Werrington neighbourhood council



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023

TUESDAY 6TH JUNE

MEETING PAPERS

CONTENTS

- 1 FRONT PAGE [THIS]
- 2 AGENDA
- 3 CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT
- 4 HONORARY SECRETARY'S 2023 REPORT (including PLANNING)
- 5-10 MINUTES OF THE 2022 WNC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
- 10-11 MINUTES OF THE 2022 WERRINGTON AREA FORUM AGM
- 12-13 HONORARY TREASURER'S 2023 REPORT *
 - [* INCLUDING INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2022]
- 14 WERRINGTON AREA FORUM REPORT [1ST APRIL 2022 31ST MARCH 2023]
- 15 ENVIRONMENT GROUP 2023 REPORT
- 16 2022 AGM PHOTO GALLERY



PROVIDING OVER 50 YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE TO THE RESIDENTS OF WERRINGTON Werrington neighbourhood council

..... providing over 50 years of faithful service to the Residents of Werrington

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

TUESDAY 6TH JUNE 2023

MEETING STARTS AT 7:30 PM

Light refreshments will be available before the start of the meeting from 7:15 pm

- 1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME : Vince Moon [including Apologies for Absence]
- 2. PETERBOROUGH HOMELESS HELPERS
- 3. ANNUAL AWARDS PART 1
 - COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARD
 - GOOD CITIZENSHIP YOUTH AWARD

[THERE WILL BE A PAUSE AT THIS POINT TO ALLOW PEOPLE TO LEAVE THE MEETING]

- 4. OFFICER ANNUAL REPORTS [Written Reports in this Meeting Pack]
 - 4.1 CHAIR VINCE MOON
 - 4.2 SECRETARY SALLY WEALD
 - [including the receiving and approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 7th June 2022]
 - 4.3 PLANNING REPORT
 - 4.4 HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT GEOFF SMITH [including the appointment of the Independent Examiner]
- 5. ELECTION OF WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD MEMBERS
 - There are ten elected positions on our Council. There are six vacancies needing to be appointed to at this meeting.
 - Three of the existing members who are due to seek re-election have been nominated.
 - Any other nominations must have been submitted on the official form and in the possession of the Secretary by 1st June 2023.
 - Up to 6 co-opted members are appointed annually at Council Meetings.
 - Our six Ward Councillors are automatically installed as ex-officio members of the Council
 - An election will take place with Werrington residents attending the meeting able to vote

6. WERRINGTON AREA FORUM

- 6.1 ANNUAL REPORT Including Financial Statement. (Written Reports in this Meeting Pack)
- 6.2 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN, SECRETARY, TREASURER and STEERING GROUP
- ANNUAL AWARDS PART 2

7.

- ENVIRONMENT AWARD
- COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARD
- COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION AWARD
- THE WERRINGTON AWARD
- 8. ENVIRONMENT REPORT : presented by ROGER PROUDFOOT
- 9. CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGE : presented by ROGER PROUDFOOT
- 10. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS [not covered by earlier agenda items]

Matters to be considered under this item **must be received by the Secretary by no later than 15 minutes before the start of the meeting** and may only be included at the Chairman's discretion .

CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023

VINCE MOON WRITES :

2022 has seen activities return more to normal as we recover from the Covid era and are able to hold face to face meetings regularly at the Barn. Werrington Neighbourhood Council has continued to provide residents with many of the services that a Parish Council would provide at no cost to them. Clearly the absence of a Parish Council precept on community charge bills is welcome, especially in these austere times, but it is only possible because a small band of public spirited individuals volunteer their services and expertise free of charge.



Tony Forster's contribution as Planning Lead has been much appreciated and many local planning applications have been reviewed and responded to as

necessary as you can see from his report. Possible future development of the Werrington Centre and the fencing of part of the Werrington Fields area by Ken Stimpson School remain as major issues of local concern that we will continue to monitor closely.

Although not legally a Parish Council we are a member of the Peterborough Parish Council Liaison Committee as representatives of the Werrington community. This body recently held an online summit on Climate Change and the sort of measures that can be implemented locally to address the twin crises of climate change and nature loss. Both Sally Weald and I attended as Werrington representatives.

Sally has continued to do an excellent job as Council secretary and there is little doubt that the Council's success in obtaining grants for various local projects has been largely down to her professionalism and administrative expertise. Work on some of the underpasses has been one of the most visible examples of this work. She has also kept residents informed about activities through press and publicity work, but we really need someone to take on the post of press and publicity officer to assist with our efforts.

A new activity for us this year was the Christmas lights switch on where we had a gazebo and gave out sweets and postcards advertising our Council. This was a very successful event with lots of people attending.

Our thanks as well to Roger Proudfoot for his work with Environment group who continue to make a valuable contributions through various projects across our locality. Most recently work has been undertaken clearing the Boom in Cuckoo's Hollow and, with the City Council's assistance, the erection of a nature Board in the wild flower meadow.

Much work has been done with our Involvement with the Neighbourhood Forum and the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for Werrington, particularly by Sally and Tony. The work on this so far is detailed in the Forum report, including the next steps that are needed to be taken and we hope to see this undertaking completed in the foreseeable future.

