



## The Occasional Winscombe and Sandford Parish Council Newsletter 24 December 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](tel:01934888888).



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.

### Community SpeedWatch

Motorists who speed through residential neighbourhoods are very often unaware of the impact their actions have on local residents, or the danger they pose to other road users and pedestrians. The Community SpeedWatch Scheme can make these motorists aware of the problems they may be causing and give local people the opportunity to become actively involved in road safety.



Being a partnership between the Community, the Police and Local Authorities, a scheme can be set up in any village, small town, or urban area, governed by either a 20, 30 or 40 miles per hour speed limit. A functioning scheme already exists in the Parish of Winscombe and Sandford.

The scheme involves local residents, who are willing to volunteer regularly a small amount of time to monitor the speed of vehicles with detection equipment. You may wish to watch a video to find further details on <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/services/watch-community-schemes/community-speedwatch/>

Individual locations can be targeted with those drivers observed speeding being sent a warning letter from the police, along with advice to help change driving behaviour. Further action will be taken by the police against persistent and high-end speed offenders. So, why not help to control the problem by joining the Winscombe and Sandford Community Speed Watch. If you are able to help please contact the Parish Council Office on 01934 844257.



Dress your youngster in Fancy Dress

# Winscombe Christmas Late Night Shopping

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December  
6.00pm - 9.00pm.



Visit Father Christmas



See the Churches Together Nativity Scene



Join in with Sidcot School Girls



Enjoy eating and drinking



Meet up with friends



Ride the Swings



Listen to church handbells



Visit our village shops



**Home-made Fancy Dress Parade for youngsters along Woodborough Road. To join, be at the Scout Hut (The Lynch) at 5.30pm 5<sup>th</sup> Dec.**

**Prizes of £50, £35 and £15 as vouchers for Court Farm Country Park**



## Shute Shelve Tunnel Update

The following was taken in October from Bristol Water's website.

As part of our Southern Resilience Scheme, which aims to secure the water supply to 280,000 across North Somerset, the Strawberry Line Cycle Way is currently diverted in the Winscombe area. This includes a diversion around Shute Shelve Tunnel.



We (Bristol Water) are aware of the significance of the tunnel to the local area and our intention has been to reopen the tunnel for the summer period. Unfortunately our work has been delayed and, following discussions with the Strawberry Line Management Committee and North Somerset Council, the tunnel remained on this temporary diversion throughout the summer months (2017).

When work began early this year there was a rock fall within the tunnel. Therefore, work had to be suspended whilst a full investigation into this took place and a safe plan to carry out the work was devised.

We are making significant improvements to the safety netting to ensure the tunnels ongoing safety once our work has been completed. Unfortunately our work on the safety netting has had to be suspended due to the presence of roosting bats. This has meant that the tunnel will need to remain closed until this issue can be resolved.

We have been working with Natural England and North Somerset Council to safely stop bats from roosting in the tunnel whilst works are on-going but these measures have not worked to date. We are working hard with our partners to resolve this matter. The Strawberry line and tunnel habitats are important sites for bats and many other species of flora and fauna and we are working hard to minimise our impact on the natural environment and we wish to leave it in a good (if not better) condition than when we started our works.

Due to the on-going environmental issues the decision was made to complete our works before the bat hibernation period begins in October. This decision to keep the tunnel diverted throughout the summer holidays was not taken lightly. If work is not complete by the hibernation period then it could risk the path through the tunnel being on diversion until spring 2018.

### Editor's Note

In October the Parish Council received a summary of a note from Bristol Water to NSC that states 'despite adopting extended working hours, Bristol Water will not be able to complete the works that were required to open the tunnel by the end of October. Under the terms of their licence with Natural England they will not be permitted to work in the tunnel after 31 October and would be prohibited from returning until April 2018 at the earliest, depending upon the ambient temperature are that time.



We, the Citizens Advice Bureau, can help you at our Winscombe Advice Service if you have problems with: paying your council tax; paying your water bill; managing other debts; benefits; discrimination; budgeting; universal credit.

Citizens Advice can give you free, confidential, expert advice and support. Contact Winscombe & Sandford Parish Council to book an appointment for Wednesdays between 9:30am-12:30pm by telephone: 01934 844257 or by email: [winscombecp@bt.connect.com](mailto:winscombecp@bt.connect.com)



### Cyclists using the strawberry line without due care and attention.

The strawberry line has been set up to provide a **safe** place for cyclists, walkers of all ages, runners, parents with buggies and wheelchair users to exercise and enjoy the beautiful countryside that surrounds the line. However, a few cyclists appear to be using the line without the care and attention that is so essential for the safety of other users. While using the line and you observe these careless users it would help the police if you rang 101 to report the danger. If you tell the police at that moment the culprits are actively using the site then this will give the police a greater opportunity to make a valid action



### Parish Council meetings in Winscombe Community Centre or as shown.

**All start at 7.30pm (unless shown differently).**

**All parishioners are welcome.**

Committee/Group	December	January	February
Full Parish Council	No meeting	22nd - Sidcot Sch.Arts Centre	26th - Sandford Village Hall
Cemetery/Allotments	18th 2.00 pm	No meeting	No meeting
Empl./Finance/Policies	No meeting	15th	No meeting
Environment	4th	No meeting	No meeting
Planning	11th	8th	5th
War Mem. Grd. Adv. Ctee.	No meeting	No meeting	12th - W.Cricket Club

**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)

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

