



THE ANNUAL REPORT FROM WIGGINTON PARISH COUNCIL

What's been going on?

As you can imagine this last year has been very different from previous years in terms of what the parish council have been up to. The start of last year saw us launching "Wigginton Help Scheme" and "Wigginton Support Fund" to help the residents of Wigginton through the Covid crisis. Through these schemes we helped to get neighbours in touch with one another and offer assistance where necessary, we ran and continue to run a successful delivery of medicines from Rothschild House Surgery to village members, and through the fundraising of the Support fund we are able to reimburse St Bartholomew's School for the food parcels they have been supplying.

We too have had to adapt, holding our monthly meetings on zoom and having to discuss and make decisions remotely, which has thrown new challenges and a very different way of working, but we have carried on through and continued to maintain and improve our beautiful village, a real testament to the Parish Council team.

A few changes you will have noticed around the village include posts around the car park

and new benches in the sports field. The recreation ground has had the missing benches reinstated, a new gate fitted and the Wilding area is starting to grow.

We continue to monitor all areas of the village; the play area, gym equipment, footpaths and highways, keeping on top of litter and maintenance as best we can. We have recently adopted the defibrillator outside the pub and now have a service contract in place for it, and are constantly topping up the dog poo bags! We try our best to act quickly if we find something, or something is reported and value any feedback we get from the residents, we are here for your benefit!

We try to carry out a survey every year to gauge your ideas for the village and where you would like to see the money spent. This year the survey is available to complete online as well as inserted into this publication. We value and appreciate every response as it guides us and inspires us to do the best job we possibly can, please take a few minutes to take part.

<https://wiggintonhertspc.org.uk/survey>

Wigginton Helping Hands

Want to get involved in Village Life?

There are often lots of little jobs and some bigger projects within the village that could do with a few more hands to help! This could be helping at the firework display, freshening up the village hall or helping dig a bog in the Rec! Are you a plumber who can help with a leaky tap, or a carpenter who can fix a sticky door? Looking to the future could you help to organise a fete, put on a fundraiser in the Village Hall or have **you** got any ideas for the village, to join the Wigginton community together?! All these things need volunteers and working parties to get off the ground so please sign up if you can spare any time or have a useful skill to offer.....you may even have fun doing it!!

No commitment necessary, for more info and to sign up please email:

wiggintonhelpinghands@gmail.com



Our Website gets a Facelift

The website of the Wigginton Parish Council has had a facelift! The redesign makes the website easier to use than ever, and it is now fully compliant with the relevant GDPR and Accessibility Standards. You can access the site at www.wiggintonhertspc.org.uk

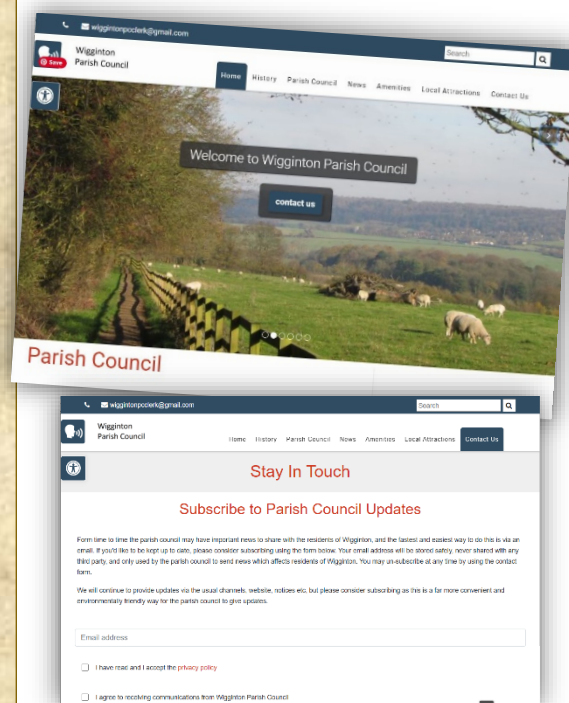
The website provides a great way for the parish council to provide transparency on how it is acting to serve the interests of the village as it:

- Lists who is currently serving as Parish councillors
- Provides agendas and minutes of all meetings, available to read or download
- Gives updates on news and events that are relevant to village
- Lists local attractions and services, for visitors to the village

Occasionally there are updates from the parish council on matters that affect the residents of Wigginton. These are made available on the website and via notices on the noticeboard, but the new website provides a way for you to subscribe to receiving these occasional notifications via email. You can subscribe by selecting the link 'Stay in Touch', found in the 'Contact Us' section.