Bill Mercer, our former vice-chair has now moved to Whittlesey and so left the Council. We have also been unable to find someone new to take up the Treasurer's post so we urgently need to fill these positions. I greatly appreciate Geoff Smith for soldiering on as Treasurer, but it is vital for our continued existence that we find someone new to take on this role as soon as possible.

Hopefully this report has given a general indication of the sort of things that we do. We are a friendly bunch on the Council trying to do our bit for the community and we would welcome anyone interested in the Council to come to meetings and maybe join us if they so decide.

So my thanks to all the Neighbourhood Councillors for their attendance and support at the meetings and activities of the Council and its associated bodies. Also our appreciation of the assistance and regular attendance of the City Councillors, John and Judy Fox and Sandra Bond. Also thanks for the input and support from the other Werrington and Gunthorpe Councillors.

Vince Moon

CHAIR

HONORARY SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2023

SALLY WEALD REPORTS :

I know that Chair's report, along with the other reports, details many of the activities undertaken by the Neighbourhood Council. It has been a busy year and shows how valuable that the Neighbourhood Council is in the absence of a Parish Council accessing funding, planning consultees, tackling community projects.

We are delighted that the painted underpasses still remain appreciated by the community. Davids Lane is the most recent underpass completed in May 2022 which was funded by a Tesco Community Grant and depicts Werrington scenes old and new. Residents once again

enjoyed seeing Nathan Murdoch of Street Arts Hire and his team undertaking the work and thanks are extended once again to them :



Vince has already extended thanks to officers but I would like to acknowledge Vince's vital input and for undertaking the Chair's role with a competent and steady hand for a further year !



PLANNING REPORT 2023 A REPORT BY TONY FORSTER WITH SALLY WEALD

Overview :

During 2022 Werrington Neighbourhood Council reviewed 47 Planning Applications. Of these applications : eight were tree applications, 25 were extensions or lofts, five were industrial development, four were outbuildings/garages and five were for internal works.

Comments were submitted on FOUR of these applications.

Werrington Centre: After many meetings and consultations, the planning application for the flats proposed for Staniland Court (adjacent to Werrington Centre) went to Planning Committee in February 2022. Many residents had submitted comments and Werrington Neighbourhood Council and the Ward Councillors spoke at the meeting about the concerns

relating to potential parking problems, the high density three storied building being out of keeping with the area, the impact on Werrington Centre and lack of open space.

The application was subsequently refused by the Committee. Since then further meetings with the agents have taken place but no new firm proposals nor planning application has been received. However John Fox has pursued PCC and other interested and responsible parties and encouraged the creation of a Werrington Centre Action Group to monitor and pressurise the Centre owners, and prepare for any future application.

Other Applications :

Objections were sent in for the new telephone mast down David's Lane, which was refused by the Planning Department.

The application for a telephone mast down Goodwin Walk went to appeal and the refusal was upheld by the national inspector

There has been a trickle of applications to build in large back gardens: we have usually objected on the basis of loss of green space and inadequate road access. One has so far been approved (Lincoln Road). A related application discussed in detail was the proposed blocks of flats on the old Lambes lawnmowers site, where the Neighbourhood Council raised concerns about the density of build and problematic road access and provided advice and guidance to local residents who are concerned.



AGENDA ITEM 4.2 : HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT WERRINGTON PARISH VILLAGE CENTRE ON THURSDAY 7TH JUNE 2022

PRESENT: Cllr Sandra Bond, Pauline Fury, Tony Forster, Martin Greaves, Ivan Hammond, Vince Moon, Geoff Smith, Sally Weald, and residents of Werrington.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr John Fox, Cllr Judy Fox, Cllr Steve Lane, Roger Proudfoot

GUESTS: Award Winners with their family and friends

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME:

Vince Moon welcomed everyone. The apologies were accepted as above. He noted that Roger Proudfoot was unable to attend due to having Covid and best wishes was sent to him.

2. 50th ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION

One of the purposes for this meeting was to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Werrington Neighbourhood Council. Sally Weald, with Vince Moon and Geoff Smith. highlighted the following:

Werrington Neighbourhood Council was constituted in early 1972 with its first formal meeting in March that year. Since then the Neighbourhood Council has been at the centre of all the proposed developments within Werrington and has done many things to enhance the local environment. There have been regular meetings and an Annual General Meeting every year. Many residents have been members although surprisingly there have been only a small number of Chairs. Of course any conversation about the Neighbourhood Council has to mention its founder and long time Chair and president Alfred Savage ... after whom Alfred's Way is named. Whilst so many things have changed within Werrington it is gratifying that the Neighbourhood Council still survives fulfilling much of its original intentions.

During the 25th anniversary a tree was planted in Cuckoos Hollow which sadly did not survive. To celebrate the 50th Anniversary a plaque will shortly be installed on The Green.

A photograph display was available at the back of the hall and there was celebratory 50th Anniversary cup cakes wonderfully designed and made by The Lounge Coffee Shop. A visual presentation of the Neighbourhood Council's history followed later in the evening.

The Chair suggested that they liaise with Roger Proudfoot about the work that was needed before proceeding.

