

Winscombe & Sandford Annual Parish Assembly 2019

Chairman's Report

What a thriving and busy parish we live in – there seems to be lots going on all the time.

Most of the work done by the Parish Council is carried out in the Parish Council Committees and working groups. Once again this year the Chairmen of each of these committees has prepared a written report of his / her committee's activities and which you have been given a copy, but the respective Chairmen are all here to answer any questions on any of the reports. As you will see, all the Committees have been very busy with 88 Planning applications considered, the Environment working group covering a number of issues in our Parish from the Public Conveniences to recycling of waste and road and footways. The Cemetery and Allotments working group look after our much envied Cemetery and large number of Allotments and, amongst other items this year have presided over the design, erection and completion of the new storage building and extension of the car parking area. The Award Land working group keep the wonderful amenity looking tidy and safe for the large number of our community who visit, ride through on bikes or just walk the dog. - they have 6 volunteers who work there every Friday and ask – if you walk your dog please ensure the doggy bins are used appropriately. The play area and Skate Park report shows these areas well used as does the War memorial Advisory committee report. Finally, the Employment, Finance and policy Committee report confirms that your Parish Council last year continued to live within its' means, not exceeding budget but hopefully fulfilling the needs of our Parishioners. As you will read in that report, the Parish Council precept increase has been kept to a very small increase of £1.79 per annum equivalent for band D properties. Please do read these reports.

We have a number of speakers from our community tonight and my thanks in advance, to all of them – we look forward to hearing their presentations and reports.

Now - quick overview and some general issues from the full council from this past 12 months:

Your Parish Councillors take their duties very seriously and always represent the interests of all our parishioners equally whether resident in Winscombe, Sandford, Barton, Oakridge or Sidcot.

The Council has met 10 times as usual this year utilising three different locations within the Civil Parish. When looking back over the minutes of the last 12 months meetings of the Parish Council it made me realise just how diverse and far ranging our topics have been, but all to do with the wellbeing of our residents and our villages.

We are indebted to our Parish liaison Officer Mr Jonathon Kirby for all his support this past year. He has helped us get speedy action from North Somerset on a number of occasions.

The Parish Council employ a total of 9 staff – albeit ranging from 1 hour to several hours per week – including our full time Parish Clerk Lynne Rampton who manages all the other staff to ensure efficiency and good use of council funds and the smooth running of the Parish

office despite the ever increasing workload as our unitary Authority devolves more and more responsibility to the Parish Councils.

In addition to looking after all the Parish Council assets, setting the Parish precept and agreeing a number of grants, we discussed a diverse range of topics over the past year including, in no particular order: Monthly Police reports, bus services, street lighting, footpath consultations, Winspace from whom we shall be hearing later, flood water issues in Woodborough Road, Government housing consultation, Planning matters both local and the Joint Spatial Strategy and site policies and 106 monies, internal Parish Council policies and litter bins. We have submitted suggested names for the new roads on both the Strongvox development in Sandford and the Redrow development in Church road, Winscombe

We received a number of presentations, including National Grid regarding the Hinckley C project and the effect of the cabling on our Parish, one from Bristol Water regarding the temporary closure of Woodborough Road and we received reports from North Somerset Council every month.

The council also agreed to register the Sandford School building as an asset of community value with North Somerset. During the year your Parish Council agreed to continue to partly finance the Citizens Advice Outreach Service in bringing it to Winscombe on a by weekly basis - a service which is being well used

In addition to the regular committee and working group meetings, we have the "Chairman's Committee" which only meets when required and at very short notice, to discuss and agree urgent issues, usually with a financial implication, for which a decision will not wait for the next full Council meeting. An example of this was only last week when North Somerset Council told us on Thursday afternoon that we had been awarded a grant of just under £700 for use on rubbish clearance or avoidance issues, but that unless we told them what we would spend the money on so that they could place the order by 4.30pm the following Monday, we would lose the grant altogether.

Last December saw the Late Evening Christmas shopping experience for us all and what a great evening once again, better than the previous year, a great atmosphere abounded, undoubtedly helped again by the road closure for the 4 hours of the event. A very special village experience for which we sincerely thank our shops keepers and traders and particularly Kelli Coxhead from the Wine shop for her huge organisational input and to Andrew Farron of Farrons Estate Agents for hosting Father Christmas for the younger members of our community.

