



Wrington Parish Council

serving Downside, Redhill & Wrington



Newsletter 2018/19

So what does Wrington Parish Council do?

On behalf of Wrington village it owns and manages, sometimes directly and in some cases indirectly, buildings such as the Memorial Hall and the caretaker's cottage, the old fire station used by the Drama Club, open spaces such as the recreation ground with its pavilion and the streetlights in the Parish. Some years ago the Council bought Broad Street public toilets from North Somerset Council (NSC) who wanted to close them as part of a cost-cutting process. Waste bins and dog bins are emptied through a Parish Council contract. Emptying dog bins alone costs around £300 a month.

We maintain the defibrillators on the pavilion, the scout hall and at Redhill village hall and will be renewing contracts for these again in the next few months.

Green spaces in Wrington are kept mown and tidy such as the children's playground in Church Walk and the adjoining Glebe field, the Mike Bush Paddock, the old surgery site and the village green in front of The Plough (and providing the Christmas tree and lights every year there). In Wrington, the play equipment is inspected regularly and looked after and, when needed, new equipment provided. The skateboard park and the zip wire were all provided through the Parish Council.

The Council also owns the allotments where parishioners can rent a plot for a very minimal fee! There are usually some vacancies so please let us know if you would like to take one on.

Being a Parish Councillor is true public service – giving time and care for absolutely no financial reward.

Finances

The Council's finances are strictly regulated and are subject to annual internal and external audits. Our accounts are available on request.

What does the Planning Committee do?

The Parish Council can advise and make recommendations to NSC. However, it does not have the power to block or turn down a planning application, just to comment on it.

Recently, much time has been spent on considering the airport's expansion plans, including holding two public meetings to keep residents informed. We have submitted a comprehensive objection and are continuing to submit supplementary objections. A decision on the planning application has been delayed and may be subject to a 'call in' by the Secretary of State, although not as yet confirmed.

There are also ongoing discussions with Redcliffe Homes concerning the Cox's Green housing development.

Why do some things take so long?

When work that isn't routine maintenance needs to be done we have to abide by a set of financial regulations which can involve getting numerous quotes and in some cases enter into a tender process. This is so we get the best value for money. It can take time to do this and can be frustrating.

I want the Parish Council to do something for me or my local group. How do I go about it?

Contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance, outlining what it is you would like to be considered. The Council will then look in to how best to help, if it can.

I've got something to say!

Every Parish Council meeting is open to the public and anyone is able to speak for a short, specified amount of time, if they so wish. It's helpful to let the Parish Clerk know in advance if possible.

What we've been doing:

- Provided funding and helped set up a youth club, run by the YMCA.
- Installed new equipment and maintained existing equipment in both Wrington's children's play areas
- Carried out tree works and ground clearing at both play areas, outside Broad Street toilets and at the allotments.
- Ongoing programme of maintenance and improvements to the Memorial Hall, the John Locke House and the pavilion.
- Landscaped the old surgery site, including the installation of a new bench.
- Continuing an ongoing street lighting replacement scheme (this has been delayed recently due to contractor problems out of our control).
- Installed accessible gates on various public footpaths with the aid of NSC and Woodspring Ramblers.
- Installed a picnic bench at the Mike Bush Paddock and refurbished various other benches. Built a new planter for Wrington's village green.
- Created a community area at the allotments for tenants' use plus general maintenance of the allotments area.
- Tried to stop the closure of the branch surgery in Wrington.
- Discussions with NSC are ongoing in relation to a new proposed 20mph limit in Wrington village.
- Obtained funding from the airport to install a new footway and safety scheme along High Street leading into Silver Street. The scheme details are still being finalised by NSC.
- Tried to keep a regular service directly to Weston and Bristol via negotiation with NSC and the bus company.

Financial Support given to:

- Redhill, Felton and Wrington Village Halls
- Twinning Association
- Vine Counselling
- Vision North Somerset
- Wrington Fair week
- Wrington Village Alliance
- British Legion
- Party in the Field

The Council welcomes grant applications from local organisations. Please get in touch.



Consultations commented on:

The Council is consulted on many areas which often have a direct local impact. Councillors spend a huge amount of time reading and preparing responses to these. Some of the recent major consultations are:

- The West of England Joint Spatial Plan
- North Somerset Council – Local Plan 2036
- Bristol Airport – Noise Action Plan
- Department for Transport – Aviation 2050: The future of UK Aviation
- Travelwest – The West of England Draft Joint Local Transport Plan 4
- NHS Bristol and North Somerset & South Glos CCG – Healthy Weston
- North Somerset and Mendip Bat Special Area of Conservation Guidance
- North Somerset Council Site Allocations Plan

Your Council currently is....

Georgie Bigg
Perran Jervis
George Lankester
Pat Ledbury
Simon Lovell
Phil Neve
Jill Rawlins
Donna Robertson
Joachim Steinbach
Barrie Taylor
Deborah Yamanaka

Fiona Burke – Clerk
Judith Bishop – Assistant Clerk
Eddie Kinsey – Parish Orderly
Darren Dyer – Caretaker of the Memorial Hall
(Employed by the Memorial Hall and Recreation Field Committee)

You can contact us....

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