3. EXTRA ITEM: FRIENDS OF HOLYWELL SPRING

An extra item was added as a group from the Friends Of Holywell Spring Longthorpe wanted to take the opportunity to address residents. Three representatives from the group gave a short presentation about the work that they had done in clearing the area, removing pool sediment, moving rocks to allow the spring to flow freely, planting shrubs and flowers to create a community garden with seating. They circulated photographs of their work.

They said that Sobrite Spring is a similar area but is overgrown and unappreciated area and should be cleared to make it a similar feature and celebrated by the community. They proposed to bring their volunteers to Sobrite Spring to improve the surround-ings. In response to questions and observations:

They said that they did not need permission to do this work from the owner City Council and other partners working with the site and that City Councillors were not aware of this project. Sally highlighted that Froglife had done work at the site previously and would need to be involved in any work going forward. The group was adamant that this was not needed. They had the right ecological expertise especially as one of their members was a former water engineer.

The Spring was overgrown and rubbished up and it was not natural growth for this time of year.

They would be interested in hearing more about the work that WNC had done at the Spring and about the previously proposed improvements. This would be progressed after the meeting.

After asking for a show of hands, they said that there was public support for their proposed work and would progress accordingly.

4. OFFICER ANNUAL REPORTS

4.1 CHAIR - VINCE MOON

Vince referred to his report seen in Appendix 1. He highlighted the problems with the closure of the Sports Centre, the ongoing issues for Werrington Centre and the Ken Stimpson Fence. He celebrated the work of the Environment Group and on the Underpasses. He thanked everyone one for their work this year the officers Sally and Geoff, and all other members including new member Tony Forster and Bill Mercer who was stepping down after so many years. Werrington is lucky to have so many committed people.

4.2 SECRETARY - SALLY WEALD

The minutes of the meeting of Thursday 28th October 2021 were presented and accepted as a true record. Sally drew attention to the Secretary's Report previously circulated and seen in Appendix 1. She added that during the previous weekend the Davids Lane Underpass had been completed thanks to Nathan and his team from StreetArts Hire and also Tesco's Community Funding for the donation of £1,000. There were now three underpasses completed by the Neighbourhood Council.

Sally referred to the Planning Report previously circulated (seen in Appendix 1) with the ongoing issues of Werrington Centre and Ken Stimpson Fence taking up most of the time.

4.3 TREASURER – GEOFF SMITH

Geoff Smith presented his report in which he referred to the various funding pots. He pointed out that the statement also includes the Neighbourhood Watch funds. He thanked the Community Association for their continued financial support a Councillors John and Judy Fox for their continued commitment to the Youth Award by providing a cash award. He thanked Richard Collingridge for his continued support as independent examiner. He proposed his continued appointment over the next 12 months and this was agreed by the meeting. Geoff stated his intention to stand down as soon as a new treasurer can be found.

5. ELECTION OF WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCILLORS

There are ten elected positions on Werrington Neighbourhood Council. There are currently six vacancies needing to be appointed to at this meeting which were advertised via social media and Spotlight.

The following people were elected:

Sally Weald (re-elected until 2024) Geoff Smith (re-elected until 2024) Martin Greaves (re-elected until 2024) Ivan Hammond (re-elected until 2024) Tony Forester (elected until 2024)

There remains one vacancy. Up to 6 co-opted members are appointed annually at Council Meetings. The six Ward Councillors are automatically installed as ex-officio members of the Council. Following a question it was confirmed that voting was open to residents over 18 of former North and South Ward of Werrington.

6. WERRINGTON AREA FORUM: See separate minutes

7. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL AWARDS

Vince Moon described the awards as being the opportunity to say thank you to those people making a contribution to Werrington and the wider community. He said that was pleased to see such a wide variety of commitment from both within our local community and City Wide being celebrated.

WERRINGTON AWARD: FIONA WINCHESTER

This is the top award being made to celebrate someone who has truly dedicated themselves to a local cause. Tony Forster who works with Fiona, described her work. She started the group several years ago. Every Saturday and Sunday evening, Fiona and some of her team feed up to 60 people - rough sleepers, those in temporary accommodation and those simply 'in need'. They signpost to official organisations for help in moving off the street, support people with medical appointments, gaining bank accounts, and occasionally work closely with PCC to support particular individuals. They provide emergency food bags or hot meals, clothing, toiletries, sleeping bags, tents etc. They will sit and have a chat, and a hug or two. They know their names, their shoe size, whether they like a particular dish, they notice if they are not around and ring them (if they have a phone), visit them in hospital, call ambulances, sit with people feeling suicidal, washed clothes.

Fiona has provided so much of her time and support to a much needed life line. She is such a worthy recipient of the Werrington Award.

GOOD CITIZENSHIP YOUTH AWARD: ANDREW DEMALDE

Councillors Judy and John Fox were thanked for their sponsorship of this award including a cash prize but unfortunately they are not able to be at the presentation.

Andrew has overcome challenges to find his place in Ken Stimpson Community School. He is always first through the gate in the morning and every single day Andrew goes out of his way to ask, 'how your day is?' He is very studious, his punctuality is impeccable and his willingness to learn is fantastic! His Head of Year has witnessed Andrew help other students in lesson and at social times. Outside of school Andrew is part of the Scout explorer group and next year is hoping to go to the Annual Jamboree in Korea and is currently fundraising to fund his trip.

