



NIGHTINGALE TIMES

The On-line Newsletter for Wellow Parish Council
website: www.wellowparish.org.uk

Tribute to Ray Noble

One of the longest-serving Parish Councillors will be retiring when his term of office ends in May this year. By then, Ray Noble will have served continuously since May 1979, a period of 36 years. The Parish Council and the local community owe a huge debt of gratitude for Ray's service. He has brought local knowledge, wisdom and not a little humour to the Council and helped to develop many of the facilities the Parish now enjoys. Ray also served as Chairman to the Council for 5 years from 1989 to 1992 and in 2012.

At a recent Council meeting, fellow Parish Councillors presented Ray with a gift to mark his long period in office. The Parish Council would like to extend its grateful thanks to Ray for his valuable and worthwhile contribution to Wellow Parish Council and Wellow residents.

Are you registered to vote?

The way in which people register to vote changed in June 2014 and the new system means that everyone is responsible for registering themselves. If you are not registered, you will not be able to vote.

If you are not sure if you are registered, please contact TVBC and they will be able to tell you. If you are not, they will send you the forms you will need to register. You can register online by visiting www.gov.uk/register-to-vote and entering your name, address and date of birth. You will need your National Insurance number, which can be found on your National Insurance card or on official paperwork such as payslips or letters about benefits or tax credits.

In order to vote in May, you need to register by Monday, 20th April 2015. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact TVBC as detailed below.

If you cannot get to a polling station on polling day, you can apply to vote by post or appoint someone else (a proxy) to vote for you. TVBC must receive your applications to vote by post by 21st April 2015 and applications to vote by proxy by 28th April 2015. More information can be found by at: www.testvalley.gov.uk/elecreg or by telephoning 01264 368000.

Parish Council elections 7th May 2015

Parish Council elections will be held on 7th May 2015 when a new Parish Council will be elected for a four-year term. Becoming a Parish Councillor is one way of helping your local community. You need to be on the Register of Electors, but don't need any special qualifications - just an interest in the Parish of Wellow, its facilities and its local inhabitants. Parish Councils have many legal powers, many of which are equivalent to larger Councils. The extent to which the powers are used depends on the size of the parish and its ability to fund and manage particular services. However, the duties of a Parish Councillor remain constant - to represent the local community.

The main area of work is attending Parish Council and Committee meetings and making decisions on local issues. As well as assisting in implementing those decisions, the time spent

March 2015

on Parish Council duties will often depend on what you want to achieve as an individual. Agendas regularly include matters such as local planning applications plus highway and environmental issues. The Parish Council and its separate Planning and General Purposes Committee meet once a month - generally on the first Monday.

To apply to be a Parish Councillor for Wellow in the forthcoming election on 7th May 2015, please complete the [Nomination Form](#), which is also available for download from the TVBC website:

<http://www.testvalley.gov.uk/aboutyourcouncil/localdemocracy/elections/elections-7-may-2015> .

Nominations must be submitted to the TVBC Electoral Services office at Beechurst, Weyhill Road, Andover, SP10 3AJ, after 30th March 2015 and not later than 4 pm on Thursday 9th April 2015. Nominations have to be submitted by hand and it is best to make an appointment with the Elections Office beforehand at the Andover address. Email: elecereg@testvalley.gov.uk Telephone: 01264 368000. Facsimile: 01264 368005

Please read the [Notes for Candidates](#) for further details. You should also have regard to the Electoral Commission's Code of conduct for campaigners, which can be found here: www.electoralcommission.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/179708/Code-of-conduct-for-campaigners-2015.pdf

Find out more about standing for election as a Parish Councillor on the [National Association of Local Councils \(NALC\) website](#) 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](#).

Related pages

- [Parish councils and the community](#)
- [Parish council elections](#)

The Parish Clerk will be happy to provide more information if you need it.

Annual Parish Meeting, Wednesday, 22nd April 2015. Wellow Village Hall.

This event gives residents an opportunity to discuss Parish matters and meet Parish, Borough and County Councillors. This year, there will be presentations from Mr Anthony Carter on Planning in Wellow and Gillie Molland, Lead Ranger New Forest National Park Authority, on promoting responsible dog walking in the New Forest.

