

NIGHTINGALE TIMES

The On-line Newsletter for Wellow Parish Council

Autumn 2018

www.wellowparish.org.uk

Meetings

All meetings of Wellow Parish Council are open to the public.

Planning & General

Purposes Meeting

6:45 pm – Wellow Room at Wellow Village Hall

5th
NOV

Full Council Meeting

7.15 pm
Wellow Room at Wellow Village Hall

5th
NOV

Planning & General

Purposes Meeting

6:45 pm – Wellow Room at Wellow Village Hall

3rd
DEC

Full Council Meeting

7.15 pm
Wellow Room at Wellow Village Hall

3rd
DEC

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:
Members of the public are invited to ask questions or make statements at all Parish Planning and General Purposes Committee meetings and Full Parish Council meetings relating to items included on the agenda.



Wellow
Parish Council

Your Council website provides information on everything we do, including Councillor details, dates of meetings, agendas, minutes, finance, Parish Council policies, Burial Ground, local organisations' details, current events and much more. In printed form this Newsletter is intended to complement the website.

Message from the Chair – Councillor Gaye Chesterton-Kay

Unfortunately the wonderful warm weather we've been enjoying during this past summer is now on the way out and as I'm writing this I'm wondering if I can justify putting the heating on yet, or whether I should try and hold out for a few more days! However, a recent walk through Wellow was a real pleasure seeing all the trees changing into their Autumn colours. The Parish Council has been very busy during the summer, particularly those working with residents to prepare the survey for the proposed Neighbourhood Plan. The survey will be with you all this October and I would urge as many of you as possible to take the time to complete it either on-line or in paper format. It's REALLY important to get as many responses returned as possible because these views will form the basis of how we, as residents, would like to see the village progress for at least the next fifteen years and hopefully give us a real say in the planning-related decision making process. We are pleased to see how busy the Recreation Ground has been throughout the summer. The Community Garden is proving to be very popular with all age groups using it throughout the day and evenings. Since the opening of the new Cricket Pavilion, playing numbers have increased rapidly and the Recreation Ground has been full of young people turning up to learn and train. The Under 9s actually won their league this year! Some other very good news to report - We are delighted to announce that not only did Wellow become one of eight finalists in the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Village of the Year Competition 2018, sponsored by Fullers Brewery, but at the Presentation Evening held in Liss (2017 winners), on the 25th September, Wellow won several categories – see full details in the separate article.

As always, if you have any queries, please either speak to Sharon or Karen in the Parish Office or if you would like to speak to a particular Councillor, please make an appointment via the Office.

Couch to 5k and beyond for Wellow

Congratulations to all those Wellow residents who participated in the various distances offered as part of the New Forest Marathon held at the New Park Farm showground in Brockenhurst. The New Forest Marathon includes a Full Marathon, Half Marathon, 10k, 5k, Woodland Walk, Junior 5k, 1k and 200m run... there really is an event for everyone! Early bird discounts are available for 2019 so let's aim for an even bigger Wellow contingent next year. As you prepare, some might like to join in the park runs soon to start up in Romsey.

Hedges and ditches

Great to see that in many parts of the Parish hedge trimming and ditch clearance is well underway. Although we have had what must be a record dry summer – and autumn so far! – rain must be expected soon and we need those ditches to clear all the water away. If you own land that has a watercourse or drainage ditch on or adjacent to it have a look at the parish website for more details on your responsibilities as a 'riparian landowner'.

A wiggle around Wellow



On 15 September and in aid of the Multiple Sclerosis charity Cllr John Sampson and his son Alistair completed a challenging 100 mile "Wiggle" bike ride around the New Forest and raised nearly £500. Well done. This event offered riders a short route of 30 miles, a standard route of 59 miles or the "epic" 100 mile route that John and Alistair completed and which also made its way through Wellow. Curious about the Wiggle? Well it started out as a small independent bike shop called 'Butler Cycles' based in Portsmouth. It is now the UK's largest online cycle retail company employing over 1000 people in Portsmouth and Belfast and has created and supported a network of worldwide cycle events since 2005. Why not get the bike out of the shed next year and join in! The giving page which is still open is www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ali-john-sampson.

Could a French roundabout be on its way to Wellow?

In the June 2017 Nightingale Times mention was made about the rather plain roundabout we have on the A36. Comparison was drawn with Couffe, our twinned village in France. This newsletter item resulted in some resident feedback and then some follow-up by Cllr Gaye Chesterton-Kay with Highways England to see what might be possible. Sponsorship for installation and maintenance of a planting scheme for the roundabout has been kindly offered by Blackwater Equestrian and approval from Highways England has now been obtained. Work is expected to start in the new year. More news on this in the Spring newsletter.

Local Plans – Test Valley Borough Council and New Forest National Park Authority

Over the summer consultations have been sought on issues and options for the next Test Valley Local Plan for the borough and for the New Forest Local Plan for the National Park. One key area of discussion at Parish Council level has been the road and traffic implications of any new house building across the borough and our neighbouring boroughs. A common measure used to assess traffic impact is the average number of car movements per household. Estimates both locally and nationally seem to suggest a figure of 6 – 8 car movements per household on a daily basis. It is likely that for many parishes in the borough, Wellow included, multiple and cross-generational car ownership means average daily car movements at or above the top end of the 6 – 8 range. If something in the order of 100,000 new houses across Hampshire over the coming years is being factored into plans, then we will also be looking at well in excess of 800,000 additional car journeys each day.