Werrington Neighbourhood Council is pleased to make this Award to Andrew to celebrate all his achievements. Hopefully the cash prize can add this to his fundraising pot !

COMMUNITY EDUCATION AWARD: SUPPORTING THE WERRINGTON SPORTS CENTRE, KEN STIMPSON COMMUNITY SCHOOL TEAM

The temporary closure of Werrington Sports Centre had a large impact and left a huge gap within the Werrington Community. The speed of the closure was swift and we know that Bryan Erwin and Roz Mercuri worked quickly and tirelessly with Community and Sports Group representatives to try to come to solution. The outcome to allow the mid week sports groups, especially these working with Werrington's younger people, to continue to meet is down to a large part to Roz's and Bryan's tenacity and the subsequent time and commitment of Jolene, Nick and Liam.

Werrington Neighbourhood Council would like to acknowledge and thank all the staff who are involved in this arrangement on behalf of all the local residents.

COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARD

INVITUS YOUNG ENTERPRISE GROUP KEN STIMPSON COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Invictus Young Enterprise Company is made up of 15 students in Year 12 at Ken Stimpson Community School. The team have developed a series of children's books focusing on important issues facing primary school children such as bullying, neurodivergence (including autism) and climate change. The team have launched their own website, sold books at events arranged school events including a bake sale, discos and the school Prom. They won the Innovation Award at the Young Enterprise Area Showcase, hosted by the University of East Anglia and have qualified for the Regional Final.

Werrington Neighbourhood Council are pleased to celebrate the great achievements this Young Enterprise team especially as their product is such a good idea helping other young people.

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION AWARD: DEBORAH TOATES

Deborah has had two nominations and is involved in supporting so many charities including collecting pet food for local charities such as Cat Protection, RSPCA, Animal Helpline in Wansford, Merry Legs, Swan Sanctuary, collecting items for Care Zone, supporting Ukrainian Charities and supporting local neighbours. Deborah's support contributes to the work of so many local charities and this awards acknowledges this commitment.

COMMUNITY APPRECIATION AWARD: JONAS YONGA - POST AND PACKING SHOP IN WERRINGTON CENTRE

Nominations have been received from two of Jonas' customers. Jonas doesn't realise but the regular comments on the local Facebook show how much people appreciate him. A selection follows: We are so lucky to have him. The service is brilliantly delivered with such dignity and respect. Nothing can't be done. Old fashioned service with a smile. He is a legend. He goes above and beyond for people, Always greets you with a smile. Such a lovely soul, A breath of fresh air!, Always super helpful, kind, polite and professional, He always goes the extra mile, He is a pleasure to go and talk to. Nothing is too much trouble. Jonas is a great addition to Werrington and this award is not only for a great service but delivered with such friendliness

8. ENVIRONMENT GROUP REPORT

Sally Weald made a short presentation in Roger Proudfoot's absence. She said that it was very appropriate that this was Volunteers Week given everything that was being celebrated tonight.

She gave an overview of the work of the Environment Group being undertaken mainly at Werrington Recreation ground. She described the identification days, the seed sowing days and the removal of invasive species. A major litter pick was undertaken at the Paston Parkway underpass.

FLORA OF WERRINGTON PROJECT

She then highlighted the Flora of Werrington Project a project being led by Jane Squirrel.

This is a project to systematically record all the plant species that grow wild within the the nine 1km squares that Werrington covers. This will produce data to help formulate conservation management plans to monitor change by providing baseline date so changes in the environment can be reflected in the distribution and abundance of species and for the data.

Over 420 different plant species have been recorded including: iconic orchids on roadside verges, the Fine-leaved Fumitory on the UKs Red List surviving in one known location under constant pressure from weedkiller and strimming, Broomrape which appears beside a footpath on the Nursery Estate; Maidenhair Fern down a drain and Jersey Cudweed in one street in the gutter Two species recorded in the 1970s haven't been recorded since. Mistletoe and Prickly Poppy, possibly lost from Werrington as agricultural practices have changed.

Everyone can help contribute to this by downloading the App. Record your plant, and any other, species you see in Werrington via iNaturalist, under its Wildlife Friendly Werrington project. Alternatively, if you spot something interesting, please contact Werrington Environment Group.

9. PRESENTATION: CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD COUNCIL by Sally Weald and Geoff Smith

A visual presentation was made of the history of Werrington Neighbourhood Council using newspaper extracts and photos from Geoff Smith's archive.

This included photos of the previous Chairs, presentations, crime initiatives. When looking at some of the minutes and newspaper reports it is proof that the local problems and politics never change!

10. ANY OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

There was no other business and there was no further questions from the floor. The Chair closed the meeting.

APPENDIX ONE

CHAIRS REPORT

Our last AGM was not held until October 2021, having been delayed because of Covid restrictions, so there is not a great deal to report since then. However it is good that the Council is returning to normal functioning with face to face meetings now held regularly at the Barn.

The closure of the Werrington Sports Centre by Peterborough City Council (PCC) came as a shock to many of us. We supported efforts by local Councillors and Ken Stimpson School to mitigate the effects of this as much as possible. Some limited opening has been achieved and we will continue to push for the Centre to be fully reopened in September.