On the communications front we continue to be very conscious of the need to let everyone know what is going on. - "The Occasional" has now become fully established as the Council's quarterly newsletter, an informative communication delivered to every house in our villages and the hamlets. This brief and easily read news pamphlet is also available by Email so if you would like to get one electronically please just let the Parish office know. If you would like to receive this publication by Email please let the

Parish Office know so that they can arrange this. Thanks must go to its editor, Cllr Gerald Lloyd. The Parish Council website is kept up to date – we have this year launched a brand new website - I do hope you have visited it and found it both informative and helpful. Any feedback on the website or occasional is always welcome. And of course, there is always the good old Parish Notice Boards.

As I mentioned earlier, the whole Parish Council is up for re-election in May this year. There are a number of your Parish Councillors who are not standing again and to them I say huge thank you for all the work and time you have put in to serve our villages. I must also pay tribute to one of our number who sadly passed away during the past year, Margaret Ballard. Margaret had two bites of this particular cherry, coming back to serve a second term after a break, and always contributed to the discussions in meetings especially when it concerned Sandford. I would also take this opportunity of thanking our Parish Clerk, Lynne Rampton for not only taking minutes at meetings but for keeping the wheels of authority moving smoothly for the benefit of our parishioners. If a street light goes out it is Lynne or her deputy who make sure it is put right quickly.

We are very lucky in Winscombe and Sandford – a thriving community where there is so much activity continually going on as I mentioned at the start, not just business and retail, but also educational, sporting, social and caring that our Parish remains a vibrant and wonderful place to live and work and to all the volunteers who enable this to happen, on behalf of the Parish Council a very big thank you.

Finally, If you are interested in ever standing as a Parish Councillor when vacancies arise, or at the four yearly re-election of the full council right now, but you only have four days to get your papers in for this year's election, and would like to know more, do please get in touch with either me, the Parish office or any Parish Councillor.

MGW

25 March 2019

Winsomeness & Sandford Award Land Regionally Important Geological (R.I.G.S.) Wild Life Park.

Winscombe & Sanford Parish Council working party

Report for 2019.

A person has complained to the Council saying we are cutting are foot paths to wide.

The footpath has to be at least 3 Mts wide and no limit on how wide it is. (the information was given by N/Som.)

We are advised to keep our foot paths wide by natural England Badger officer, to control the Badgers,

The R.S.P.C.B. has given us advice to keep our paths wide so that birds can control the ticks, reports on ticks numbers have dropped proving that we are doing the right thing, it also aids the small plants like wild strawberries primroses, red clover, and other small plants to encourage bees to pollinate our fruit and nut trees to play its part in the life of our woodland, Dormice that live on the nuts and fruit we know are on the Award land as I been told by people that have cats saying their cats have brought home dormice, Tony has put up a number of homes for the dormice so we must do our best to feed them.

The team has cleared the old quarry on Mikes path and and planted wild primroses and blue bells.

The team has been presented with their awards by Mrs P. Cornish for passing their test to use the equipment we use on the Award land.

We get people riding bikes on our footpaths because every body has a bike so its just as well we leave our foot bath wide nothing will stop them, the are light so

Winsomeness & Sanford Award Land Regionally Important Geological (R.I.G.S.) Wild Life Park.

Winscombe & Sanford Parish Council working party
they lift them above their heads and go through any
obstruction.

With large number of people using the land, dog
walkers, teams of runners, horse riders, people with
children like the wider paths, we cannot please every
body but with the large amount of land we can afford
the bit of space.

Sidcot School art class is going to produce a picture of
the Forge as it was in the nineteen thirties.

The team has enlarged turning bay at rose cottage so the
Recycling transport can turn, leaving our boundary
clear so the drivers of the recycling transport has a
clear view.

I can remember when that road side was covered in
primroses the thorns and larger plants killed them off,
we are going to bring the primroses back for every
body can enjoy may be with other small plants.

The team meets every Friday between 10am and
12 Noon, that depends on weather.

John Westlake

Winscombe and Sandford Annual Parish Assembly
April 2019

Cemetery and Allotment Report 2018 – 2019

This year past I believe has been one of the most successful in recent times for the cemetery and Allotments area.

Working with a committee of six supported by our Parish Clerk together with Lindsay Lawrence of Gowers has been both pleasurable and productive. This year has also seen the endeavours of our Cemetery orderly Jenny Nichols who has supported me in my lack of knowledge of gardening at the same time as maintaining the cemetery and advising fellow allotment holders.

