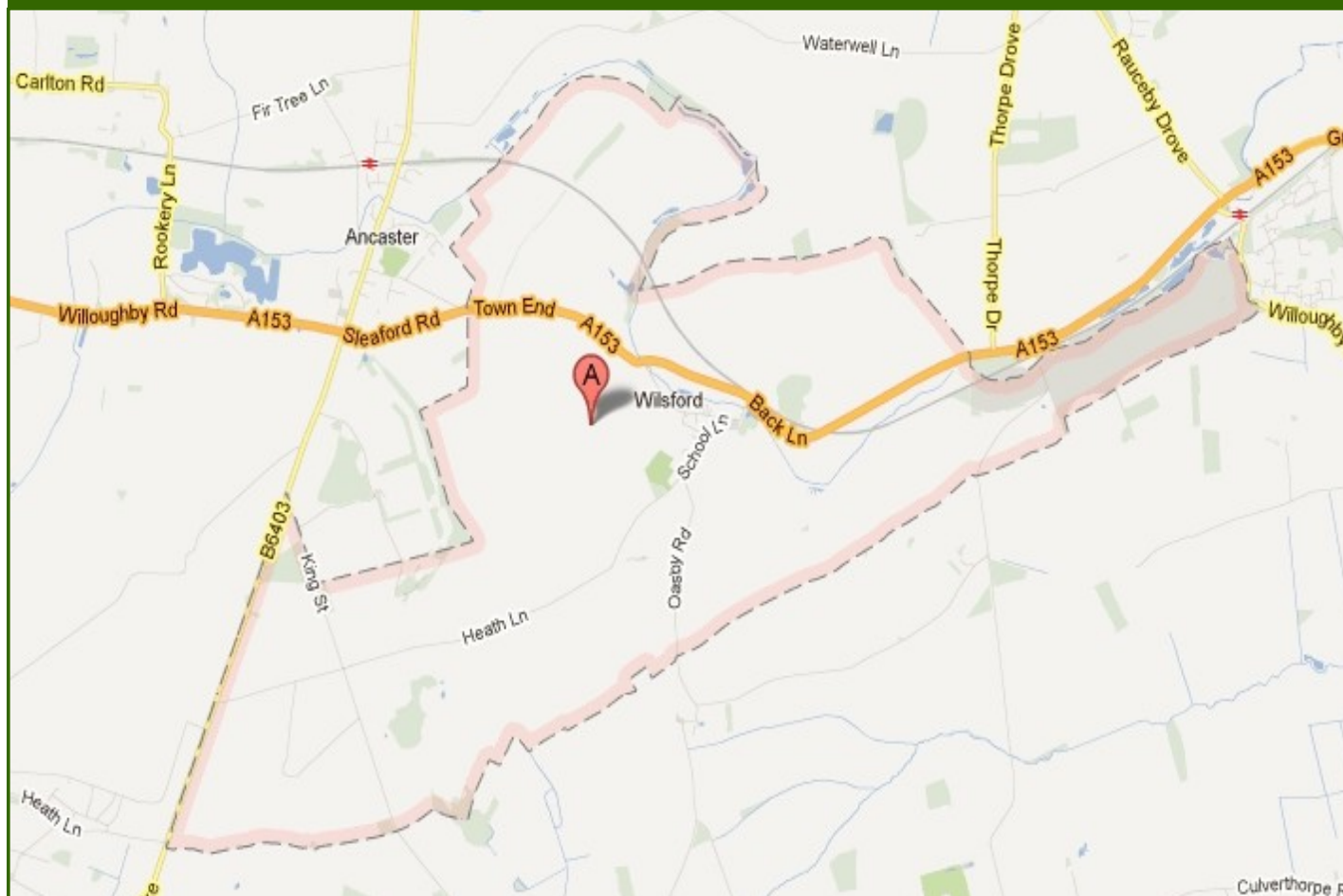


WILSFORD PARISH COUNCIL



It has been a year of consolidation for the Parish Council with the emphasis on supporting Wilsford residents to deliver two significant new projects for the village; an **affordable housing** scheme and the **village allotments**. If all goes according to plan, 10 affordable homes will be built on the land between the village hall and the playing field by spring of 2015. The homes will be delivered by the newly formed **Wilsford Community Land Trust**, in partnership with the Lincolnshire Rural Housing Association and Westleigh Development.

