

The parishioners of Winscombe and Sandford would like

YOU



to become a **Parish Councillor**

with the **Chairman's Committee** helping to solve urgent problems

reviewing parish **policies and methods of employment**

helping to manage the parish **cemetery and allotments**

helping with the **War Memorial Recreation Ground**

controlling finance, including setting the annual precept - the money collected from parishioners each year

Your tasks will involve

listening to other parishioners

representing the parish in other decision making committees

working with other councillors to make group, but never individual, decisions

receiving training

being involved with planning applications

helping to maintain our two parish **play areas and our skate park**

helping to manage the parish **Award Land**

gaining pleasure (but no cash) by putting something back into our community and by helping others

These are some other activities in which you could take part.

helping to preserve the parish **Environment** - i.e. public roads, footways, signs, street lights, shelters, seats, flower tubs, bins of all sorts etc.

If interested, ring Lynne, our Parish Clerk **842557**



The Occasional Parish Council Newsletter Number 13 March 2015



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, (winscombepc@lineone.net);
- writing to **Lynne Rampton**, our Parish Clerk.

Parish Council Procedures

With regard to all planning applications that come before Winscombe and Sandford Parish Council, no preference either for or against an application is ever made or stated by the Council prior to the Planning Committee Meeting at which the application is to be considered.

A decision to approve or reject an application is decided during the appropriate meeting following a vote of all Councillors present. The vote takes place after all the evidence available has been studied and discussed.

Strongvox Homes Development Proposal, Sandford

At the time of going to press (7th February) no submission for planning permission regarding the above development has been received. A leaflet has been produced by Strongvox that was delivered to an unknown number of households in Sandford. Access to a copy of this pamphlet is provided on the front page of the Parish Council website.

A static, public exhibition of the proposed development took place in Sandford Village Hall on 15th January. All statements made by Strongvox and Pegasus were based solely on their opinions. This exhibition was very well attended.

Woodborough Farm Development, Winscombe

Again, to date, there has been no submission for planning permission regarding this development. A presentation has been made to the Parish Council providing tentative details and the illustrations used for this power point presentation can be accessed via the front page of www.winscombeandsandfordpc.org.uk.

Adopt a parish plant pot - businesses or individuals

Your Parish Council is seeking individuals or businesses willing to adopt a flower tub, or even just to water one tub. If you decide to help, you can choose the plants (the Parish Council will pay for the plants, compost etc.). The tubs are usually planted with annuals in May and October, and then need watering and weeding or trimming throughout the year. We will give plenty of help and advice. If you have any questions before you make your decision, or if you would like to become a volunteer or adopt a tub, please contact Sue Kent 843972.

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

All information will be kept strictly confidential.



Winscombe Orderly

At the last Parish Council Meeting it was agreed that Winscombe village should copy Sandford village in employing a village orderly. The appointee will be employed for about two hours each week.

Quite separately, the Parish is also looking for help, from next April, with the unsavoury but paid task of emptying a small number of dog litter bins.

Further details of both tasks will be made available from the Parish Clerk.

Parish Defibrillators

Thanks to the Community Centre trustees and a donation from the Parish Council a further defibrillator has been installed in the parish, this time on the front wall of the Winscombe Community Centre building. There are now four sited in the parish:



- Thatcher's Cider Head Office, Myrtle Farm, Station Road, Sandford
- Winscombe Recreation Ground, The Lynch, Winscombe
- Winscombe Doctors' Surgery, Hillyfields Way,
- Winscombe Community Centre, 11 Sandford Rd, Winscombe.

The defibrillators are available for any member of the public to use in an emergency should someone's heart stop beating. You dial 999 and the operator will give you necessary instructions. Whilst the machine "speaks" to the user to give all necessary guidance, there are Training and Awareness courses being arranged in March. Numbers are limited, but should you wish to be considered for attendance at one of these courses (duration 2.5 hours) please contact a Community Association Trustee – see their website.

Parish Assembly - on 5th March.

Details of this particularly important meeting are still to be arranged.

Strawberry Line News

The Strawberry Line maintenance team recommenced work on the 5th January by installing a seat at the recreation ground cross path. An additional step was also installed near the village railway bridge to help access the line

Dog faeces continue to cause problems for volunteers and users alike. A pink spray now highlights where the minority of dog walkers have not 'picked up'. In Yatton pink spraying has reduced the number of dog owners who do not 'pick up' and dispose sensibly. Perhaps others do not realise that North Somerset Council can impose a £1000 fine on offending dog-owners.

If you feel that 'The Strawberry Line' is an asset to our community and should be extended look on [www:thestrawberryline.org.uk](http://www.thestrawberryline.org.uk) and give your support.



Neighbourhood Development Plan - Competitions

There are now proceeding in the parish two competitions that will publicise our Neighbourhood Development Plan and our new Parish Council Website that is in the course of development.

These are a **photographic competition** that is open to all parish residents and a **children's poster competition**. While both competitions have tentatively **closed late entries will be considered on merit** as the winners will not be announced until on Thursday, March 26th at 19:30 at the Winscombe Community Centre.

On that evening there will be an exhibition of the entries, refreshments and a display of the 'Vision so Far'. This will show what has currently been done towards writing the plan. There will be a second opportunity to view the exhibitions on Saturday, March 28th from 10am to 1pm at Sandford Village Hall.

Photographic Competition

Open to all parish residents, the subject is 'Winscombe and Sandford through the Seasons'. So look through your libraries of photos and get your cameras out. There will be a prize of £50 for First Prize and £25 for the runner up. Entry forms are available at the Parish Office or via the village website -see below

Children's Poster Competition

Youngsters in the 5-7 age range and those in the 8-11 age range are invited to devise a poster (or produce a written project) with the theme 'What I imagine my neighbourhood will look like in 2030'. There will be a prize of £25 for both age ranges. Entry forms are available from Sandford and Winscombe Primary Schools, Sidcot Junior School, the Parish Office and the village website (www.winscombeandsandford.org.uk).

Newly Co-opted Councillor

At the last Parish Council meeting Mr Vic Slater was co-opted as a Councillor. He writes: I am sixty-eight years of age and having recently retired feel that I would like to put some of my time into the community I have lived within for most of my life.

I moved to Winscombe in 1974 with my wife and two children who were both then aged two. We moved from the suburbs of London to a village which nestles within areas of outstanding natural beauty and I feel very passionate that the villages of Winscombe and Sandford retain their identities.

Growth is inevitable but I do feel that our environment should not be compromised. I believe that growth should be achieved in harmony with our villages and their surroundings.

I welcome the initiative of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the objectives of which are to ensure that the development of the Parish meets future local needs and local planning priorities.