The removal of the old 1960's shelter, the construction of a pitched roof store and improved car park, all in one year, shows how progress can be made. Thanks to all who supported the project.

Our Cemetery is something as a village, we can be proud of. Tranquillity, simplicity and beauty all to be respected and enjoyed.

Cllr Chris Ballard

Chairman
Cemetery and Allotments Committee

12 March 2019.

Winscombe & Sandford Annual Parish Assembly 2019

Employment, Policy and Finance Committee Report

The Committee met 4 times during the past 12 months.

On Personnel matters:

The Office staffing continues to meet the Council's needs and ensures council business is dealt with in an efficient and timely manner.

Following the resignation of our part time Office Assistant the Council took the decision to replace this position with a qualified deputy clerk, also on a part time basis. This gives greater support to our Parish Council Clerk who's duties are ever increasing with our growing Parish and more responsibility being devolved from North Somerset Council to the parishes.

The salaries of all the Council's staff were reviewed during the year following completion of the annual staff appraisals

The village orderly for Winscombe has continued to be beneficial and attracted positive comments from parishioners.

On Policy matters:

A number of Council policies have been reviewed including the Parish Council's Health and safety and Risk Assessment policies. Also considered and adopted were appropriate policies and documentation to comply with the 2018 general data protection Regulations (GDPR)..

Terms of reference for all the Council committees and working groups were also fully reviewed and updated as necessary, including the War memorial Recreation ground Constitution..

On Finance Issues:

The committee reviewed the budget and expenditure at each of its meetings. The Council have carried out a review of the effectiveness of the system of internal Financial controls and found them to be sound.

Fees and charges for the forthcoming year were reviewed and a number of local grants were again agreed following receipt of applications. The Council also agreed on-going financial support of the Citizens Advice outreach scheme to ensure the continued fortnightly clinic in our parish.

A review of the Insurance cover on Council owned assets was carried out

The council continues to spread our funds over three Financial institutions, namely HSBC, Nation Wide and Unity Bank in order to guarantee the safety of Council precept funds in our hands and to ensure we are fully covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. The Council now uses the on-line banking system to further streamline our financial operations and simplify administration and therefore costs, so that virtually all payments are now made by online BACS transfer.

LIGHTATOUCH Internal Audit Services were re-appointed as Parish Council internal auditor for the period to March 2020 .

External Audit Annual Return – As I reported last year, the External Auditor, Grant Thornton UK LLP completed their review of the 2017/18 annual return and signed off the accounts for the period ended 31st March 2018 with no matters giving cause for concern once again giving the Parish Council a clean bill of health. The accounts for the 2018/19 financial year, prepared on a receipts and payments basis will be reviewed by the committee following the end of the financial year on 31st March and subsequently presented to the Parish Council for approval. Once fully audited the Accounts will be displayed on the Parish Council notice boards and available in the office for inspection.

I am pleased to report that the Council remains within its' overall budget this year due, in part, to prudent financial management.

NSC Council Tax Support Grant which your Parish Council has received for many years has now been fully withdraw.

Precept for 2019 / 20. The Committee worked hard to keep our Council expenditure as efficient as possible whilst providing amenities for our residents but were mindful of the need for necessary expenditure this coming year on the refurbishment of the Public Toilets in Winscombe. As a result, and despite the withdrawal of the support grant received from North Somerset, an increase in insurance costs and also retaining funds in the budget again this year for community projects, the Precept for this current year has been maintained with only a relatively small increase of £9,000 on last year, from £134,000 to £143,000 – and means a Local Council element of Headline Council Tax per D Band property increase of only £1.79 from £68.28 per annum, to £70..25, resulting in a 2.9% increase per 'D' band property equivalent on the previous financial year.

Other Matters

Following a request by the Cricket Club to consider an extension of the ground lease for their Club House, situated on the War Memorial Ground, for a further 25 years the Parish Council has agreed to enter into negotiations with them.

The Committee dealt with various consultations from North Somerset Rural District Council prior to recommendations to the Full Parish Council.

Various briefings and notifications on Legal matters received from Avon Local Council Association and the National Association of Local Councils were also considered and dealt with.