We opposed proposals for building flats in the Werrington Centre and Sally Weald gave a strong presentation on our behalf to the PCC Planning Committee. Local PCC Councillors also spoke up against the plans and permission for the development was not given. Although the need for more affordable social housing in Werrington is undeniable this proposal had major flaws. It is hoped that the Werrington Centre Action Group can be restarted. We also welcome the owner's representative's promise to continue looking at possible future improvements to the Centre and hope that by working with the Community on ideas, a start be made to this as soon as possible.

The Ken Stimpson Fence issue continues to rumble on. The need for a fenced area for the school has been agreed by the Planning Committee but the revised siting suggested involves the change of use of land from Community use to school playing fields and this has yet to be considered.

The Environment Group has continued to do much needed work organising and working with community volunteers on a number of activities that have benefitted our locality. Successful litter picks have been held and the Boom has been regularly cleared. New Bat and Bird boxes have been installed. We are very grateful to all who have helped with these efforts. We are very lucky to have the expertise and enthusiasm of Roger Proudfoot as a main mover for most of these activities.

..... continued overleaf

CHAIRS REPORT Continued

Sally Weald has continued to use her considerable professional administrative expertise in her role as secretary to ensure the continued functioning of the Council. Her skills in making successful applications for money raised from various funds has been crucial. The work on the Cuckoos Hollow Underpass and the Paston Parkway Underpass are the most visible examples and work on the David's Lane will follow. She has also covered the planning brief until recently, as well as dealing with press and publicity matters. It has been encouraging to have some new faces supporting the Council. Tony Forster's input about planning matters has been much appreciated and we look forward to him developing this role in the future. Likewise Howard and Carole Fuller's attendance at recent meetings has been welcome, especially as Howard's accountancy skills will be very valuable if he takes on the Treasurer's role. Geoff Smith is stepping down from this role after doing it diligently for many years but we hope that he will continue to share his long experience and wisdom as a Council member. Bill Mercer, our Vice-Chair will also be stepping down from this role as he is no longer a Werrington resident. We wish him well and are thankful for his many contributions to the Council and the area. Werrington Neighbourhood Council continues to provide residents with many of the benefits of a Parish Council without any addi-

Werrington Neighbourhood Council continues to provide residents with many of the benefits of a Parish Council without any additional costs on the Community Charge. It is staffed entirely by volunteers who receive no payment for their efforts but who thrive to help keep and improve Werrington as a great place to live. So it is important to thank all the Neighbourhood Councillors for their attendance and support at the meetings and activities of the Council and its associated bodies. Also our appreciation of the assistance and attendance of the Werrington Ward City Councillors, Steve Lane, John and Judy Fox, especially as Steve has also had many mayoral duties to perform as well. Also thanks for the input and support from Gunthorpe Councillors Sandra Bond and Byran Tyler.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

There is little more to add to the views being expressed by Vince Moon, the Chair and Geoff Smith Treasurer. But I would like to touch upon the Neighbourhood Council's two major projects over the last two years - the painting of the Cuckoos Hollow Underpass and Paston Parkway Undergass. Cuckoos Hollow undergass painted in September 2020, continues to delight residents and residents and has become a notable local landmark. Nathan kindly tackled some minor graffiti and has been experimenting to stop the paint peeling. Meanwhile funding was obtained from the Illegal Money Lending Team to raise awareness of Loan Sharks and the graffitied Paston Parkway underpass proved the perfect location for a 'Lets keep sharks in the ocean and out of our communities' theme mural. This has now brightened up the underpass and has encouraged residents to venture out towards Fen Bridge and along Car Dyke. As part of this project, a free family art workshop took place at the Village Centre involving and over 50 spray paint canvases were taken home depicting a sea life scene. A Tescos grant will be used to improve the Davids Lane underpass in Summer 2022. We are delighted that the people saying 'the murals won't last a week' have been proven wrong. Despite our apprehensions about Paston Parkway, some two months later and walls are still clear. We know that Davids Lane will be more of challenge. We believe though that residents who have pride in their community will create an environment that will deter anti-social behaviour. Werrington Neighbourhood Council is proud to play its part alongside other organisations such as PE4 Wombles, Werrington Area Forum, the Community Association, Werrington Neighbourhood Watch and the Women's Institute to preserve all that's good in Werrington and to bring about improvements to our community. These all require people who are willing to give up their time to give to their community, to be forward thinking and to mastermind the projects.

Thank you to everyone working within Werrington Neighbourhood Council giving their time and skills especially Vince, Geoff and Roger as officers of the group.

TREASURER'S REPORT

I had prepared my report to you this year based on my imminent retirement from this position-however recent events have apparently put this on hold as unfortunately my successor has had to stand down. As previously reported I have occupied this role since 2002 and have also maintained continuous membership since first being elected on 13th November 1989 and serving in a number of other positions for nearly 33 years. So it seemed like it was a good time to say " all good things must come to an end " however it would appear that this may have been a little premature unless someone here tonight is open to suggestion !! I'll be more than happy to help with the transition from me to the new Treasurer and from the old arrangements to something more up to date. We really do need to move to online banking in some form but its better done by the new incumbent - a blank canvas and all that ! So its onwards and hopefully upwards.