Please consider subscribing as this is a far more convenient and environmentally friendly way for the parish council to share updates. Your email address will be stored safely, never shared with any third party, and only used by the parish council to send news which affects residents of Wigginton - and you can unsubscribe at any time.

www.wiggintonhertspc.org.uk



Note from the Chair

What a year we have had. Apart from those of us who can still remember WW2, this has been the most challenging year on record. I know everyone has experienced the challenges of COVID in different ways and many people in the village have lost friends and family during this time and it has been particularly difficult that we have not been able to gather, to mourn and say farewell to those we have lost. On a personal note, I feel the loss of two outstanding members of our community, both of whom contributed so much to our village.

Glen Adams, who was both a dear friend and a fantastic community man. Glen was a Parish Councillor for many years. He was part of the team that organised our incredible Wigginton Fireworks display every year and he also organised several other charity events, most notably a hugely successful event for Motor Neuron disease, raising thousands of pounds for the charity.

Simon Crichton, was another community man who is sorely missed. With Simon's commercial background, he helped to get our lovely village shop off the ground, and continued to volunteer as the finance manager. Simon was very well known for his garden shed brewed Ale, which he supplied to the shop for the village to enjoy, a hobby that he turned into a small business. Simon also sat on the board of governors for St. Barts, our lovely village school.

Our hearts go out to Glen and Simon's family and friends; they are truly missed.

As I write this, it would appear that the country is doing well in the battle against COVID. Our vaccine rollout is progressing, and businesses are opening up again. It has been wonderful to see some more life in the village again, with the Greyhound and the Village shop back open and serving food and drinks, albeit just in their outside spaces for now. I would like to take this

opportunity to thank the staff and owners of both businesses for all their help during these difficult times.

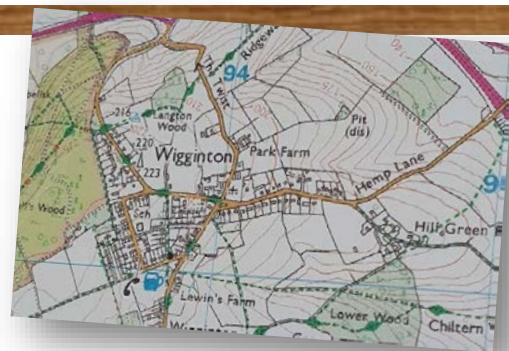
The Greyhound has erected marquees with heaters, and also has several tables on the lawn for when the sun shines. They have also just received a 5-star hygiene rating. I know that the Landlord was running 5 pubs before the COVID pandemic, and is now running 2. It's been a tough time for the catering industry. Let's make sure we support our local pub when we can; the village wouldn't be the same without the Greyhound.

The Village shop management and all the volunteers have done an outstanding job over the last year. They have kept the shop open, and supplied the villagers with the many essentials we have needed. They have been running a delivery service to vulnerable and shielding individuals, and been a true example of a community pulling together. The shop has planning permission to extend the patio area with an 8 x 5 metre meter patio, complete with umbrellas and seating. Again, we must continue to support our local business, what would our Village be like without the Village shop!

I would also like to thank David Wilde (ex-chairman WPC). He was very thorough in his approach to being a councillor, and his enthusiasm has remained as he now pushes forward with sustainable Wigginton.

Other thanks must go out to all the volunteers in the village. The people who continue to help run the village shop, those who delivered prescriptions and grocery shops, those who delivered takeaways from the pub and a special mention to Sarah Ryan, who sang her heart out from her driveway on Hemp Lane keeping our spirits up during lockdown.

Last but not least I would like to thank Stuart Fordyce for 5 years of exemplary service as our accounts and finance Councillor. Stuart has looked after all the financial obligations of the



council, and will be a hard act to follow.

Please see below, a list of all our current councilors and their role on the committee.

Gosia Turczyn – Clerk.

Cllr Walker - Chair, Shop Liaison and Wigginton Support Fund Committee.

Cllr Axon - Vice Chair, Play Area, Sustainable Wigginton liaison, Oddy Design and Sub Committee.

Cllr O'Sullivan - Highways and Footpaths

Cllr Fordyce (now Vacant) - Finance including Wigginton Support Fund Administration.

Cllr Mitchell - Litter, Village Hall Liaison, Friends of Wigginton Liaison and Oddy Sub Committee.

Cllr Grammenos - Open Spaces and Planning.

Cllr Carr - Website, Social Media, Comms, Tring and District Transport Plan and Oddy Sub Committee and Wigginton help.

The Wigginton Parish Council had our last Zoom meeting in May and plan on being back in the Village Hall in June, albeit still socially distanced. Everyone is always welcome to attend Council meetings.