Cllr Mike Williamson

Chairman

Employment, Policy & Finance Committee

14 March 2019

Environment Working Group Report 2018-2019

The Environment Group is concerned with matters that are important to all of us – our roads, street lights, footways/pavements, footpaths, trees, floral decorations, public conveniences, dog bins and litter. We have been busy on all these fronts during the past year.

Roads and footways. With North Somerset Council's (NSC) budget being cut every year, our roads and footways are becoming more and more neglected. Some particularly bad pieces of road have been resurfaced recently – the junction of Church Road with Woodborough Road, and the junction of Woodborough Drive with Sandford Road. By the time of our meeting on 1st April, the two main roads passing through our two villages should have been resurfaced. A persistent problem is blocked drains, which can cause flooding after heavy rain. In spite of repeated requests to have them cleared, most of them in Hill Road, for example, were still blocked when I checked in March. The surface of Wimblestone Road is in an especially poor state, which we're told will not be done until later this year, while Brae Road, Brae Rise and Belmont road will have to wait even longer.

Many of our footways are also in a poor state – uneven, patched and with overgrowing vegetation. Particularly bad places are in Hill Road, Brae Road and Woodborough Road, past the bridge. Some progress has been made following repeated requests from our Parish Council. If you are also concerned about specific footways, please do also contact NSC – they respond according to the number of complaints they receive.

Speeding vehicles. Problem roads are **Greenhill Road, Station Road and Hill Road** in Sandford, and **Sidcot Lane, Woodborough Road and Church Road/Winscombe Hill** in Winscombe. Despite numerous requests for reduced speed limits, chicanes, humps and other measures, NSC has steadfastly opposed traffic-calming initiatives in our parish. During the last year we have purchased a portable Vehicle-Activated Sign (VAS) which we can move around the parish to monitor the number and speed of traffic as well as to warn drivers when they are exceeding the speed limit. We hope that this will help reduce speeding.

Public conveniences. We took over responsibility for these from NSC a few years ago, who have closed most of their public conveniences in Weston. They are a really useful facility not only for our village, but also for tourists using the Strawberry Line. They are badly in need of refurbishing, and we have placed a contract with a builder to do this later this year. This will not only make them more pleasant for users, but also reduce problems we have from time-to-time with vandalism. We will provide a nappy-changing facility and replace the current furnishings with more modern and compact facilities. Unfortunately, the Parish Council have decided not to replace the drinking fountain, that was originally donated by the Boys' Brigade in the early 1950s and later removed by the Parish Council. A fountain would enable people passing through Winscombe on the Strawberry Line to refill their water containers, rather than buy water in plastic bottles, thus helping to reduce litter and pollution of the environment with waste plastics.

Litter and recycling of waste. With the recent realisation that we need to make much more effort to counter Global Warming, care of the environment has become even more urgent. The Repair Café, held every 3rd Saturday of the month, at the Lynch Chapel has gone from strength to strength this year, and attracts people from many surrounding villages. Claire King and her team are encouraging other groups to open repair cafes in Weston, Cheddar and elsewhere. During the next year there will be more initiatives in the Parish to reduce the use of plastics and encourage recycling. We also

need to improve the insulation in our homes, and make more use of renewable energy for heating, including solar panels and heat-pump technology.

Litter is an ever-present problem in our village. Despite numerous litter-bins around the village, we still need to clear unsightly rubbish scattered in the environment. Some of this is takeaway packaging thrown from passing cars, other litter is due to rubbish dropped or blown from bins during the weekly rubbish collection. Use of covers for green bins, which can be bought from the Parish Office, helps prevent this. Fortunately we have about 30 public-spirited parishioners who help us by litter-picking. Many do so all throughout the year on their daily walks around the village, others join us on specific Litter-Pick days, when we separate out the rubbish that can be recycled. We are grateful to all those who help keep our parish tidy.

Dog Bins. We provide dog-bins at various sites around the parish, which are for those out walking their dogs and needing to dispose of dog excreta in plastic bags. The cost of emptying these bins costs the Parish about £2000 per year.

Please note:

It is now permitted to dispose of these bags into normal litter bins.

They can also be put in normal household black bins.

Dog bins are not provided for residents to use instead of their household bins.

Parishioners who are reading this report are unlikely to be one of those who leave black bags full of dog poo lying around our footpaths, or hanging on trees. This is worse than doing nothing!

