



The Occasional

Parish Council
Newsletter Number 6
June 2013



Welcome to **The Occasional**, your Parish Council's newsletter. We think this newsletter is important because, hopefully, it will enable you:

to find out what your Parish Council is doing and thinking of doing;

to tell us what needs doing;

to find information about the parish;

to make contact with North Somerset District Council.

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, BS25 1JA,
(open Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 10.00am - 12.00pm);

telephoning, (01934 844257);

Emailing, winscombepc@lineone.net;

or writing to **Lynne Rampton**, our Parish Clerk.

New Parish Council Chairman Elected.

Following a stint of four successful years, Archie Forbes has stepped down from the Chairmanship of the Parish Council and been succeeded by Mike Williamson.

Mike Williamson writes:

my family and I came to Winscombe in 1986 and I have loved living here ever since. I am a husband, father and grandfather. After a lifetime in Banking I retired some eleven years ago since when I have become more involved in our village and civic Parish affairs, becoming a Parish Councillor in May 2007. I am honoured to have been elected Chairman of our Parish Council by my fellow Councillors and look forward to serving in that role.



I believe the Parish Council should be proactive in managing and developing Winscombe & Sandford for the benefit of all our residents, creating an environment which attracts a variety of retailers, ensure it is kept tidy, amenities repaired and encourage facilities for all ages.

I am a trustee of Winscombe Community Association and Chairman of the Junior Section of Winscombe Rugby Club and take much pleasure in seeing so many of our younger, and not so young, residents using all the sporting clubs, sporting and other facilities, that Winscombe and Sandford offer.



Your community needs you!

Make a difference... join your local community resilience network today.

Emergencies happen. It's not difficult to imagine a major fire, or widespread flooding, or a power blackout, or an epidemic like bird 'flu, or foot and mouth. Imagine this happening in Winscombe and Sandford, around you, your family, and your neighbours.

Imagine how strongly you'd want to do something to help. You can't, because you don't know where to start. If it's a really bad emergency, affecting other parts of the county, you might be waiting hours, perhaps longer, until the emergency services arrive.

Imagine how powerless you feel as you wait, not knowing what to do to help yourself and those **you care** about. Don't let it happen. Be prepared. Join Community Resilience. Help develop our local emergency plan, and join a network of trained volunteers who can react straight away in an emergency situation, working in partnership with the emergency services. Everyone has useful skills. We just have to work together.

Find out more at our Public Meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday 6th June at Winscombe Community Hall, and at www.communityresilience-ns.gov.uk



Neighbourhood Development Plans

There are plans to build a number of houses in the near future on the fields, known as Woodborough Farm, that back onto The Lynch, Woodborough Road and Church Road. During the coming weeks, the Parish Council will be considering whether or not to develop a Neighbourhood Development Plan, and would be pleased to receive the opinions of parishioners on this. These plans were introduced by the Localism Act (2011) to give local communities the right to determine how they wish to develop the area in which they live. In North Somerset these are normally developed by Parish Councils. Grants of up to £7,000 are available, as well as help and advice from NSC. A Neighbourhood Plan has to be subjected to independent examination and a local referendum is then held that requires a simple majority to bring it into force. A completed plan also entitles the Parish to benefit from various extra payments when development takes place.

See: <http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Environment/Planning+policy/Neighbourhood+Planning.htm>

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Farewell to our local policeman.

PC Steve Church is shortly to retire.

Steve writes:

It's been just over seven years since I arrived as the Winscombe and Sandford Parish Police Officer. I well remember Steve Bridges introducing me to my first Parish Council meeting, calling me a large chap who should be quite visible. I recall stating two main objectives, first to be more visible to the community and secondly that crime was running at just under 300 per year and I thought that was a too high.

I began working in the Parish and started up a weekly surgery in the Parish Office. This quickly became very well used dealing with a range of enquiries from traffic issues, neighbourhood disputes and right through to serious assault. The surgery is still available for you every week on a Wednesday starting at 10:00.

My other strategy was to make sure that all reported crime, no matter how small, was investigated, even if it didn't lead to detection. Those intent on committing crime in the Parish would feel the pressure of the investigation..

Crime is now under 100 per year. Over my time about 1000 less victims.

A few years ago I was joined by PCSO Emma Wright and she took on Neighbourhood Watch, speed watch and the Schools. Her Support has been invaluable to me and good news for the Parish is that she will be staying. Emma is keen to promote the 'Community Speed Watch' in the Parish; if you're interested make contact and she will provide the information of how to get involved.

Lastly I would like to say that it really had been a pleasure being your 'Parish Copper'. I've met some really good people and will stay in touch with many. Just remember that Winscombe and Sandford is still one of the safest places in the country to live with one of the lowest crime levels.

Thank you for your support over the years and I wish the Parish well for the future. For the very last time...

soon to be ex/PC Steve Church.





Recycling

Did you know that you can get extra Green Boxes or Green Bags from the Parish Office in Winscombe or order on line. To reach the NSC site use www.n-somerset.gov.uk

[n-somerset.gov.uk/webselfservice/forms/Services/OrderNewBagOrBoxService/OrderNewBagOrBoxForm.aspx](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/webselfservice/forms/Services/OrderNewBagOrBoxService/OrderNewBagOrBoxForm.aspx)

There is NO limit to the amount of material you can leave out and you can have as many Boxes and Green Bags as you need: the more we recycle the less goes to land fill. North Somerset Council has looked into providing lids for our boxes, but a lid costs almost as much as the box, and would limit the amount of recycling that can be put in the box. This means that it is up to us to ensure that we pack our boxes well. We could get more into our boxes by placing heavy items on the top, which would also prevent the lighter items from being blown away in the wind.

For tips on what to recycle go to

<http://www.nsomerset.gov.uk/Environment/Recycling+and+waste/whatcanberecycled.htm>

For tips on how to recycle go to

<http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Environment/Recycling+and+waste/>

If you do not have access to a computer pop into the Parish Office and the Parish Clerk may be able to help you, as may those on duty in our Library.

Email version of your newsletter

Have you signed up yet to get on line **the free and fantastic, full-colour, additional information, full-of photographs, click to access other sites email version of this newsletter.** (Surely you can't resist!!!!!!)

To sign you up, the Parish Council needs your permission. To do so use the panel on the corner of the front page of the parish council website

- <http://www.winscombeandsandfordpc.org.uk>

All information will be kept strictly confidential.

Parish Council Meetings

24th June
Parish Council
Monthly Meeting
Winscombe
Community Centre
7.30pm

22nd July
Parish Council
Monthly Meeting
Winscombe
Community Centre
7.30pm

23rd September
Parish Council
Monthly Meeting
Sandford
Village Hall
7.30pm

Please forward this newsletter to whoever you think will be interested. Send any comments about any of the items included to the Parish Clerk using the details on the front cover.

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