



# The Occasional Winscombe and Sandford Parish Council Newsletter Number 22 June 2017



Hopefully, this Newsletter will enable you to:

- find out what your PC is doing and planning to do;
- tell us what needs doing;
- find information about the parish;
- contact North Somerset Council - **01934 888 888**

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 these:

- calling at the Parish Office, Community Centre Building;
- (opening times Monday and Thursday 10am to noon)
- accessing our website: [www.winscombeandsandfordpc.org.uk](http://www.winscombeandsandfordpc.org.uk);
- telephoning: 01934 844 257;
- emailing: [winscombepc@btconnect.com](mailto:winscombepc@btconnect.com)
- writing to **Lynne Rampton**, the Parish Clerk.



## Winscombe and Sandford Parish Council Precept

As you will have received your Council Tax Bills, we would like to explain how the rise in your parish element (the precept) was calculated.

Our Parish Precept for 2017/18 is £130,000 which is a £5000 rise on the last financial year. In real terms, this equates to a Local Council Element of Headline Council Tax per D Band property increase from £64.99 to £66.49 per year, which is a 2.3% increase, or an extra 12.5p per property per month. This small increase is despite a reduction in the council tax support funding received from NSC.

So, where is your money spent? We are responsible for, and maintain, a number of areas in the parish including Ilex Lane Cemetery, our allotments, the Recreation Ground and changing rooms, two children's play areas, a skate park, the Award Land, many street lights, a public lavatory and, in addition, council committees and working groups that have budgets to benefit the Parish.

Projects that will be completed include the installation of adult exercise equipment and the addition of a half-pipe for the skate park at the Recreation Ground. Also, the possibility of a Parish owned portable vehicle activated road sign to deter speeding motorists is being investigated and the street lights on Mead Lane should by now have been upgraded.

Grants have been awarded for maintenance work on parish section of the Strawberry Line, assistance for the Youth Club and funding for All Saints Church to upgrade community café facilities. A contribution towards insurance costs has been made to the Churchill and Langford mini-bus society to allow them to operate the two buses that regularly serve our parishioners.

Whilst responding to the Government's challenge to Councils for restraint when setting a precept (otherwise capping could be applied), we welcome your suggestions for new projects and also grant applications from community groups.

Work towards our future budget will start in a few months so please send your thoughts and comments to Lynne at the Parish Council Office.

## Allotments

A desire for freshness has seen an upsurge of interest in growing food crops.

Developing an allotment is a great hobby. They're inexpensive to run and help you to relax and gain healthy exercise. In addition you can eat more healthily, knowing that your fruit and vegetables are fresh and free from any chemical contamination. Also, you could have no concerns with genetic modification.

Our allotments at Ilex Lane are owned by the Parish Council and for a one-half plot cost £15.00 per annum to hire. We currently have a short waiting list: should you wish to be added to this list contact the Parish Office.



## Volunteers needed for Summer Reading Challenge

Do you have a few hours spare this summer? Libraries across North Somerset are looking for volunteers to help with the challenge which is run in partnership with The Reading Agency. Aiming to give children from four to 11 an enjoyable activity to complete during their summer holiday, the challenge helps prevent any dip in literacy that may occur during the long break from school.

This year's theme is 'Animal Agents.' Volunteers will talk to children about the books they have read, help children choose books and hand out rewards of stickers, posters and medals.

This is a short-term volunteering opportunity between 15 July and 9 September 2017 and is open to anyone aged 14 and over. Flexible volunteering sessions are available at libraries across North Somerset and full training will be provided.

If you are enthusiastic about encouraging children to enjoy reading, we would love to hear from you. You do not need any previous experience. For more information visit <https://northsomersetlibraryvolunteers.wordpress.com> email [library.volunteers@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:library.volunteers@n-somerset.gov.uk) or call 01934 426 657.

The closing date for volunteering applications is 9 June 2017.

## Tesco Bags of Help

'Bags of Help' is Tesco's local community grant scheme where the money raised from the 5p bag levy in local Tesco stores is used to fund community projects in this area.

From those applying several months ago for financial assistance towards a specified community project, three were short-listed and Tesco customers, using tokens received from paying the 5p bag-charge, took part in a public vote.

Your Parish Council's application to obtain part-funding for a scheme in the War Memorial Recreation Ground was successful in being short-listed. Pleasingly, we were awarded £1000 towards the scheme's completion, the construction of a half-pipe, similar to the one in this photograph.



## Neighbourhood Policing Team

PC Dave Eastham    PC Mark Savage  
PCSO Aisha Mitchell    PCSO Kayley Anderson    PCSO Teresa Bailey

This is the local neighbourhood policing team working from the newly opened response station at Weston Gateway in Worle. **To contact your local beat team or report a crime please call 101 or visit our website [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk).**

There you can find local links to contact the team direct or you can follow us on twitter

@ASPWSM.

**For emergencies call 999.**



## The first Winscombe Repair Cafe was a great success



Repair Cafes are community events where people share repair skills, chat over a cuppa, help save money and reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

On March 18th Winscombe held the first 'Repair Cafe' in North Somerset. A group of skilled volunteer repairers gathered in the Lynch Chapel ready to help residents fix their broken items.

There was a lively atmosphere with laughter and cheers as items were brought back to use. Several bicycles, a drum machine, a radio, two old telephones and a lamp were among the items brought along. Most were repaired. A laptop computer and CD machine needed replacement parts, so the owners were helped to identify the correct part and will return next month to complete their repair.

*"Very friendly, helpful & welcoming." "Great repair done on pushchair cover, fiddly job". "The children were fascinated by the sewing machine too!"*

Winscombe Repair Cafe will be a regular event, held every 3rd Saturday of the month, 10.30 – 1.00pm at Lynch Chapel, BS25 1AR.

Join us with your broken items or come and help others with their repairs. Tea, coffee and homemade cake are available.

For further information: email [info@repaircafe-winscombe.org.uk](mailto:info@repaircafe-winscombe.org.uk), join the Facebook group 'Repair Cafe Winscombe' or ring Claire on 843402.

## Adult (over 14) Exercise Equipment.

All of the pieces of equipment shown in our last edition of The Occasional are now installed in the Winscombe War Memorial Recreation Ground.

The six include:

Bicycle Machine      Cross Trainer  
Rowing Machine      Seated Chest Press  
Sit-up Bench          Swinger Station.



So, next time you are near while just walking or as part of your regular exercise why not give them all, or just some of them, a try!

## Parish Council meetings in Winscombe Community Centre All start at 7.30pm (unless shown differently). -All parishioners are welcome

Committee/Group	June	July	August
Full Parish Council	26 <sup>th</sup>	24 <sup>th</sup>	No meeting
Cemetery/Allotments	2.00pm 19 <sup>th</sup>	No meeting	No meeting
Employment/Finance/Policies	No meeting	No meeting	14 <sup>th</sup>
Environment	No meeting	10 <sup>th</sup>	No meeting
Neighbourhood Develop. Plan	29 <sup>th</sup> Check with clerk	27 <sup>th</sup> Check with clerk	No meeting
Planning	5 <sup>th</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup> and 31 <sup>st</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>
War Memorial Recreation Ground.	12 <sup>th</sup>	No meeting	No meeting

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

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



or email the editor using: [lloyd@winscombeandsandfordpc.org.uk](mailto:lloyd@winscombeandsandfordpc.org.uk)