The homes will be built as a direct result of a Needs Survey carried out by North Kesteven District Council (NKDC) on behalf of the Parish Council in 2009 and are designed to provide affordable housing for people with an identified housing need and a direct family connection to the village. Wilsford CLT is the first of its kind in the county and the finished scheme will represent an investment of over £1 million in the village. Membership of Wilsford CLT is open to all residents and the Parish Council will continue to support the principle of community ownership of village assets through the ongoing work of the Trust.

The Parish Council has been delighted to be able to work with **Henry Tickler** and the new **Wilsford Allotments Association** to secure a lease on a suitable site and offer support during the tricky first few months of operation. The

WAA is now a stand alone organisation with its own committee, the plots are all taken and we look forward to the fruits of their labours. The WAA publishes its own newsletter, which is a surprisingly good read!

The Parish Council remains committed to creating and maintaining a pleasant, clean and safe environment for the whole community and will continue to provide support for the efficient management of Wilsford's green spaces, the churchyard and caring for those assets and amenities for which the council has a duty of care, ownership or responsibility.

In 2012, the Council set the precept at £7500 for the third year in a row. Despite some increased running costs, the council agreed that in the current difficult economic climate any increase in precept was inappropriate. For this year 2013/14 we have set it at £6826 which with a new local authority support grant means 'no change.' The precept (sometimes called the 'parish rate') is basically a tax charged on each property in the parish. It is collected on the PC's behalf by NKDC and appears as a charge on your Council Tax bill. For Wilsford the amount you are paying is £63.25 a year, (for a Band D property). Although the Parish Council is duty bound to provide certain services, (see the attached budget sheet for what the Parish Council spends the precept on) the precept is in a very real sense, **your money**.

Community applications for funding are considered by the Parish Council before the precept is set. For more information and an application form, contact the clerk.

Historically, Wilsford Parish Council has always preferred to play the role of a facilitator in village life, supporting residents' own community projects and ideas rather than seeking to 'centralise' control or promote its own agenda. There is a lot going on in Wilsford and no shortage of 'community spirit' but if you've got a new idea, and think the PC can help you get it off the ground, we'd love to hear from you!

Every Parish Council meeting starts with a 10 minute 'public forum' for parishioners to raise matters of interest or concern or ask a question of the Council. Alternatively you can contact any member of the Parish Council who will raise an issue on your behalf at the public forum. If the matter is urgent or of a serious nature you can ask a Councillor to consider putting the issue on the agenda for the next meeting so that it can be debated and if appropriate voted on. If an issue isn't on the agenda it can be discussed by the council but no formal decision can be taken. For more information on how to reach the Council please contact the clerk, Debbie Scott.

This year the Parish Council has been keen to offer support to a wide range of community activities, including the Village Hall, Playing Field, the Church Council, The

Village Newsletter, (thanks **Dick and Di!**) the Brownies and in 2013-14 the new Wilsford branch of the Women's Institute (WI). It is amazing that a village of this size (less than 400 inhabitants) can support so many activities, events and community groups, not to mention **The Plough** and a flourishing **Wilsford Stores and Post Office**.

During 2012-13 a survey of parish footpaths has been undertaken on behalf of the Parish Council by **Jane and Gordon Sanders**. Once all the thorny 'rights of way' issues have been resolved the Parish Council plans to produce a leaflet promoting our many beautiful walks.

Ricky Ellis, the PC's retained village handyman, has done sterling work again this year, and one visitor remarked during the mini ice age of 2012/13 that despite the ice and snow, the paths and pavements of Wilsford were clearer than their home city! In his role as handyman, Ricky carries out a number of important duties for the council including litter picking, maintenance of village furniture, tree and hedge trimming as well as clearing up dog mess.

Despite a number of dog bins being provided in the village and on the playing field, dog fouling remains a problem in Wilsford and particularly on the playing field. Dog owners please take note and play your part, a clean and safe environment is what everyone in Wilsford wants!