So onto this year's report the signed **Annual Statement of Accounts** is featured overleaf and is based on our books having once again been thoroughly inspected and approved by Richard Collingridge, our Independent Examiner. These accounts cover our finances over the calendar year which in this case ended on 31st December 2021. So they shouldn't be regarded as our current state of affairs but are nevertheless still representative of our present financial position albeit that over the intervening period several of the ring-fenced amounts shown in the following table have now been expended. As previously reported Richard has been undertaking these duties for some considerable time, in fact some- thing like 23 years now, and has continued to do so in a very thorough and professional manner. It falls to me under this report to make a proposal for the appointment of the Independent Examiner for the current financial yearn and I have duly approached him and he has confirmed that he is happy to con-tinue in providing this essential service. Accordingly I would recommend Richard be appointed to this role once again and your approval is sought.

My sincere thanks once again to Sally for all her hard work and efforts in securing funding from a variety of sources to enable us to take on all sorts of environmental initiatives - no doubt duly evidenced in both her and Roger Proudfoot's reports. Significant funding has once again been secured by her and a lot of excellent work done. Also thanks to our Chair, Vince Moon, and fellow WNC members for their continued commitment and support in some very difficult times.

Two of our Ward Councillors, namely John and Judy Fox, have once again donated £60 towards the costs of our Good Citizenship Youth Award and we are most grateful to them for continuing to provide this very generous support which they have done for a number of years now. The Werrington Community Association (WCA) have provided another generous and much appreciated donation to pay for our annual insurance premium - this is our single biggest outgoing and is vital if we are to operate safely and securely.

TREASURER'S REPORT Continued

For the time being we continue to hold and administer the Werrington Neighbourhood Watch Cluster Group's funds and this sum is held in our current account and is ring-fenced accordingly - see details above. The Werrington Area Forum is independent of the WNC, and of its accounts, but I am its current Treasurer and interface with our accounts where financial assistance is needed. A separate report on their activities is featured under the Secretary's Werrington Forum report.

Finally I must reiterate that it is my intention to step down from this role sooner rather than later but am happy to cover the post for the time being and, come the day, to help with the transition of my work to a new treasurer and participate in any succession planning. I would also like to remain a member in some capacity to give continued help and support.



PLANNING REPORT

2022

Werrington Neighbourhood Council has reviewed 68 Planning Applications over the last year. Comments have been made on 6 of those applications.

Of those applications received 42 related to extensions, 9 were tree works,4 related to outbuildings, 2 to businesses, 1 new build and 10 others. This includes a telephone mast along Davids Lane and a new house down Lincoln Road.

The two cases taking up the most time are not included in the above figures as they are ongoing applications.

2022

Werrington Centre Flats: After being quiet for several months, a revised set of plans for the former Staniland Court site were submitted. The Neighbourhood Council continued to raise concerns raised about the height, density, impact on the Centre, traffic and parking. After submitting further objections and attending in person, the new application was rejected by the Planning Committee against the advice of Planning Official. Further developments are expected.

Ken Stimpson School Fence: This long running saga continues with an announcement that a lower fence would be installed under permitted development. A well-attended public meeting was held at which the Neighbourhood Council spoke raising concerns alongside the many residents. Concerns about the exact status of the field had been dismissed previously but now appears to be a problem. Developments are awaited.

ENVIRONMENT GROUP

During the last 12 months the Covid epidemic continued to curtail WEG events but we have managed to schedule a few as restrictions were lifted. Most notably we have re-seeded patches on the Werrington Meadow and had a good RiverCare tidy up around the underpass that now has the Loan Shark mural.

WEG continues to attract funding from a variety of sources including The Cooperative and Waitrose for which we are extremely grateful, particularly the staff at both supermarkets for choosing us as a cause worth investing in and all the customers at the Coop who nominate us as their chosen cause.

.... continued overleaf

ENVIRONMENT GROUP Continued

We are continuing to invest the funds in supporting our local wildlife. The bird and bat boxes, that we purchased last year, we hope are now providing homes for their intended recipients We still have a few left for deployment so if you know a suitable location that is not so much in the public eye but can be enjoyed by local residents then please let us know.

The restrictions that curtailed our RiverCare litter picking were thankfully replaced by a surge in residents interest in keeping our local environment free from litter. The PE4 wombles continue to do a great job with numbers expanding to 379 members since last year and, to date, collection of 2656 bags. Their volunteer work is a continuing testament to their fantastic efforts to keep Werrington clear of rubbish and out of our water courses and hedgerows. We are very grateful to all the PE4 Wombling volunteers, keep up the great work, you have our full support. Our wildflower meadow efforts continue at the Werrington Meadow near Hastings Road recreation ground. Last summer we held a bugs and beasts weekend at the meadow and were pleased to find a rich abundance of wildlife with grasshoppers, ladybirds, spiders, bees, butterflies and moths all in large numbers. We continue to be fortunate to have David Gwyer, local film maker, supporting us and residents will hopefully have enjoyed the videos that David has been filming of our local environment, wildlife and volunteer activities. David's latest film is to celebrate the 20th anniversary of RiverCare, a region wide initiative by Anglian Water and Keep Britain Tidy. WEG have been supported by RiverCare for the last 8 years and we are pleased to be a part of this important programme. Congratulations to all at RiverCare who are doing a great job across the region to look after our water environment.