Cllr Janet Corry,
Chair,

1st April 2019

PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT, 2019

At the start of my report 2018, I stated that North Somerset could not prove a five year housing supply and that they planned to build two Garden Villages, one near Banwell and the other near Churchill, both of which would have a significant effect on the traffic in our Parish. Unfortunately, nothing has changed although in the recent Traffic Consultation Junction 21a near Banwell is mentioned.

In Sandford, both the Strongvox and Sandford House sites are now under construction. The Aurora site, next to the Strongvox development, is going to Appeal on 2nd April this year. We have been consulted about a proposed site next to Aurora for 40 dwelling although no plans have, as yet, been submitted.

In Winscombe, both the Woodborough Farm and Chestnut sites are under construction.

The Planning Committee have had another busy year with a great diversity of applications. We have considered 88 applications. To date, 48 have been approved, 8 refused and 3 withdrawn. North Somerset do not now inform us of their decisions, so our busy office staff have to seek results on our individual applications.

This is the last report of this Committee before Elections take place and a new Council is formed.

I would like to thank all Committee members for their time and efforts. Also many thanks to our Planning Team: Lynne and Catherine in the office; to Sue who has recently left; and special thanks to Kevin Joyce, our Vice-Chairman. They have all worked tirelessly for our Parish.

Archie Forbes, Planning Committee Chairman, March 2019

PLAY AREA AND SKATE PARK REPORT 2019

The Parish owns two Play Areas and a Skate Park which are run by the Parish Council.

The site at Winnowing End, Sandford, has had a new tyre swing installed. The old wooden one has been replaced with a metal one and new safety matting.

At the Recreation Ground, Winscombe, we are waiting for Planning Permission approval before installing a 6 metre high rope pyramid with safety surfacing.

In the Skate Park, we are still waiting for the new half-pipe to be installed.

The adult exercise equipment has two pieces with defects. These are under warranty and we are waiting for the installer to replace them.

The Parish Council carry out weekly checks on the equipment, play areas and skate park. Monthly checks are done by G.B. Sports and Leisure and annual checks by R.O.S.P.A

My thanks go to the team who run the Play Areas and Skate Park; to Lynne and Catherine in the office; to Kevin Joyce (Vice Chairman) and Peter Keenan. Also to Sue who left recently.

Archie Forbes, Chairman Play Areas and Skate Park, March 2019

Winscombe & Sandford Annual Parish Assembly 2019

Winscombe War Memorial Recreational ground Advisory Committee report

The War Memorial ground – Recreation ground – is open to all our residents for all but one day a year and remains vibrant and well used by all ages of our Parish Community. The Play areas (please see separate report) are always very popular with our younger parishioners and the adult exercise equipment is also now being well used. The remaining area of the War Memorial ground is also very well used, mainly for sport but also for other functions from time to time. This year the local RNLI fund raising committee held a very successful event in the grounds.

It has been made known to the War memorial Ground committee and the Parish Council that there is an ever increasing need for sports pitches to accommodate the expanding sporting requirements of our villages thanks to the success of our local sports clubs. Indeed last year we initially had more requests for pitch usage space than we could accommodate. This past year your Parish Council have been looking for additional land to rent or buy, sadly so far without success, to provide additional sports pitches particularly with the advent of the new houses currently being built in the parish. If anyone knows of any suitable land in the vicinity please let the Parish Council Clerk or a parish councillor know.

The War Memorial ground Constitution which has been in existence for many years, amended and updated from time to time, has recently been fully withdrawn by the Parish Council as it was suggested it was no longer apposite in the way in which the Recreation ground is now run or to current needs, and as we also have a “terms of reference” document which has been running alongside the Constitution document and it was felt to be a duplication to have both documents. This latter document is due for review in the immediate future.

To ensure the safety of the public and users of the Recreation ground work has been carried out to the trees in the grounds as appropriate and as advised by the professional tree report. In view of the large number of trees now in and surrounding the Recreation grounds, with the attendant costs of ensuring all are safe for parishioners to walk and play under, no further increase in the number of trees will be allowed and future requests for memorials will only be sanctioned as seats.

The Football pitch, used by Winscombe Football club, still awaits renewal of the post and rail fence to replace the existing wood and metal rails – it is hoped that this will take place during the coming year along with plans to upgrade the floodlighting.