**8pm on the 3rd Tuesday of every month
(except August)**

If the lockdown lifts at the end of June as expected, then we look forward to welcoming villagers to the meetings in person from July onwards. For any further information or to inform us of a topic you would like to discuss please contact us via the website www.wiggintonhertspc.org.uk or email the clerk on:

clerk@wiggintonhertspc.org.uk

Keeping the kids happy

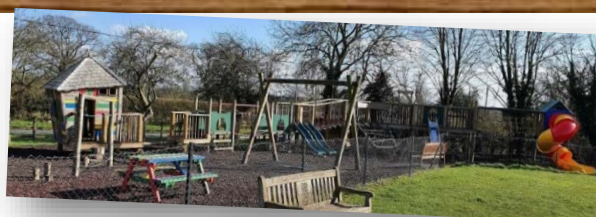
The play area has continued to be well used and enjoyed by kids from the village and further afield as it keeps popping up on various social media sites getting rave reviews! We took the decision earlier in the year to shut the gates when the pandemic was at its peak, as it remained crowded and busy and so difficult to socially distance and we felt this was a danger for further spread of the virus. It is now fully open and busy once again and we expect this to continue through the summer as the

weather warms up! This means we have to deal with the greater wear and tear that it's popularity has caused.

We have annual inspections from an accredited Play Inspection company and we complete monthly warden checks to keep an eye on its performance. Breaks and damages do happen though so we are always grateful

to you for reporting anything so we can act on it quickly. If you do see anything please report to the council.

clerk@wiggintonhertspc.org.uk



Support Wigginton in getting Ultra-Fast Broadband

The parish council is supporting a community effort to upgrade our internet connection to ultrafast broadband. Ultrafast broadband will bring incredibly fast internet to Wigginton, including houses that currently get low speeds due to their distance from the cabinet, and is far more stable and reliable than our existing connection.

A fast reliable internet connection is becoming a modern-day necessity. Homeworking, home-schooling, our primary school and local small businesses are dependent on a fast and stable network; and technology will deliver more and novel online services in future that will need speed.

The rural nature of our village with homes spread over a large area means we are low down in the queue as upgrades to gigabit internet roll out across the country. However, by acting together in a community fibre partnership we can bring ultrafast broadband to Wigginton far more quickly.

Your support will help the whole community and we encourage you to join the campaign. A community website has been set up to help co-ordinate the community fibre partnership with Openreach, and to provide more details on how we can bring ultrafast broadband to our village:

<https://wiggintonultra.co.uk>

For a successful application, residents of Wigginton will have to act together, and the website is an important part of helping co-ordinate that effort. If you are interested in bringing the next generation of ultrafast broadband to Wigginton or would just like to know more, please visit the site and sign up to the mailing list. This will help gauge demand in the village, and keep you updated on progress.



Everybody's Cheering!!

The Parish Council have continued to support local youth football club Berkhamsted Raiders FC with the continued use of the Wigginton Sports Field for the 2020/21 Season. Last year we agreed additional use of the pitch which included circa 80 weekend matches spread over the season on both Saturday and Sunday. The global pandemic obviously had a huge impact on the number of games played last year however with grass roots sport now back up and running we expect the usage to increase back to the approved levels.

The relationship between Wigginton Parish Council and the Berkhamsted Raiders has never been stronger enabling both girls and

boys' junior football to be played in a safe and well-maintained environment.

In 2020 the Raiders with the support of the Council approved grant funding providing up to £2,100 excluding VAT. This money was to go towards new drainage for the pitch that would improve the surface and make it more playable during all the conditions our good old British weather throws at us. Unfortunately, this has been delayed due to COVID but we expect this work to be completed for the 2021/22 season.

There have however been some great additions to the pitch during these challenging

times including fantastic new goal posts improving the match play experience as well as wooden posts being erected on the car park side of the pitch to avoid cars driving onto the field and damaging the playing surface. We have also allowed the raiders to have a small storage unit to hold their match day equipment including goal nets and corner flags.

It is great to have grass roots sport back in the village with the sound of cheering injecting life back into the community on sunny weekends!

We wish the Raiders luck in their upcoming season.

Sustainable Wigginton

As you may recall, in June 2019 the Parish Council declared a Climate Emergency and launched a community consultation together with Sustainable Wigginton. Following an open meeting they developed an Action Plan which was adopted by the PC in December 2019. It can be viewed on the PC's website.

www.wiggintonhertspc.org.uk

It is a list of actions to combat climate change and improve the sustainability of our lives which can be taken by us as individuals, as a village and as a society. Implementation is being led by SW.

Achievements up to May 2020 included:

- Tree planting: In autumn 2019 Members of SW and others helped at a mass tree planting of native species at the Woodland Trust's 63-acre extension to Tring Park.
- Sale of quality second-hand clothes in January 2020: this sale diverted many

good clothes away from recycling or landfill and raised £370 for the charity DENS.

