

Chairman: Councillor Mr J Pugh  
Councillors: Councillor Mr G Chater, Councillor Ms E Farrell, Councillor Mr C Harrison, Councillor Mrs M Lawrence, Councillor Dr H Price, Councillor Mr P Robinson, Councillor Dr J Walmsley  
Apologies: Councillor J Walmsley, Councillor C Harrison & Councillor G Chater  
Interim Clerk: Mrs J Flanders  
Attendance: Diane Blamires  
Parishioners: 11

## 1. Apologies for absences

Councillors Mr C Harrison, Dr J Walmsley & Mr G Chater sent in their apologies. There were no other apologies received.

## 2. Disclosure of interest on items in agenda

No Councillors present needed to disclose for any item on the agenda.

## 3. Reports from Buckinghamshire Council Councillor and the Police

Councillor Blamires reported:

- a. that Councillor Bond had successfully arranged for the overhanging tree on Winslow Road to be trimmed back.
- b. that Bucks Council now have a budget of £50K to deal with fly tipping which was limited to disposal of certain items – this would help communities where this was a problem.
- c. she had visited Wingrave School with the MP and had an enjoyable time talking about environmental issues.

## 4. Sign off Parish Council Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as an accurate account of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2022 and were signed by the Chairman. A request was made by a representative of the Bowls Club to ensure that the Parish Council had stated its support for their proposed planning application for a replacement Bowls Clubhouse. This was agreed and the Clerk confirmed a letter of support would be provided to assist with the planning application.

## 5. Planning

5.1. Windmill Hill Farm, Mill Lane, Wingrave **22/00872/ALB**. Councillor Pugh outlined that this was a Listed Buildings application to re-build the damage caused to the front of the property. It was RESOLVED to approve the application unanimously.

5.2. Clay Ridge, 65 Leighton Road Wingrave **22/00834/APP**. Councillor Pugh outlined the nature of the application to convert the garage into a room. It was RESOLVED to approve the application unanimously.

## 6. Enforcement Matters

The Clerk confirmed the following in regard to Enforcement matters which had been brought to the attention of the Parish Council:

6.1 Hollie Farm, Tring Road, Wingrave. The Enforcement Officer had confirmed he had visited the site and considered some of the activity was within the planning consents already granted however there were

certain work which were not and he had invited the owner to make the appropriate planning applications. The Enforcement Officer had stated that should these not be received he would consider further action.

6.2 Demolished Barn on Winslow Road. The Clerk confirmed she was awaiting further news on the clearance of the site but understood the Enforcement Officer was on maternity leave and the matter would be passed to another officer to follow it up.

6.3 Land/field off A418 where caravans, containers and building works have appeared the Enforcement Officer had requested the Clerk make a formal request through the Council's website identifying the field in question and it would then be followed up. The Clerk requested help in identifying the field on a plan and would then make the application.

6.4 The Clerk confirmed she had received an email from a resident and had heard from another concerning the apparent lack of a parking space behind the newly converted Garage Cottage and that the fence was too high. It was believed that both issues were part of the Planning Conditions when the consent was granted and the Clerk confirmed that she had entered the details on the Enforcement website and awaited a response.

## **7. 20 MPH Scheme**

Councillor Dr Price confirmed that following approval of three County Councillors she had had a meeting with TfB to progress the application to the next stage which now requires a feasibility study and costings which will hopefully be covered by s106 monies.

## **8. Recreation Pavilion Update**

Councillor Pugh informed the Council that Councillors Robinson and Chater had over the previous two weeks been re-designing the proposed new Pavilion. The design was displayed and Councillor Pugh explained that this design took into account the various comments from residents and hoped it would be more acceptable to the residents on the Recreation Ground. After some discussion it was agreed that the Recreation Ground Representatives would circulate the new design via email and collate any responses. These responses were requested to be returned to the Clerk by no later than 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 in order to allow time to consider the comments and prepare the Agenda for the next meeting. The design was available at the meeting for the attendees to see. It was also agreed that it would be placed on the Council's website and notification of such put out on The Postie. Thanks were given to both Councillor Chater and Robinson for their efforts in producing the new design.