Due to the increasing use and in particular, the emergence of the girls and ladies teams (currently four) now regularly using the changing rooms, we have been advised that they are no longer fit for purpose nor up to modern standards. As a result the Winscombe Ladies Hockey teams are unable to use them at all.

The additional two cold water tanks installed two years ago have proved entirely successful in eradicating the hot water shortage problems with the showers.

Peter Keenan, our War Memorial ground orderly manages to keep the whole area, including the changing rooms tidy and well maintained, and a big thank you goes to him for all his efforts. He is about to embark on the annual process of redecoration of the changing rooms.

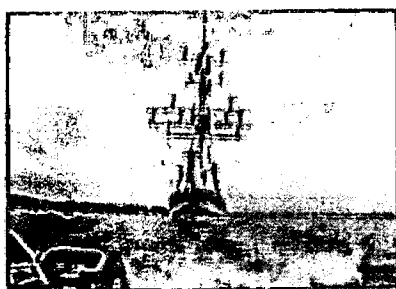
Cllr Mike Williamson

WMG Committee Chairman

15 March 2019

AXBRIDGE AND CHEDDAR VALLEY SEA CADETS

Axbridge and Cheddar Valley Sea Cadets (Training Ship Goathland) are going from strength to strength. We now have over 30 cadets in the senior and junior sections and they are enjoying a full and varied training programme. Our cadets are achieving a very impressive range of qualifications, especially afloat, with virtually every cadet qualifying for at least one (usually several) of the range of water-borne activities; sailing, rowing, power boating and wind surfing. Apart from the core syllabus, which includes subjects such as seamanship, drill and first aid, we have cadets qualifying for the Duke of Edinburgh awards and attending specialist courses on a range of subjects such as mechanical engineering, meteorology, food preparation and service and that is just to name a few.



We also have cadets booked on to trips on the larger vessels in the Sea Cadets' fleet such as the tall ship, TS Royalist (picture), and the power boat, TS Jack Petchey. During these trips the cadets will enjoy an amazing experience and gain useful qualifications including navigation and watch keeping. Every cadet I have spoken to who has spent time on TS Royalist has described it as "a life-changing experience".

TS Royalist – a life changing experience

Sea cadet units are run by volunteers and aim to give young people a lot of fun and a good outlook on life based on the traditions of the Royal Navy. We do not exist to recruit for the Royal Navy but all the young people who enjoy their time as Sea Cadets have a great deal to offer when they leave school.

We have just had our annual inspection and it went very well. We do not have the final assessment but we should receive a pennant (above average) but we might receive a burgee (exceptional).

Due to our success we urgently need more staff to help run the unit – can you help? Because of our shortage of staff we have been obliged to temporarily reduce our training programme. Obviously we have uniformed volunteers but if that doesn't appeal you could be a civilian instructor if you would like to pass on your own specialist skill or knowledge. We also need volunteers to do the necessary background work. Could you give us an hour or two each week to do some administration, drive our minibus or help with building maintenance? There is so much to do and we desperately need your help to ensure our young cadets get the full experience we want to offer. If you would like more information please email co.axbridgeseacadets@gmail.com or telephone me on 07979 994126.

Baz Hamblin
Chairman
Unit Management Team
Axbridge and Cheddar Valley Sea Cadets
TS Goathland

Churchill & Langford Mini-bus Society

Talk @ Winscombe & Sandford Annual Parish Assembly

1. Thanks for invite

2. Background about Society: -

Established 1974 – Churchill Methodist Church & St. Johns Church
Treasurers basically just covering Churchill & Langford.

Operated 1 minibus up until 2015 when applied and was successful
with DoT grant for a 2nd bus. Part of the application said that we would
expand coverage to include Winscombe & Sandford, Banwell,
Shipham, Burrington.

3. What do we do? –

Regular shopping trips to WSM, Nailsea, Yatton, Winscombe,
Clevedon, Wells, Worle these are generally a £2 or £3 donation & then
occasional trips to Street, Bath, Cribbs Causeway. These are slightly
more costly because of the further distance but are generally in the
region of £5/£6 donation. I've left a few schedules showing where and
when we run these trips. These are advertised

Non-scheduled trips where we hire the bus out for groups, schools and
organisations such as Sandford & Banwell WI's, Sewell House,
Montessori School, Churchill Pre School & Primary School, Stroke Ass
in Nailsea & WSM, Cheddar Lions. We would normally then work out a
price for the hire and the organisers then apportion that out to their
passengers. We provide the driver. These can be full or half day trips

4. Why am I here? – Primarily to advise you of what I've just said but particularly
at this time we are struggling for volunteer drivers. Aged between 25-75 with a
D1 licence. Ideally, we would look for someone to commit to a regular trip say
1 or twice a month to a particular journey, but if you weren't able to do that,
then we are always looking for drivers to do the non-scheduled trips. We
would provide the training (MIDAS) free of charge provided you were willing to
commit to something.

