

## Police Personnel Change

Following the promotion of Matt Bailey to sergeant, we welcome to our area our new "Village Bobby", Andy Braund. Andy writes:

'I have been a police officer for almost 13 years all served at Weston-super-Mare on the frontline, 8 years a neighbourhood beat officer and 5 years as a response officer carrying out 24/7 policing.

I live in Weston-super-Mare with my wife and 22 month old daughter and have done for the last 5 years; the previous 40 years I lived in a small village near the Quantock Hills so I am well aware of the difference between rural and urban priorities.

Matters that affect the quality of people's lives are incredibly important to me and I intend to spend as much time being visible and contactable to the communities of Sandford, Winscombe and Banwell.'



## The Occasional Parish Council Newsletter Number 12 December 2014



Hopefully, this Newsletter will enable you to:

- find out what your PC is doing and thinking of doing;
- tell us what needs doing;
- find information about the parish;
- make contact with North Somerset D.C.

We like to hear of your concerns and of any issues that you wish to bring to our notice. You can do so using any of the following:

- calling at the Parish Office, Community Centre Building, (opening times: Monday and Thursday:10 am to noon);
- telephoning, (01934 844257);
- Emailing, ([winscombecp@lineone.net](mailto:winscombecp@lineone.net));
- writing to **Lynne Rampton**, our Parish Clerk.



## Churchill - our local sports Centre.

This is a vibrant Community amenity offering a range of activities for all ages. Activities include swimming

lessons, family and under 5 sessions, 40+ sessions, aqua tone and blast classes, swimming clubs, Octopush underwater hockey, a giant inflatable assault course, as well as regular lane swimming.

There is a fully equipped and air conditioned gym with cardio and resistance machines, free weights and core stability workout area. Fitness instructors are available to help you.

Other facilities include tennis and squash courts, a floodlit all-weather pitch, hard courts, a sports hall available for badminton, volleyball, basketball and more, as well as a large playing field.



**Community Connect** is a service run by Age UK Somerset covering the whole of North Somerset. The service has Community Agents and Community Development Workers working actively with people throughout the area to link them with information and support.

The purpose of the service is to help people to stay connected, supported and active in their communities so that they can remain living independently at home for as long as possible.

For help in completing forms and benefit checks, and access to men's cookery classes, the Age UK befriending service, IT classes for older people, and more, why not drop in to Winscombe Medical Centre on the last Tuesday of every month between 9.30am and 12.30pm, and ask for Community Connect?

You can also ring 01275 888803 for help and advice.



## Winscombe Car Parks

In the last 'Occasional' Newsletter it was stated that your Parish Council would like to register the two NSC owned car parks as assets of community value. You were asked to explain why these car parks were so important to you. We received around 100 responses, thank you! Thanks also to those who, with some of our Councillors, took part in a survey.

We have now sent a letter to North Somerset Council asking that NSC review its decision not to register our car parks as items of community value. We will let you know, hopefully in your next newsletter, of the outcome.



## Woodborough Farm Development

At the time of going to press (7<sup>th</sup> November) there are no firm details available as to when the developers of Woodborough Farm are to meet parishioners in a public meeting or whether they will be attending the Parish Council Planning Meeting that is to take place on 15th November.

**Email version of your newsletter.** To email you a more detailed version, the Parish Council must have your permission. To give this permission use the panel on the bottom corner of the front page of the parish council website.

[www.winscombeandsandfordpc.org.uk](http://www.winscombeandsandfordpc.org.uk)

**All information will be kept strictly confidential.**



## A Neighbourhood Development Plan for Winscombe and Sandford.

On October 27<sup>th</sup> our Parish Council voted unanimously to support the development of a neighbourhood development plan for Winscombe and Sandford. Its Steering Group, made up of Councillor and parishioner volunteers, has already started to work on the plan, which is expected to take between 15 and 18 months to complete. Its aim is to make sure that development in the parish, over the next 15 years, meets local needs and local planning priorities. The plan will be formulated after consulting all parishioners and certain outside bodies, but accepted only after a referendum involving all parishioners.



Once accepted, this plan will have legal force, on the same level as the North Somerset Council Sites and Policies Plan. This means that when planning applications are made, which affect our parish, the neighbourhood development plan provisions, by law, will have to be taken into account.

This is a new exciting community project, and an opportunity for residents to put forward their ideas of what future developments in our parish should include and where they should be positioned. More information, meeting dates and updates on the plan as it progresses will be posted on the Parish Council Website, on village notice boards and on the village website -

[www.winscombeandsandford.org.uk](http://www.winscombeandsandford.org.uk)

## Problems for emergency vehicles

On a number of occasions over the last few months the refuse/recycling wagons have been frustrated by lack of access to narrow roads through residents parking their cars and causing an obstruction.



This situation also has implications for emergency vehicles not being able to gain access.

You are therefore asked, if parking a vehicle, to avoid causing an obstruction, especially in narrow lanes/roads.

## Winscombe Library

- fun for pre-school children.

Come along and enjoy songs, music and rhymes for pre-school children at Winscombe Library's Bookstart Rhymetime.

First and Third Thursdays of the month at 9.15am. (Parents and carers are also welcome.)



## Road Closure for the Christmas Shopping Evening – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December - 6pm to 9pm

As the festive season is fast approaching our local traders are busy making plans to ensure that this year's annual event for late shopping is even better than the last!

To help with this, the Parish Council has made an application to North Somerset Council to close part of Woodborough Road in the evening **between 6pm and 9pm**. The closure will be from the road's junction with Nippors Way to its junction with The Lynch and The Green. Balfour Beatty and Westcountry Road Management have very kindly agreed to sort out all the diversion signage free of charge, for which we are very grateful.



We hope that this will allow us to hear better the choirs that will be performing as well as making the event a little safer for the large number of you that turn out for the evening, particularly, we are told, for Father Christmas!

As you read this, we should have been in contact with all residents that live within the closure area but if anyone has any questions about this, please look on our notice-boards or website, or contact the office for any other information.

All that remains to do now is to wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and we hope to see as many of you as possible at the Christmas Shopping Evening.

## Grants and Donations

Each year, the Parish Council sets aside an amount of money within its budgets to help local voluntary organisations with special projects on receipt of a written application.

Councillors have regularly chosen to support our **Youth Club** to enable leaders to take the children out on trips and to buy equipment for their activities.

**The Strawberry Line** is also aided with a regular grant that pays towards maintenance of the popular walk in this parish and money is given to **Sandford Methodist Church** to help them maintain the play area opposite the Church.



Some other groups that have benefited in recent years include **Sandford Village Hall** by way of a contribution towards painting the outside of the hall, with a donation towards the marquee hire costs as part of the **Winscombe Festival** and **Winscombe Community Centre** with a donation towards their (soon to be installed) public access defibrillator.

While we cannot promise to help everyone that does apply, if you know of a group that you think could be assisted by the Parish Council, please contact Lynne at the office for more details of the grant scheme and an application form.