## **9. Development Updates**

9.1 Twelve Leys – no report as Councillor Walmsley was not present. However Councillor Pugh confirmed he had walked around the site and stated the landscaping appeared to be very good and that a lot of the houses had been reserved.

9.2 Wickham Fields – Councillor Harrison had forwarded a brief report in his absence confirming that the two dead trees were to be removed and that the Shared Ownership properties would soon be released.

9.3 eCom – it was reported that eCom have confirmed that the whole village will have the ability to connect albeit no specific timescales were available and that it is a long steady process. Some residents had already been connected.

## **10. WILD Update**

Councillor Walmsley had forwarded a full report to the Clerk prior to the meeting and this report would be published in the Communique and put on the postie – see Annexe A for the article.

## **11. Clarify access arrangements to the Recreation Ground**

Councillor Pugh stated that there had been some misunderstanding and difficulty with contractors gaining access to the Recreation Ground and concern had been raised. After some discussion with representatives from the Recreation Ground residents they agreed to forward a copy of their documentation as to the procedure for access to the Clerk. It was confirmed that a key for the padlock was shared amongst the residents. The Clerk confirmed that the purpose of the addition of the combination padlock was in the event that a key was not available contractors and grass-cutters could be allowed access and

that both key operated padlock and combination padlock would work independently. There was no proposal to change the current residents' procedure to access the Recreation Grounds.

## **12. Boundary Fences/hedges at The Park**

Councillor Pugh explained how it was necessary to secure the righthand boundary at The Park and suggested that ownership of the adjoining field is established so that they can be contacted with a view to a new fence being erected along the boundary. It was suggested that tenders should be sought to establish costs. The Clerk agreed to continue to try and find out who owns the land in question.

## **13. Jubilee Celebration Update**

Ann McDonald was invited to update the Council as to WCA's celebration which involves a Street Party in Church Street and closure from the WCA to the end of the Recreation Ground from 12.30pm to 4.30pm on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> June. She also confirmed that she was awaiting confirmation as to insurance and the safety advisory report. The WI were providing bunting, the school table decorations and other would be helping. Councillor Lawrence confirmed that Rowsham was closing Bennets Lane for a walk around on Sunday 5 June and Councillor Cooper was organising the road closure. Should the Committee organising this event need funds they were requested to make a formal request prior to the next PC meeting. It was also reported that Nan Aires would be closed for some of the Sunday for a street party. The WI had approached the Clerk with a request to help fund the bunting for the Church Street Party to a maximum of £150. It was RESOLVED to contribute upto £150 from the Council's funds unanimously.

## **14. Bus Shelter Update**

Councillor Robinson confirmed he had assessed the condition of the roof and gutters with Martin Evered and whilst the roof structure was in good order some of the felt needed tidying up and the soffits and fascias needed replacing. He had obtained costs for these materials in plastic at £350. Councillor Lawrence agreed to ask the Czech representative whether plastic over wood would be acceptable. Councillor Pugh had spoken with the Parish Handyman who would tidy the grass and jet wash the building. It was agreed that Councillor Robinson would organise the repair work. Councillor Lawrence was progressing with the proposed artwork and would seek agreement from Aston Abbots Parish Council and the Czech representative as soon as possible so the work could be completed by June 2022. Councillor Robinson confirmed costings for Perspex windows. It was agreed 4mm thickness was appropriate. It was RESOLVED by the Council to agree material costs for the roof at £350 and to agree the Perspex costs at £572 and these were unanimously agreed.

## **15. Finance**

15.1 End of Year balances – The Clerk confirmed the balances as follows:

Community Account £38,041.69

Kirby Fund £64,452.69

Reserve Fund £70,307.26.

14.2 Payments made upto end of year - the Clerk produced a Report from Scribe the accounting system and confirmed a copy would be made available on the website. She also confirmed that there would be a refund for the Maternity Pay plus 3% and the VAT refund which would amount to approximately £12K in total.

14.3 Payment of Cricket pitch from insurance monies approval. This was unanimously agreed to be paid from the insurance monies received for the cattle damage.

14.4 Buckland Landscapes fees for 22022/3 approval. It was felt this was inevitable and it was RESOLVED to accept the revised contract figure of £663.40 plus VAT per month.

