it. Please contact:

Planning and Enforcement: Test Valley Borough Council - 01264 368000

Environment: Hampshire County Council: 01329 225 398.

### Volunteers

The Parish Council is always in need of volunteers to support the many varied tasks each year, including litter picking, footpath maintenance and general work around the village. Please let the Clerk know if you are interested.

### Meetings

All meetings of Wellow Parish Council are open to the public. Time is provided at each Full Council meeting for public participation where residents can raise any concern or matter relating to the Parish.

### Meetings Dates (held in Wellow Village Hall):

**Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2014** - (Planning and General Purposes Committee 6.45 pm, Full Council 7.15 pm)

**Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014** - (Planning and General Purposes Committee 6.45 pm, Full Council 7.15 pm)

**Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014** - (Planning and General Purposes Committee 6.45 pm, Full Council 7.15 pm)

### Newsletter

If you would like comment on and/or to contribute to the newsletter, please let the Clerk, Mrs Lesley Weldon know. You can contact her at the office (10am to 12.00pm Tues, Weds, Thurs), through the website, email or telephone (details below).

**Provide the Clerk with your email address and receive the newsletters by email!!**