In the Neighbourhood Plan survey there is a specific section on Roads and Transport. Whilst we will be seeking to capture your views on local road issues such as speeding and access to the A36 we also need to think about the impact on us of potential gridlock on parts of the road network in Hampshire. Nice as Wellow is we sometimes need to get out of the parish!

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Village of the Year Competition

Not quite Strictly, but it is something we could enter so we did! And we made it as one of the eight finalists in this year's competition. A team of parish councillors made their way to Liss (last year's winner) on 25th September to find out the results of the jury. After a really interesting bus tour of Liss we all gathered in the Triangle Community Centre hall and listened to some good practice case study presentations from Chandler's Ford, Swanmore and Wellow. Lots of parishes were at the event and we all eagerly awaited the award presentations which we found out were across a series of categories.

Fontley was the first parish to celebrate. They won the Best Event award for their first fete that had over 2000 people attending. The next category was for the Best Youth Facilities. Swanmore picked this



A big thank you to Liss for hosting the event and to Fuller's for their overall sponsorship.

up for their amazing new skate park and Wellow was awarded runners up for our improved cricket facilities. Onto the next category – Best Community Initiative – and a win for Wellow! Well done to all involved with the new cricket pavilion. We had barely stopped taking pictures on our mobile phones when Wellow was also awarded the top spot as the Best Community Leader. This was a new category in honour of Stephen Lugg the Chief Executive of the Hampshire Association of Local Councils who after a short illness sadly died this year. Two well-earned Inspirational Individual awards followed for Cllr Sue Jones and Cllr Gaye Chesterton-Kay.

Cricket - 2018 Season round-up

With the new cricket pavilion demonstrating to opposition teams what a serious place they have come to for cricket the Wellow and Plaitford Cricket Club have made great progress at all ages ranges this year.

W&PCC U9s: Won the NFJCA North League for the first time ever!

Well done to our superstar U9s, who were also runners up in the NFJCA Cup Final against very strong opposition. The U9s have had an absolutely incredible season, “doing the double” for the first time ever; securing a spot in both the League and the Cup Final.

W&PCC U11s: Runners up, NFJCA U11s North 2018

A massive well done to our awesome U11s who very narrowly missed out on the north league title this year. It all came down to the last match which they only lost by 12 runs. We are very proud of our U11s who are all true champions. Keep it up

W&PCC U13s: Finished 4th in the NFJCA U13s North division:

After a tricky start to the season, they hit a rich vein of form and finished above the highly respected OT's and Romsey U13s

W&PCC Adult section: Came 8th in the HCL Regional 1 Division NW

Winning 8 and losing 5 matches, this was a year of consolidation for our adult section as for the first time in 3 years the team did not win the league.

Men's Shed

The Men's Shed concept started in Australia many years ago. It has since made it to the UK and Ireland, and many places in between. The idea came about on reflection of the lack of social opportunities for older men, which is an increasing health concern across the UK too. Men's Sheds provide an enjoyable way to

stay socially integrated in our local communities, stay active and learn or pass on skills. They can also make a great local contribution in 'getting things done' without having to always buy-in services for small tasks such as mending a bench or repairing a gate. Romsey has a Men's Shed www.romseymensshed.org.uk that meets near the old caretaker's house at The Romsey School on a Thursday morning and on regular work days. Could this be something of interest and value for those of us living in Wellow? Please let us have your thoughts on this. We could look to get involved in the Romsey Men's Shed or even think about setting up one for ourselves.

Neighbourhood Plan update – PLEASE COMPLETE THE SURVEY

The Neighbourhood Plan survey will be available via the Wellow Parish website as of 17 October (and possibly earlier). The survey is in the form of a questionnaire in which your views are sought on the Parish as a community, its environment and how you would like it to develop in the future. It will be available to complete either online or on paper. Responses will be anonymous, you will not be required to enter your name or address, only your postcode. From 17 October onwards (it might take a week to cover the whole parish) the neighbourhood plan and parish councillor teams and some other volunteers will do their best to deliver paper copies of the survey to each household in the parish. In preparing the survey, as it has gone through various reviews and revisions over the summer, we have found it useful to have the paper copy but to actually complete the survey online. That said, we do not want anyone to be put off by thinking it all has to be done by computer. If you want to complete the paper version that gets delivered to you then please do so. In terms of getting the completed survey back to us, clearly marked collection boxes will be available at Carlo's, the Red Rover, the Rockingham Arms, St. Margaret's Church, the Village Hall and the Post Office. We will keep the survey open until 30 November and will monitor responses through the collection boxes before we knock on doors in a final push to see if we can get the response rate up. If you have any questions please contact cllgrant@wellowparish.org.uk or call the Helpdesk number that will be provided with the survey.

Some sad news

The Parish Council is sad to hear that a former Chair of the Council, Ray Morris, sadly passed away in France where he had lived for number of years.

Social media in Wellow

The number of Facebook followers in Wellow is now approaching 500. Although social media apps such as Facebook often get a bad press for a variety of reasons, they can be very useful when used carefully and responsibly. Over the past few weeks we have seen posts about road closures, missing (and now found and returned) keys and coffee morning reminders that have all really been of help to residents. A quick look at Facebook can be a great way to catch up on what is happening in the parish! Wellow Facebook page – Wellow Parish Council @wellowmatters Facebook.

Newsletter

If you would like to comment on and/or contribute to the newsletter, please let the Clerk, Mrs Sharon Whitehouse know. You can contact her at the office (10am to 12.00pm Tues, Weds, Thurs), through the website, email or telephone (details below). Let the Clerk have your email address and receive the newsletters by email!! Distribution of paper copies of the newsletter has been arranged but if you have not received a paper copy and would like one please let the Parish clerk know.

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