Looking forward we will continue to provide bird and bat boxes, wildflowers and to take other practical actions to enhance the Werrington environment. We will be erecting signage at the Werrington Meadow to raise awareness of the meadow and hopefully help Werrington Primary with their overgrown pond. We will have a stall at the Werrington Carnival so pop by for a chat and to get any wildlife gardening tips!

A big thank you to all our volunteers and councillors (Neighbourhood and City), council officers, RiverCare, Cooperative and Waitrose for all their support to date. If you would like to be involved or are a local business that would like to support out activities then please get in touch.

END OF 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

2022 MINUTES - PAGE 6

WERRINGTON AREA FORUM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

HELD AT WERRINGTON PARISH VILLAGE CENTRE ON TUESDAY 7th JUNE 2022

PRESENT FORUM MEMBERS :

Cllr Sandra Bond, Tony Forster, Pauline Fury, Ivan Hammond, Vince Moon, Geoff Smith, Sally Weald. OTHERS : 20 residents of Werrington APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE : Cllr John and Judy Fox, Cllr Stephen Lane, Roger Proudfoot

1. CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME:

This meeting took place alongside the Annual General Meeting of Werrington Neighbourhood Council. Vince Moon welcomed everyone to the meeting of Werrington Area Forum. The apologies were accepted as above. It was noted the quorum for Werrington Area Forum is 25% of the 23 members or six members. With seven members in attendance the meeting is quorate.

2. FORUM ANNUAL REPORT AND UPDATE

2.1 The following report had been sent out prior to the meeting to over 300 residents comprising of Forum members and the mailing list of interested residents.

WERRINGTON AREA FORUM REPORT 2021/2022

Werrington Area Forum exists to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Werrington. A neighbourhood plan is a document that sets out planning policies for a local area. It's used to decide whether to approve planning applications, including new buildings or changes to existing buildings. It's written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, to ensure the community gets the right types of development, in the right place. With the need to employ planning consultants along the way, there is a government grant available. In 2022/23, there is £5800 available to Werrington. This is not sufficient for the consultancy work needed to bring the required documentation into a satisfactory Planning Format so a lot of Werrington's work will have to be done using local resources and assistance from the Neighbourhood Planning team at Peterborough City Council.

Progress was made over the last 12 months. The following documents are needed to be submitted to the City Council and this is the position so far:

• Policy Review: Done but will need updating in due course

- Statistical Review: Done but will need updating as the 2021 census data becomes available
- Basic Condiitons statement: Framework has been written
- Communty Involvement statement: Complete
- Character Assessment: For sections out of five written
- Open Space and Protected Views Review: Completed.
- Neighbourhood Plan: Framework drafted

.... continued overleaf

WERRINGTON AREA FORUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES continued

2. FORUM ANNUAL REPORT AND UPDATE continued

Werrington Neighbourhood Forum is the constituted group of 22 people who receive regular updates and attend meetings to review and agree documents. The steering group is involved the detail of the documents. If you would like to join any of this work then please make contact.

2.2 Sally gave the following update:

Copies of all the mentioned documentation are available on the website www.werrington.org.uk

The limited expenditure was due to the carnival being cancelled so no publicity output was needed. Also as there has been a process of writing there has been no need for a Consultant to be employed.

She thanked the Community Association for continuing to agree to hold the government funding on behalf of the Area Forum. She again reflected that all the work in completing the required evidence is very time consuming. Even with all the good intentions, the group can only do what they can manage with their time and commitments.

There had only been one Forum meeting since the last Annual General Meeting in October 2021. Invitations had been extended to the Forum members, mailing list and via social media.

The opportunity to ask questions was given.

3. PRESENTATION OF ACCOUNTS :

The accounts had been circulated by email prior to the meeting.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 1st March 2021 to 31 March 2022

Income		Expenditure	
Government Grant	£ 5854	Website	£ 50
		Total Expenditure	£50
		Income Returned	£ 5804
	Total = £ 5854		Total = £5854

There were no questions arising.

4. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN, SECRETARY, TREASURER and STEERING GROUP

Nominations were received for the officer appointments. The following appointments were made by the meeting.

Chair: Vince Moon; Secretary: Sally Weald,

Treasurer: Geoff Smith

Steering Group: It was agreed that given the current state of flux with the group that officers were delegated any appointments to the steering group.

DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday 6th June 2023 7.30pm Werrington Parish Village Centre

WERRINGTON AREA FORUM END OF 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

HONORARY TREASURER'S 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

GEOFF SMITH REPORTS :

I hadn't expected to be making this report to you as although my retirement from this position didn't materialise in time for our 2022 AGM it was hoped that a successor would be found in time for this year's. Unfortunately this hasn't happened so I've pressed on despite the " sands of time running out ever quicker " for me !!

As I said in my report last year I'll be more than happy to help with the transition from me to the new Treasurer and from the old arrangements to something more up to date as we really do need to move to online banking in some form but its better done by the new incumbent. Having occupied this role since 2002, and serving in most if not all of the other key WNC positions since first being elected on 13th November 1989, age is now well and truly catching up on me with a very big birthday coming up in five days time (the least said about this the better !)