14.5 Internal Auditor Appointment. The Clerk informed the Council that the previous auditor felt unable to help this year and had asked other local Parishes for recommendations. Two options were put forward and it was agreed that Tony Skeggs should be appointed. It was RESOLVED by a unanimous vote to appoint Mr Skeggs as the Internal Auditor.

Meeting closed : 2051

*Wildlife SURVEY*

The Wild Wingrave steering group decided to conduct a series of surveys of flora and fauna in different habitats around Wingrave. The first of these was carried out on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March in three habitats, a meadow, a hedgerow and a woodland. All plants and animals found were recorded and the three groups were overseen by Jane Wilmott, Linda Waugh and Valerie Godfrey. Nineteen people turned out to help with the surveys and our sincere thanks go to all of them.

We were blessed with excellent weather and some interesting species were found given the time of year, a tortoiseshell butterfly larva, an adult Clancy's rustic moth, a cloaked minor moth and a large common toad which was found in the meadow. Following the survey which took approximately 90 minutes to conduct a delicious tea was served in the garden of Church Farm House.

The next survey is scheduled for Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> May at 2pm. A further two surveys will then be conducted on July 30<sup>th</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping this will provide us with excellent data on how the changing seasons influence the variety and number of species present. We are currently investigating how to incorporate all the data collected into an app which will be available for all to see.

So if you are interested in joining us for any of the future surveys please contact Jan Walmsley

[jwalmsley@wwrpc.org.uk](mailto:jwalmsley@wwrpc.org.uk)

or Valerie Godfrey at  
[godfreyvlre@gmail.com](mailto:godfreyvlre@gmail.com)

You do not need to have detailed knowledge of plants and animals as identification charts are provided and full instructions will be given.



*The Hedge at The Park*

Paul Blissett did a great job laying part of the overgrown hedge at The Park. Why spend money on laying a hedge? If a hedge is allowed to grow without management, it will eventually fall over – witness some of the hedges on the fields around the village. Laying it creates a denser growth, provides habitats for insects and birds, creates food for overwintering. Once the hedge is laid, it will need trimming – every 3 years is recommended for maximum benefit to wildlife.

We await the clearing of the brash (cuttings) by Greg O'Callaghan, due mid May.

The Parish Council hopes to complete laying this hedge next autumn – once the sap has started to rise in the spring, it is inadvisable to do this work on a hedge.

We hope you like it – and if you have not yet seen it, why not enjoy a spring walk? It's on the boundary of Wingrave Park, in the corner opposite the Pavilion.

### *Verges in Mill Lane*

We have been creating an information board for our wildlife verge on Mill Lane. To decorate the board, we asked local people, young and old, to send in their drawings of plants and flowers. There were over 50 contributions, which have been combined to create a community artwork unique to Wingrave. The artwork and information are now being printed onto a wooden sign, which will be installed at the verge in the coming weeks.

The verge has had its first cut and cuttings have been scraped off. Next one in late August, we will monitor flora in the meantime.

We are considering an 'Adopt a Verge' initiative in 2023? To encourage and educate local people to manage the verge outside their house for improved flora.

### *Bird Survey*

This was launched at the Wilding Group meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> of March, with aim of increasing our understanding of the local bird population and how it changes with time. We now have fourteen volunteers in Wingrave and seven in Rowsham who have indicated they would like to help,

Records will be maintained via the Bucks Bird Club on the Gobirding web-site. Some people have started adding ad-hoc entries and the more formal total bird-count surveys will run between mid-April and mid-June, and again mid-November to mid-February, with each volunteer completing two surveys at least two-weeks apart.

Training walks are being organised, and the first one was on the 5<sup>th</sup> of April at 6.00pm.

### *Slow and Wildlife Walks*

Em Farell has offered to organise and lead some slow walks which take in local wildlife and instill a sense of well being. To be held on lighter evenings. Watch this space.

We may also run some wildlife walks – depends on having some settled weather in June / July.

### *Newts*

Wingrave Moat is a stronghold for newts, particularly the rare great crested ones. We are liaising with Chris Harrison and Sam Weston on getting advice to manage it for the maximum benefit of newts.

**We are grateful to the Wingrave with Rowsham Parish Council and Bucks Community Board for financial support for our work.**