- Heat Loss Surveys for Homes in early 2020: SW carried out surveys of 17 homes in the village with a thermal imaging camera to help identify areas of heat loss. We provided reports with non-commercial advice how to remedy problems.

Despite the pandemic putting a slight brake on our activities, as we could not meet or hold events indoors, we have made great progress with the "Wilding the Rec" project. Thanks to the Wigginton Gardeners and the Parish Council for their funding and support. The project was started in June 2020 and is ongoing, see following article.

In January 2021 the PC together with SW applied to Dacorum for a Green Community grant to set up "the 56 Club" which will be a gardening club for parents and children. We

are delighted to announce that we were awarded £400 in late March, to get this project off the ground - see the separate article.

Once covid restrictions are relaxed we hope to be able to organise more sustainable events and actions and would welcome your involvement! If you would like to get involved with no fixed commitment - please get in touch we would be delighted to hear from you!

Contact dehwilde@btinternet.com
mark_burrage@hotmail.com

Please respond to the village survey which includes a number of questions to gauge support for sustainability and climate change actions.



Wilding the Rec

This project is to create a native wildflower meadow in the south-west part of the recreation ground (on Vicarage Road) whilst leaving the mown area for ball games. The area is just under an acre. The objectives are:

- By planting native wildflowers, to encourage butterflies, bees and other insects which in turn will be good for the birds and mammals which feed on them.
- To increase the community's understanding and appreciation of the value of native species and biodiversity.
- To avoid using pesticides, weedkillers, slug pellets or other chemicals wherever possible.
- To create an area which anyone can enjoy, by walking through it, or sitting on the benches.

We began the project in June 2020 by ceasing mowing of the area, apart from curving paths through it. We were delighted to see at least 7 varieties of native wildflowers appear over the course of the summer. These are perennial plants already within the turf which have tolerated mowing. Some people would call them weeds (!) but they are beautiful and valuable to wildlife.

With funding from the Wigginton Gardeners and the Parish Council, we were able to buy 900 wildflower bulbs and 3 mixes of wildflower seeds. Our team of local volunteers trimmed overgrown bushes, built leaf and compost bins, carried out a late summer cut of the wilded area and prepared the ground by heavy raking.

Over the course of October and November we planted 900 bulbs of 8 types. The seed mixes were sown on a fine November day with the

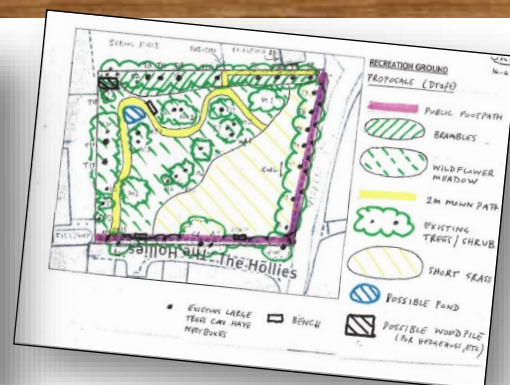


help of pupils from St Bartholomew's School. They also planted 100 daffodils. The children really seemed to enjoy themselves!

As part of the plan to encourage wildlife, 4 bird boxes were put up in December, two on trees near the north boundary and two near the south. We will monitor these over the spring and hope that they are used for nesting. If you would like to sponsor another bird box please get in touch!

In late autumn one of the horse chestnuts on the west side had to be felled by the Parish Council, for safety reasons. The trunk and most of the timber was left on site as a habitat for invertebrates and small mammals.

Over the winter apart from some maintenance work we have just been waiting and hoping. Sure enough in February the snowdrops popped up, followed by daffodils, winter aconites, wild tulips and snakeshead fritillaries. The other bulbs, namely wild garlic, wood anemones and bluebells are showing only leaves at present. Please take a walk round and see which ones you can spot! We hope all will flower and increase in strength over the years. We hope the cornfield annuals, sown as seeds, will flower this year together with some of the perennials, and the remainder next year.



The mowing of the curving paths will commence during May.

Early this year the Parish Council installed a bench and a picnic table in the wilded area and 2 more benches next to the public footpaths. This has made the area a very pleasant place to sit.



In April we excavated a bog in the SW corner, and we have now planted it up with about 120 plants, some just plugs, some established plants. Thanks to the Wigginton Gardeners and the Parish Council for their funding and support.

We hope you will enjoy the wilded area!

Who's Building What?

Dacorum's planning department is responsible for reviewing all planning applications for developments within the borough. It passes judgment based on appropriateness of the development to the local environment as defined by the Planning Policy and taking into account Green Belt and ANOB guidelines.