There will also be representatives and displays from the community, including St Margaret's Church, Community First Responders, Scouts, Wellow Under Fives, Wellow Twinning Association and Sports Clubs. Residents can come along from 7.00pm for a chance to chat to the various organisations and Councillors, with the meeting starting at 7.30pm. Refreshments will be available before and after the meeting. Those considering standing for election to the Parish Council will also find this an interesting event.

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.

Buxton Land (by A36/Canada Road roundabout)

Volunteer conservation working parties were held in January and February 2015, large areas of scrub, brambles and self seeded small trees have been cleared to open up the site and encourage new growth. See before and after photographs below:

Before



After



A big thank you to the volunteers who gave up their time to help with this project. Further working parties will be arranged later this year, please see Parish Council Notice Boards, Newsletter and Website for details.

Alabama Rot - Update

For new and updated information on the condition that causes acute renal failure in dogs please go to the Forestry Commission website; <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/alabamarot>

Wellow Pharmacy

Wellow Pharmacy has provided services from its Lower Common Road shop for 24 years, including free prescription collection and delivery from the surgeries in Romsey and Totton. The next nearest pharmacy and other health care provision are seven miles away and accessing this instead of Wellow Pharmacy would cause great difficulty to many. If a patient was to need an 'over the counter medicine' (of a kind that cannot be purchased elsewhere than at pharmacies), require a medicine free of charge (e.g. for a child), need support for self care, or have a minor injury, there is a significant risk that without the availability of Wellow Pharmacy they would have to attend either the GP surgery at Romsey, Totton or Whiteparish or the Accident and Emergency department of Southampton General Hospital.

Your local Pharmacy needs your support. It currently receives a grant under the "Essential Small Pharmacy Local Pharmaceutical Service (ESPLPS)". Without more evidence of support within the local community, this may be withdrawn at the end of March 2015. If you would like to keep the pharmacy in Wellow [please download the form here](#) to complete and return to the Pharmacy in Lower Common Road. Forms are also available from the Pharmacy.

St Margaret's 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. Anyone interested in being involved in supporting these events, please contact Jane Stephens on 01794 323156. Your help will be much appreciated.

Fun Run, Sunday 21st June 2015

To finish at the opening of the Midsummer Fayre

March 2015

Midsummer Fayre, Sunday, 21st June 2015, from 11.00amThe initial preparations for this event on the Recreation Ground, Lower Common Road are well on the way. Anyone wishing to assist in this event or run a stall, please contact Jane Stephens.

Other events planned:

10th May - Florence Nightingale Service; 23rd to 25th May - Flower Festival; 15th July - Summer lecture at Wellow Village Hall; 19th July - 800th Anniversary Service with the Bishop of Winchester at St Margaret's Church; 3rd October - Medieval-Style harvest supper at Wellow Village Hall; 16th October - Evening Concert at St Margaret's Church; 29th November - Advent Service of Light with the Bishop of Southampton marking the end of the celebrations and dedication to a special tree.

Wellow Under Fives

Wellow Under Fives is a village based pre-school in the heart of Wellow based in the Village Hall. They are very proud of their 'Outstanding' Ofsted rating which describes the children at this nurturing and highly stimulating pre-school as making excellent progress in their learning and development. There are currently two positions available, one is for a part time practitioner and the other is for Manager. If you are interested in either of these roles and would like more information or you would like to send your child to Wellow Under Fives, please email Julie Jäger on manager@wellowunderfives.org.uk or phone on 07760 223136 during pre-school opening times, which are: Monday: 9.00 am - 12.00pm, Tuesday: 9.00 am - 1pm, Wednesday 9.00am - 12.00pm, Thursday 9.00am - 3pm and Friday 9.00am - 1pm.

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

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):

Wednesday, 8th April 2015 - Planning and General Purposes Committee 6.45 pm, Full Council 7.15 pm

Wednesday, 22nd April 2015 - Annual Parish Meeting 7.30pm - see above for more details

Wednesday, 6th May 2015 - Planning and General Purposes Committee *only* 6.45 pm.

Monday, 18th May 2015 - Parish Council AGM 6.45pm, followed by Full Council.

Monday, 1st June 2015 - Planning and General Purposes Committee 6.45 pm, Full Council 7.15 pm

Newsletter

If you would like to comment on and/or contribute to the newsletter, please let the Clerk, Mrs Lorraine Wheeler, 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!!

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