YOUR COUNCILLORS



Cllr Harry Attrill, Chair and Council rep on CLT Steering Group. Tel 231163



Cllr Steve Turner, Vice Chair and Responsible Financial Officer Tel 230269



Cllr Peter Darby Tel 230979



Cllr Phil Bramley Tel 230698



Cllr Richard Frankland, council rep on Allotments Association Tel 230466



Cllr Jacky Clements Tel 230277



Cllr Michael Harrison council rep on Village Hall Committee, Tel 230136



Debbie Scott, Clerk wilsfordpc@gmail.com

A clock has been commissioned by the Parish Council to commemorate past Chair the late **Edie Spicer**, while a tree (an evergreen oak) has been planted on the playing field by Cllr Robert Palmer, then Chairman of Lincolnshire County Council, to commemorate the service given to the parish by the late Cllrs **Dawn** and **Graham Matthews**

Probably the most significant commercial planning application on which the Parish Council has been consulted in recent years concerns the development of the new Mid UK recycling facility by **Mountains** at Wilsford Heath on High Dyke opposite Barkston Heath airfield. A recent fire at the plant has prompted parishioners to raise concerns about re-cycling operations and I am happy to report that **Chris Mountain** has agreed to make a presentation about the work of the company and its plans for the site at the Annual Parish Meeting on May 21st. Cllrs plan to visit the site to see for themselves how things work in early June. So if you have a question about the recycling plant please come along to the meeting!

The question of on-street parking in Wilsford has been raised again since the recent transfer of enforcement powers from the police to the County Council. The Parish Council has written to **Alan Hardwick** the new police commissioner and lobbied **Barry Young** our County Cllr asking for the return of some powers to local PCSOs as the new traffic wardens are unlikely to visit places like Wilsford to issue tickets! Access for busses and farm traffic and safe passage for pedestrians of all ages is an important part of village life. Please park with consideration for others!

The council is also actively reviewing its options to control speeding traffic on Main Street and Town End after a number of issues and complaints. The police will be returning to Wilsford with speed guns, while we hope you can expect to see the SID's smiley face in the village again

soon. More permanent calming measures are on the agenda (again) for review next year.

In 2012 the Council welcomed Cllr **Richard Frankland** to the team, while Cllr **Mike Harrison** has returned after a career break. Special thanks must go to our District Councillor, **Jim Cook**, who (almost) never misses a meeting, offers sound advice and has the grace to laugh at the chair's feeble jokes and **Debbie Scott**, our clerk, whose efficiency knowledge and can-do approach makes the ride seem a lot smoother. You can reach Debbie and the council via the webpage or via email wilsfordpc@gmail.com.

And finally, Wilsford Parish is probably bigger than you think. Our bounds (see map) stretch from Barkston Heath and High Dyke all the way to the golf course at Greylees. The outline reminds me of a chef on a broomstick. What do you think? Answers on a postcard....

Harry Attrill, May 2013

Wilsford Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 21st May 2013 at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall

All Councillors and residents of the Parish are invited to attend, but only members of the electorate of Wilsford can vote.

Agenda

Welcome

Mid UK Recycling Ltd at Wilsford Heath

Presentation by Chris Mountain

Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting

Chairman's Report

Financial Report

Open Forum

WILSFORD PARISH COUNCIL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2012/13

Expenditure				
Staff - wages and expenses	£2,561.67	Inc support to PF to July 2012 and to CLT		
Hall Hire	£139.00			
Insurance/Audit/ Office/Admin/subs	£670.30			
Grass Cutting - village and Churchyard	£1,347.50			
Handyman	£958.00			
Dogbins - emptying (2yrs)	£553.50	(£270 from 2011-12 budget)		
Jubilee	£292.18	(from 2011-12 budget)		
Funding for PF/VH/Newsletter/Brownies /Church	£3,163.73	(includes £1000 from 2011-12 budget)		
Allotments	£248.60			
Support for CLT	£230.00			
	£10,164.48			
Income				
Precept	£7,500.00			
NKDC grant - litter picking	£172.61			
Allotment rents (part 11-12, and 12-13)	£145.00			
LCC grant - grass cutting	£621.80			
Bank Interest	£29.84			
	£8,469.25			