Wigginton Parish Council is consulted on all plans submitted for development within the parish boundary. These are discussed at our monthly meetings and listed in advance in the agenda which is published on the Parish Council Website. Anyone interested is free to attend and make their own comments.

WPC can either support, object or make no comment on applications. If we "no comment" then Dacorum's decision follows the planning officers' recommendation. If we take a view which is opposite to the planning officer's then the application goes before the development control committee. Interested parties, including the applicant, are entitled to speak at the committee meeting. Our comments and the decisions made by the Dacorum are published in the minutes of our meetings which are available on the website.

During the global pandemic we have seen an up rise in planning applications due to people spending more time at home and wanting to



make improvements as well as a number of new residents to the village wanting to re-develop. We have seen some really imaginative designs this year including state of the art ECO homes which work in great partnership to the sustainable ethos but can cause controversy in the look, we wait to see the outcome of these applications.

Show me the Money

Wigginton Parish Council – 3 Year Review 2020 - 2022			
	Mar-20	Mar-21	Mar-22
Income & Expenditure	Actual	Draft	Budget
	£	£	£
Income			
Precept	14,272	14,715	14,715
Concurrent services grant	9,292	9,292	9,292
Village warden grant	701	719	719
Rental income	840	242	700
Interest received	84	23	40
Other grants	1,419	787	111
Total income	26,608	25,778	25,577
Expenditure			
Salaries	4,210	3,885	4,491
Warden	475	910	950
Maintenance of open space	9,976	8,222	9,966
Grant funded payments	3,220	1,720	1,220
Subs & Grants	830	1,362	3,050
General administration	2,189	2,732	3,200
Total expenditure	20,900	18,831	22,877
Surplus/deficit for year	5,708	6,947	2,700
General Reserve	13,469	19,616	22,316
Earmarked Reserves	11,200	12,000	12,000

During the pandemic we have continued to maintain our two open spaces, supporting the play area and the work of Sustainable Wigginton's wilding area, facilitating the efforts of hirers to improve the football pitch, adding new seating, and overseeing maintenance contracts for safety, grass and hedge cutting and litter picking. Nonetheless our surplus for the year was greater than expected, giving us extra resource for the future, and we have restricted the precept to last years level, a cost of roughly 42p per week for an average household. When reserves earmarked for specific purposes are deducted from our total funds, the resulting general reserve is equivalent to one years expenditure which we regard as prudent and is within the guidelines applicable to small parish councils.

Blooming Lovely!

Many thanks to Ron Peterson, who for several years has created the beautiful flower displays around the 'Wigginton' village signs. Welcome to Lauren Sharkey and Les Smith who have agreed to take over from Ron in the coming weeks.



Local Plan

Dacorum recently held a consultation on the new Dacorum Local Plan, which set out the planning details for the future of our communities and the borough.

Whilst the proposed developments did not affect Wigginton directly, the plan proposed a substantial increase to the number of houses in Tring, primarily built on Green belt land, which would have a knock-on effect in terms of traffic and services which could impact Wigginton residents. Whilst the parish council agrees with the broad principles behind the vision, it had concerns over the way in which they were being implemented.

The parish council provided feedback on the plan detailing these concerns, and also co-signed a letter from other local parish councils who shared similar concerns. The details of the feedback submitted can be found on the Wigginton Parish Council Website.

Consultation on the plan ended on the 28th of February, and we are now awaiting the decision from Dacorum on how the plan will proceed.

'Ello, 'Ello, 'Ello

Crime numbers in Wigginton remain very low compared to other local villages of similar population in Dacorum. There have been a few burglaries and theft from cars and recently garages and sheds have been targeted so it is always advisable to keep doors and windows locked and keep your property secure.

We presently have two PCSO's covering the Tring area including the surrounding villages, PCSO 6112 Martin Leadbitter and a newcomer PCSO 6562 Robert Gilyen. They patrol the village regularly in a police vehicle and hope to spend more time in the area in the coming months on e-bikes when possible. They are here to show a visible presence, conduct some crime enquiries and deal with anti-social behaviour issues. Hopefully following the relaxing of Covid-19 regs on 17th May they will start to attend the Village Shop location on a regular basis to have a friendly chat to the local community.

As a community we should all keep an eye on our neighbours and their properties and

always report anything suspicious to the police.

REMEMBER

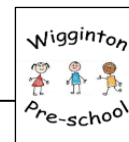
- In an emergency or if a crime is taking place or has just taken place always dial 999.
- To report a crime or incident that is not an emergency dial 101.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.herts.police.uk/Information-and-services/Advice/Crime-prevention/Protect-your-home/>

Join neighbourhood watch. Register at www.OWL.co.uk

Look at all our Community Groups



The Village Shop and Café

We're a community hub where you are guaranteed a warm welcome. A place to come and get food, drinks, essentials and even a treat! A shop window for an amazing array of local produce including delicious deli goods, fresh bread, veg, ale, wine and gifts. Our cafe provides a lovely environment to sit in (hopefully soon!) or outside, to meet friends and enjoy light bites, great cake and a drink! We welcome everyone, including our four-legged friends.