5. Who to contact? – Trips (Winscombe – Jennie Pallant)

Monthly Schedules/Booking the Bus – Laura

Volunteer Driving – Me

6. Where do we advertise? Sandford – Sandford Station

Winscombe – Parish Office, Library, Dunster
Court, Mendip Lodge, Notice Board on corner.

Ward Cllr Report

WINSCOMBE PARISH ASSEMBLY 1ST APRIL 2019

COMMUNITY CENTRE

LADIES AND GENTLEMAN,

I APOLOGISE THAT MY REPORT WILL BE A LOT SHORTER THAN BEFORE BECAUSE AS WE ARE NOW IN PURDAH I AM MINDFUL THAT I DO NOT MAKE ANY POLITICAL STATEMENTS WHICH I CERTAINLY WOULD NOT.

YES IT HAS BEEN A VERY DIFFICULT YEAR MOSTLY THERE HAVE BEEN THE FOLLOWING ISSUES;

PLANNING

ROAD MAINTENANCE

A & E

SO I WILL JUST SAY A BIT ABOUT THOSE 3

PLANNING; I THINK THAT I AM AS CONCERNED AS YOU ALL ARE AND HAVE TRIED MY BEST TO TRY AND STEP THE FLOW, UNFORTUNATELY WE HAVE AS ALL OF THE COUNTRY BEEN PLAGUED BY SPECULATIVE DEVELOPERS, SOME I HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL WITH OTHERS I HAVE LOST AND I AM PARTICULARLY SADDENED BY THE CHESTNUTS APPLICATION AND THE SURROUNDING RESIDENTS, IT WAS CLEAR TO ME THAT WE HAD A SITE VISIT THE COUNCILLORS WHO ATTENDED DID NOT SEE ANYTHING WRONG WITH IT, BECAUSE THEY HAD FAR WORSE DEVELOPMENTS IN THEIR OWN WARDS AND WE CAN SEE THAT AS WE TRAVEL AROUND, BUT THAT DID NOT MAKE IT RIGHT AND ALTHOUGH I ONLY LOST BY ONE VOTE I WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED COUNCILLORS WHO LIVE IN TOWNS IN MY OPINION ARE NOT PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN THE RURAL AREAS OR THE AONB AND THAT IS ALWAYS GOING TO BE A FIGHT, BECAUSE IF ONE AREA WINS ANOTHER LOSES.

WHICH BRINGS ME ON TO AURORA BECAUSE THE COMMITTEE SUPPORTED BY RECOMMENDATION FOR REFUSAL IN THIS INSTANCE, WHICH WE KNEW WOULD GO TO AN APPEAL AND IT GIVES THE PEOPLE AND THE PARISH TO HAVE THEIR SAY AT AN APPEAL AND THAT PLEASES ME AND I WISH CRESTEN AND THE PARISH THE BEST OF LUCK TO MORROW AND I WILL BE THERE SUPPORTING YOU ALL. WE ALL KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF IT IS LOST, APPLICATIONS ARE ALREADY IN THE PIPELINE ALONG THAT STRETCH, BUT WE LOOK AT EVERYONE AND JUDGE ON ITS MERITS AND WE WILL FIGHT WHAT IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AND TO WIN AURORA WILL MAKE IT SO MUCH EASIER.

