



NIGHTINGALE TIMES

The On-line Newsletter for Wellow Parish Council
website: 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 Clerk

We extend a warm welcome to Lorraine Wheeler, who has been appointed to replace Lesley Weldon as Parish Clerk from 5th January 2015. Lorraine is a qualified Clerk and we are sure she will bring her experience and skills to this interesting role within the Parish. Lesley is retiring to spend more time with her grandson and travel with her husband. She will be assisting Lorraine during the handover in January. We wish Lesley every happiness in her retirement and thank her for her services to the Parish.



Remembrance Sunday, 9th November 2014

Yet again, the weather was glorious for this event. Being the 100th Anniversary of the Great War, the Village turnout was excellent. Pupils at Wellow Primary School have been researching the history of the men from the Village who fought and died in the Great War and whose names appear on the Memorial. Each child carried a banner to honour them. After the Memorial Service, the children's project was on display at Wellow Village Hall, where parishioners enjoyed refreshments provided by the School and Wellow Parish Council. Thank you to all who helped to make this occasion a special day.



Wellow Area Poppy Appeal 2014

The total collected to date is £5,029.89 (total for 2013 - £4,520.99) this includes house to house collections, static points (shops & pubs etc), Remembrance Sunday Church Collection, Poppy Jumble Sale and wreath donations. This is a tremendous amount and a big thank you to all who supported the appeal, especially those people who did house to house collections and the local businesses that had a collecting box on their counter.

Wellow Parish Council, Parish Office, Village Hall, Buttons Lane, West Wellow, Hants SO51 6BR
Tel: 01794 323275 Email: wellowparish@btconnect.com

December 2014

If anyone would like to obtain one of the 1914-2014 Pin Badges, there is a small quantity available for a donation, for more information please contact Phil Stenner, Wellow Area Poppy Appeal Organiser on 01794 323846.



This Christmas give blood: the gift only you can give in Wellow

NHS Blood and Transplant is calling for more people in Wellow to make time this Christmas to give a gift only they can give and make a blood - or platelet - donation. Blood stock levels can drop dramatically over the busy festive period as Christmas shopping, celebrations and extended public holidays mean giving blood slips off the nation's to-do lists. Every blood donation is vital, but over winter months NHS Blood and Transplant particularly needs to ensure supplies of the universal blood group O Rh Negative which is often in short supply as demand is so great, as well as the rarer blood groups A Rh Negative, B Rh Negative and AB Rh Negative as these are vulnerable to shortfall. **Please make time to give blood on 23 December 2014** Wellow Village Hall car park, Buttons Lane, West Wellow, Romsey. Session times 09:30 to 12:00 and 13:30 to 16:00. Appointments only. To book an appointment to donate visit www.blood.co.uk or call 0300 123 2323. It is also easy to book through mobile apps for Windows, Android and Apple devices. To download the app, search 'NHSGiveBlood' in the app store.



Flooding and ditching

The time of year is again approaching where flooding became an issue. 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.

December 2014

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>



Hedges and foliage on 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.



Post Office relocation

We wish to thank Karen and Tony for their contribution and service to the community of Wellow and wish them the very best with their future plans.

As most of you know, the Post Office will be relocating to Country Consumables on 15th December 2014. We wish Mike and Leesa every success and thank them for retaining a post office in Wellow.



Volunteer Conservation Task at Buxton Land (corner A36/Canada Road)

Join the New Forest Land Advice Service and Wellow Parish Council to improve this area for wildlife by removing scrub from this former species rich grassland on:

Saturday 24th January 2015 10am til 3pm. Meet at Wellow Village Hall at 10am

Bring your own lunch, wear sturdy boots and suitable clothing. Tools, gloves and biscuits will be provided! Under 16 year olds must be accompanied by an adult. For further information please call Phil Stenner, Wellow Parish Council on 01794 323846 or the Community Wildlife Plans project on 01590 646654.



St Margaret's Church 800th Anniversary

St Margaret's is celebrating 800 years in 2015 and there will be a number of events taking place to mark this important milestone. The Summer fete will take place on the Lower Common Road recreation ground on 21st June next year. The Committee are very grateful to the Cricket Club and the Parish Council for facilitating this event. It is being called a midsummer fayre and it will have an historic theme. It is of great benefit to be in the centre of Wellow and we hope that all residents may feel very much a part of this celebration. To this end, we would welcome input and ideas and indeed help from any member of the Village. We want this to be very much a village-involved event. There will be another meeting in January. Anyone interested in being involved in supporting this event, please contact Jane Stephens on 01794 323156. Your help will be much appreciated.



Village Agent

The Village Agent project is run by Age Concern Hampshire and funded by Hampshire County Council. Village Agents are volunteers for Age Concern Hampshire who work in rural areas, signposting older people to information, advice and local services. As volunteers, you would offer 4-6 hours per week and be fully supported with training sessions and informal get-togethers with other Village Agents across the country. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Gail Allen, Village Agent Co-ordinator on 01962 892443 or Freephone 0800 328 7154. Email: villageagent@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk



Responsible Dog ownership

This issue has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council again, particularly in relation to dog walking on the Common. Wellow Parish Council will take action against dog fouling and irresponsible dog ownership. **Why clean up after your dog?** We all know how unpleasant it is to see dog mess lying around the pavements and public spaces and it's even more unpleasant to step in! It is simply unhygienic. Dog faeces may contain worms that can cause a threat to human health. The minority of irresponsible dog owners who do not clean up after their dogs damage the reputation of responsible dog owners who do. Any person in charge of a dog, who does not clean up the mess, will be issued with a £75 Fixed Penalty Notice or face prosecution with a maximum fine of £1,000.

If you witness someone letting their dog foul without cleaning it up afterwards in a public place, or being irresponsible in allowing their dog to behave dangerously or out of control, you should report this to the Parish Council or the Environmental Health Team at Test Valley Borough Council. Include the name and address of the person in charge of the dog (if known), a description of the dog, plus details of the date, time and place of the offence.



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, 12th January 2015 - (Planning and General Purposes Committee 6.45 pm, Full Council 7.15 pm)

Monday, 2nd February 2015 - (Planning and General Purposes Committee 6.45 pm, Full Council 7.15 pm)

Monday, 2nd March 2015 - (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!!!



We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year



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