Thanks to our amazing volunteers and team, throughout the pandemic, we have continued to offer a wide range of essential items from toilet roll to toothpaste, milk or a can of soup.

Our friendly and reliable delivery service has become a lifeline to many in the village who have been shielding or isolating. We will continue to offer this service for as long as our community needs it.

We are very proud of our amazing array of high-quality local produce including delicious deli goods, fresh fruit and veg, meat and cheese, ale, wine and beautiful gifts.

We are delighted to have reinstated our hot drinks to takeaway. We have lots of light lunch options as well as our ever-popular cakes and sweet treats. Our menu includes vegan, vegetarian and gluten free options.

We've been able to open up our outdoor seating again and look forward to welcoming people back to sit down and enjoy their drinks and food.

Our success is down to our **fantastic volunteers** who cover a variety of flexible shifts each week. People get involved for a variety of reasons; to be part of or give back to the community, to use their skills or to get out of the house. We offer full training and when restrictions allow, we will reinstate our social and tasting events.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering, please email our manager, Sally Clarke:

manager@wiggintonshop.org.uk or visit:

<http://wiggintonshop.org.uk/volunteers/>

If you are shielding or isolating and would like to find out about our delivery service, please email: orders@wiggintonshop.org.uk



Wigginton History Society

We hope to resume normal service as soon as possible! Our meetings are usually held between September and May on the first Wednesday of each month starting at 8pm in St Bartholomew's Church. There is a contribution towards costs for each meeting.

Each month we have a talk on a wide variety of subjects, with a local connection wherever possible, followed by refreshments and a social gathering. In summer we organise an outing to a place of local historical interest.

The Committee is always pleased to hear of any interesting fact or facet about Wigginton or the immediate area. Contact Cliff Mills.

01442 828396

cliff.mills99@gmail.com



Sustainable Wigginton

Sustainable Wigginton was formed in 2019 to write a climate change action plan for the village and lead the implementation of it.

There are currently 8 members. See the main article for more details and a link to the action plan. If you feel you would like to help us (no fixed commitment) please get in touch.

Contact dehwilde@btinternet.com or mark_burrage@hotmail.com

Wigginton Film Club

Subject to the lifting of the Covid restriction, the Wigginton Film Club will be restarting in September. Films are shown once a month in the Village Hall from September through to April inclusive. Annual membership, to cover the cost of the film licence, is £2.00 and we ask for a donation of £5 per film, which includes one free drink (coke/lemonade/wine/beer/and cocktails occasionally!) and unlimited tea and coffee. Doors open at 7.30pm so you can enjoy a drink and snack before the film starts at 8 pm. All proceeds go towards the upkeep of the village hall. If you would like to be added to the mailing list please email:

johnshelton1234@gmail.com

Wigginton Preschool

It's been quite a year for Wigginton Preschool, having been closed for half of 2020 like other schools we finally opened our doors in September with new Coronavirus procedures in place to keep us all safe. We have widened our topics to include our lovely village where we play in the park, run around in the fields, and visit the church most weeks. We thoroughly enjoyed planting some daffodils at the entrance to the park area. There are so many opportunities to have fun!

Our curriculum as always is busy and provides a fabulous variety of explorations, curiosities and play. We have introduced "Mini Movers" where the children are able to participate in dance from a local company in Tring called Challis Dance School which has been a great success.

Tel : 01442 828879

info@wiggintonpreschool.com

www.wiggintonpreschool.com

Facebook : Wigginton Preschool



St. Bartholomew's Church

St. Bartholomew's Church Wigginton has been on this site for over 900 years. The churchyard flora contains some rare wildflowers and some of the gravestones have a certain type of lichen that only grows on chalky ground and where the air is clean. We hold a Communion Service every 1st. Wednesday of the month at 9.30am and on Sundays there are 3 services, 8am Holy Communion, 10am Parish Eucharist and 6pm Evening Prayer.

Every month on a Saturday morning we run Messy Church from 9-11am for our younger families, with breakfast, drawing and painting, story time and prayers (resuming when restrictions allow). The church is also used for a lot more activities, French classes, History Society meetings, wine talks to name just three and the fete is planned for the 4th September this year, with stalls, entertainers, BBQ, and local attractions. A concert is planned for October, The Bluebird Belles and an open-air theatre are performing again in August, all subject of course to Covid rules allowing by then.