ROAD MAINTENANCE. AS YOU WILL SEE THERE IS A LOT OF ROAD MAINTENANCE GOING ON IN THE AREA, BUT I AM DISAPPOINTED THAT I THINK IT WAS BACK IN 2016 MEMBERS OF THE PARISH AND MYSELF AND THE OFFICERS HAD A MEETING IN BRAE RISE THE ROAD IS ABSOLUTELY DREADFUL INFACIT THE WHOLE OF THE SITE IS TO MY MIND NEVER HAD A TOP SURFACE ON IT SINCE IT WAS BUILT AT THAT MEETING WE WERE ADVISED THAT THE ROAD WOULD BE REPAIRED IN THE BUDGET OF 2017/18 IT HAS NOT AND WAS RECENTLY BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION SO I HAVE CONTACTED THE OFFICER AND WANT AN ANSWER AS TO WHY NOT AND MORE IMPORTANTLY ASKING THE

QUESTION AS TO WHY THE PARISH AND MYSELF WERE NOT ADVISED THAT IT WAS NOT BEING DONE. I AWAIT A RESPONSE BUT WILL LET THE CLERK KNOW.

A&E THIS HAS BEEN IN THE PAPERS FOR A VERY LONG TIME AND IT IS A CONCERN BUT UNFORTUNATELY ARTICLES IN THE PAPER ARE NOT BEING REPORTED ACURATELY. AT A HEALTH AND OVERVIEW SCRUTINY PANEL A FORTNIGHT AGO THE CLINICIANS ATTENDED AND EVERYBODY HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND BECAUSE DOCUMENTS ARE OUT FOR CONSULTATION JUST TO CONFIRM NORTH SOMERSET IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE HOSPITAL IT IS RUN BY THE NHS AND THE CCG BUT WE HAVE ALL SUPPORTED THE EFFORTS THE CLINICIANS AT THE HOSPITAL ARE DOING TO TRY AND RESOLVE THIS ISSUE. I MYSELF ASKED AT THE CONSULTATION IF THEY HAD ANY FIGURES OF WHO USED THE HOSPITAL AFTER 10 AM BEARING IN MIND THAT ANY STROKE/HEART PATIENT HAS BEEN GOING TO BRISTOL FOR A LONG TIME AND I WANTED TO KNOW WHETHER THE A&E AS A RESULT OF FIGHTS, DRUG ABUSE, DRINK ABUSE AND THIS I AM HOPING TO GET SOME FIGURES ON THIS ANOTHER ISSUE I RAISED WAS IF A GP HAS SENT A PATIENT WITH A DIAGNOSIS INTO HOSPITAL WHY DO THEY HAVE TO GO THROUGH THE A&E WHY CANNOT THEY BE SEEN BY A HOSPITAL GP AND SENT TO A BED AND THE CLINICIANS AGREE, BECAUSE AT THE BOTTOM LINE GP PRACTICES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY ARE FINDING IT DIFFICULT TO RECRUIT GPS, HOSPITALS THE SAME AND THERE HAS TO BE PROPER SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES ADHERED TOO FOR THE SAFETY OF THE PATIENT AND THE STAFF, SO IT IS NOT ANY EASY SOLUTION THIS IS WHY THEY ARE LOOKING AT SEVERAL OPTIONS AND I HOPE THAT YOU WILL ALL RESPOND TO THE CONSULTATION AND IF YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND ANY MEETINGS THAT THE CLINICIANS ARE ATTENDING PLEASE DO IT WILL I AM SURE EASE YOUR MINDS.

WASTE COLLECTIONS

THANK YOU TO THE PARISH FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT OVER THE YEAR

Winscombe and Sandford Youth Club Report 2019 to the Parish Assembly

Last Spring the number of members attending youth club started to decline and the voluntary supervisors came to the conclusion that after running for 23 years it was time to close its doors permanently. However, after some publicity and some encouragement from the Parish Council we remained open and are happy to report that the club is thriving once again.

We now have 25 plus members, and have the added bonus of some parental help, which is great.

We continue with our normal activities, pool, table tennis, board games etc but also try to make our programme of events interesting. We have redecorated the hall, visited the Tobacco Factory in Bristol to see 'The Borrowers', played manhunt, celebrated Chinese New Year, made pancakes, tidied the 'patio area' at back of our building and many other things.

In the next few weeks we hope to have the police visit us to show us all the riot gear they use and to make a visit to the 'Clip and Climb' centre in Weston-super-Mare. As well as all the activities it is important for the members to have us as a safe place to come and meet their friends, relax and have fun.

We are still basically run by 3 Volunteer supervisors and one paid Youth Worker with the help of some parents. We are always looking for more volunteers to come along and help.

With many thanks again to the Parish Council for their support.

Denise Landau

Secretary Winscombe Youth Club

1 April 2019