Rev. Michael Eggleton: 01442823273

Mobile: 07585600408

e mail: revmike1@outlook.com

The Wigginton Gardeners' Association

The Wigginton Gardeners' Association has been around since 1977 when the first event was staged to celebrate the Queen's Silver Jubilee and continues to thrive. It aims to bring together like minded villagers who enjoy their garden and who are happy to share their knowledge or learn from others. I hope that things will improve for all soon and make this possible once again.

The current annual subscription is just £3 per household and for this, in a normal year, you would get four informative talks, an annual flower and produce show, a plant sale in May and a charity-focused social night, which is an extra charge. We would also try to organise a coach outing to one of the lovely gardens in the south of England. Due to the ongoing situation, we have cancelled all events for 2021 and hope that we will be able to hold our AGM in January 2022.

The 2000 daffodils that the Gardeners bought and planted in 2019 are looking really lovely. We are thinking of planting some more in the autumn so will be looking for volunteers to help plant them.

Anyone is most welcome to join the WGA, please email for more information.

steve.cannon@hotmail.co.uk
Facebook - Wigginton Gardeners

Friends of Wigginton

We are a small group who, for several years, have organised the fireworks and a few summer events as well as fundraising. We would love more people to get involved so please contact Jane if you would like to do more for your village.

Jane.mitchell@wiggintonhertspc.org.uk

Wigginton WI

Our WI normally meets at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall and we hope we can soon return to our lively and friendly meetings. We have interesting speakers on a variety of subjects and lots going on outside the meetings.

Activities include a book group, sewing group, long and short walks, canasta group, cinema and theatre trips, a monthly Ladies that Lunch and regular outings to places of interest. We have a membership of 90 ranging in age from 43 to 93. Unfortunately, at present we have a waiting list but if you'd be interested to come to a meeting as a guest to try us out, please get in touch.

[Sue Hexter: 01442 826440](mailto:Sue.Hexter@googlemail.com)
suehexter@googlemail.com

Wigginton Pools Allotment Charity

There are about 30 plots in the Wigginton allotments all of which are currently occupied and we have a small waiting list. Annual charges vary according to size and starting date. Anyone in the parish can apply. Please contact for more information.

wiggintonallotments@gmail.com

Little Stars Play Sessions

The introduction of Little stars was made from the decline in numbers of the toddler group and has provided our younger children from 1 years old the opportunity to socialise and explore their surroundings 3 times a week. Children and siblings are enjoying their time with us and parents are enjoying childcare for a few hours while they continue with their busy days.

info@wiggintonpreschool.com
www.wiggintonpreschool.com
Facebook : Little stars

Wigginton Village Hall

Wigginton Village Hall management committee have made good progress on updating some of the tired interior during the Covid restricted quiet time, and the hall now boasts a lovely new floor in both halls and the kitchen. There are new entrance doors, a fixed leaky roof and work is ongoing to improve the kitchen. A new website will be launched soon which will hopefully make booking the hall easier for all and a more attractive prospect for all kinds of events from children's parties to weddings to group meetings. It would be fantastic to see the hall used to its full potential by the local community.

The management committee meet once every two months and are currently seeking a new secretary and handyman/woman to help with small fixes which crop up every now and again. Do you think you could spare an hour or two every now and again to help? If so please do get in touch via our email we would love to hear from you!

If you have an event you're thinking of running and are yet to find a venue then Wigginton Village Hall could be the place for you! We are happy to answer any queries you may have. Just drop us a line via email.

www.wiggintonvillagehall.co.uk
wiggintonvillagehall@gmail.com

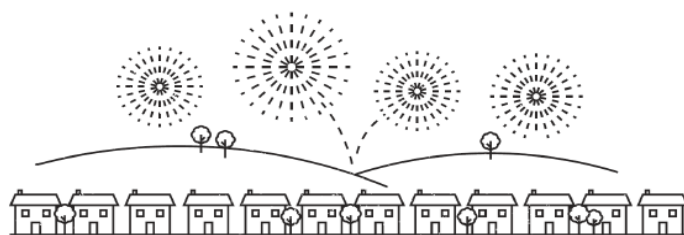


Wigginton Fireworks

Hopefully Saturday 6th November

The friends of Wigginton are a small group of volunteers who organise this fantastic annual event. We organise food and drink for the evening, build an amazing bonfire and organise one of the best fireworks displays in the area. There is no entry fee and we rely heavily on donations on the night and people to help with the setting up and bucket shaking on the night. No Fireworks took place last year

so we will need a great turnout this year in order to be able to continue, make sure you come along on 6th November! We have stopped selling glowsticks as they are not at all environmentally friendly so if anyone has an idea for a money-raiser to sell on the night please get in touch.



Jane.Mitchell@wiggintonhertspc.org.uk

Please can we also ask that no rubbish of any kind is added to the fire and no sparklers due to insurance restrictions.

Looking after the village

Hedges and Footpaths

Spring has sprung, hedges and hedgerows are bursting into life.....a timely reminder to us all to make sure our hedges are kept cut back sufficiently to allow free movement of pedestrians along our village pavements and footpaths, particularly bearing in mind the continuing need for social distancing. Hedges should be cut to the back of the footpath or highway boundary. Herts County Council has the right to cut back hedges which encroach the highway and obstruct visibility and then charge the owner for the work done.

Have you become a keen walker during lockdown, or maybe you have always been? Keep our footpaths and public rights of way open and in use. The link below will lead to the Hertfordshire Rights of Way Map.....zoom in to see all the footpaths and tracks through Wigginton and beyond. How about popping a pair of secateurs in your pocket to do on the spot maintenance ...stop that briar growing to block the footpath perhaps?

[http://webmaps.hertfordshire.gov.uk/row/row.htm?layers=\[1:0,1,2,3,4\]](http://webmaps.hertfordshire.gov.uk/row/row.htm?layers=[1:0,1,2,3,4])

Parking and Speeding

Along with trimmed hedges, considerate parking will also keep our village pavements clear and safe for all. Please do not park on the

pavement as this could force pedestrians e.g. families with buggies and small children or wheelchair users to risk venturing into the road to pass inconsiderately parked vehicles. Parking in Chesham Road related to activities at the Sports Field, Village Shop and Play Area has not been an issue during lockdown, however, the Parish Council will continue to monitor the situation and look at various options to alleviate the issue should problems arise.

The Speed Indicator Device located on Chesham Road is a timely reminder to motorists to look at their speed, perhaps another strategically placed device or other measures would further reduce speed through the village?.....comments or suggestions via the survey please! Herts CC agreed in principle to move the 40mph sign to beyond Beech Park some time ago, the Parish Council will continue to press for this to be actioned.

Highways and Potholes

Success to report! Substantial resurfacing was completed in Hemp Lane in recent months and blocked drains cleared. A small area at the bottom of Hemp Lane, however, remains badly surfaced and this has been reported to Herts CC. Welcome major resurfacing has also taken place at the junction of Chesham Road and Cholesbury Road.



Report!...Report!....Report!

Both Herts CC and Dacorum Borough Council provide an online portal to report problems relating to footpaths, bridleways, byways and highways ranging from potholes, street lighting, pavement issues, fly tipping, dog fouling, blocked road drains. Go to: <https://www.dacorum.gov.uk/home/do-it-online/report-it>

This link leads to an A-Z of reporting issues and will then link through to the relevant Herts CC page for the issues for which they are responsible.

Please take the time to report faults and defects and provide photos if possible. All reported highways and footpath faults are inspected and graded by Herts CC as to severity. Holes greater than 50mm in depth or which are dangerous in some way e.g sharp edges are dealt with within 24 hours.

If you have any issues with footpaths and highways or any suggestions for improvements, please complete the Village Survey to let us know!

Wigginton 56 Club

Are you a gardener or would you like to grow fresh vegetables?

If so the Wigginton 56 Club is for you.

Members will receive a mixed vegetable seed pack to get started, plus tips, advice and support from experienced growers. We'll also encourage members to swap excess seeds, plants and produce.

Membership is free of charge.

For further details contact

Wigginton56Club@gmail.com

The Wigginton 56 Club has been made possible by a grant from Dacorum Borough Council's Green Community Scheme and is supported by Wigginton Parish Council, Wigginton Gardeners' Association and Sustainable Wigginton.

Wombles of Wigginton

The Sunnyside Trust continue to carry out regular litter picks in the village and surrounding roads. Some roads seem to be a popular dumping ground for serial litterers and is therefore a constant challenge to keep on top of. The Sunnyside Trust can only get to some roads twice a year so we think it is still worthwhile continuing with the volunteer litter picks which generally generate around 40 bags of rubbish/recycling.



We have just had a litter pick on Saturday 12th June so thank you to all who turned up to help, we really appreciate it. For future volunteer picks please keep an eye on Nextdoor Wigginton, Streetbank and www.wiggintonhertspc.co.uk. and please do come along if you can, the more volunteers we have the less work you will need to do.

We will provide a map of the area to cover, a litter picking stick, tabard and bags. If you have work/gardening gloves please bring them along and we will require some people to drive. It is a good way to meet fellow villagers who are also community minded.

For fly tipping please report this directly to Dacorum on:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/recycling-waste-and-environment/recycling-and-waste/wasteaware-campaigns/flytipping/report-littering-or-flytipping.aspx>