The signed **Annual Statement of Accounts** is featured overleaf and is based on our books having once again been thoroughly and professionally inspected and approved by Richard Collingridge, our Independent Examiner. As on all previous occasions these accounts cover our finances over the calendar year which in this case ended on 31st December 2022. So they shouldn't be regarded as our current state of affairs but are nevertheless still representative of our present financial position albeit that over the intervening period several of the ring-fenced amounts shown in the following table have now been expended. I feel that the future occupier of this post should look at seeking a change to our year-end to that of the 31st March as I believe the current arrangement was linked to us having an earlier AGM in the past and also to City Council grants that we no longer receive and haven't done for a number of years.

It falls on me to make a proposal for the appointment of the Independent Examiner for the current financial year and I **would recommend Richard Collingridge be appointed to this role once again** - I have duly approached him and he has confirmed that he is happy to continue in providing this essential service, something he has done for over 24 years.

In closing I would sincerely thank Sally once again for all her hard work and efforts both with her secretarial and many

SUMMARY OF RING-FENCED	AMOUNTS
TOTAL CREDIT BALANCE IN CURRE	NT ACCOUNT
AT YEAR-END 31-12-22 = £ 4,	835.17
DETAILS OF RING-FENCED AMOUNTS [included in the above	ve Bank Balance] :
1. WERRINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH CLUSTER GR	OUP = £ 851.63 * [* AS AT 31-12-22]
2. SPECIFIC PROJECTS	
2.1 CO-OP COMMUNITY FUND DONATION - TRANCHE 2	=£ 768.54
2.2 JUST-GIVING FUND	=£4.28
2.3 WAITROSE DONATIONS	= £ 1,361.36
2.3.1 CARRIED OVER 2018 = £155 2.3.2 CARRIED OVER 2020-21 = £298	
2.3.3 NEW DONATION 2021 = £1,000	
2.4 RBG KEW DONATION (GROW WILD)	=£5.83
TOTAL AMOUNT [1 -	2] = £ 2,991.64
3. GENERAL - NOT CURRENTLY ASSIGNED* AND CAN BE RE-AL	LOCATED
TOTAL AMOUNT AVAILABLE [IN WHOLE OR PART] = £ 540.15	*
[* PREVIOUS VILLAGE SIGN RENOVATION FUND OF £800 - PART US PLAQUE COST IN THE SUM OF £259.85. A DONATION OF £500 W COST OF £759.85]	
TOTAL OVERALL RING-FENCED AMOUNT [ABOVE ITEMS	51+2.1-2.4+3] = £3,531.79
APPORTIONMENT	
TOTAL CREDIT BALANCE IN CURRENT ACCOUNT AT YEAF	R-END 31-12-2 = £ 4.835.17
TOTAL RING-FENCED AMOUNT AS AT 31-12-22	= £ 3,531.79
BALANCE REMAINING IN GENERAL ACCOUNT	= £ 1,303.38

other official duties - such as planning - and also in continuing to obtain funding for our environmental work. Also thanks to our Chair, Vince Moon, and fellow WNC members for their continued commitment and support. Councillors John and Judy Fox, have once again donated £60 towards the costs of our Good Citizenship Youth Award and we are most grateful to them for continuing to provide this very generous support. The Werrington Community Association (WCA) have again provided us with another generous donation to pay for our annual insurance premium - much appreciated, as was their £500 contribution towards the cost of our commemorative plaque on The Green.

We continue to hold and administer the Werrington Neighbourhood Watch Cluster Group's funds and this sum is held in our current account and is duly ring-fenced. However this arrangement is likely to come to an end soon with the Group appointing a new Treasurer at their recent AGM and deciding to have their own account going forward. The Werrington Area Forum is independent of the WNC as are its accounts and I am its current

Treasurer. A separate report on their activities is featured under the Secretary's Werrington Forum report - see following pages.

Best regards, Geoff Smith HONORARY TREASURER

INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINED ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2022

Werrington neighbourhood council

..... FAITHFULLY SERVING OUR COMMUNITY FOR OVER 50 YEARS



ANNUAL STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS YEAR-ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 2022

CURRENT ACCOUNT

OPENING BANK BALANCE carried over from 31^{st} December 2021= £ 9,769.12 + CASH-IN HAND (CIH) = - £ 59.42LESS EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME 2022= £ 4,933.95 *

THE CLOSING BANK BALANCE as at 31st December 2022

= £ 4,835.17 * + CASH-IN HAND (CIH) = £ 4.43

(* inclusive of amounts held in trust for other groups and any grants/donations)

INCOME & EXPENDITURE 2022

1. CURRENT ACCOUNT

A. EXPENDITURE DETAILS

B. INCOME DETAILS

	£	p		£	р
INSURANCE PREMIUM	297	. 92	WCA DONATION - ANNUAL INSURANCE PREMIUM	297	. 92
STREET ARTS HIRE LTD	4,769	. 00	COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE	500	0.00
ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS [ROGER PROUDFOOT]	1,116	. 58	JUST GIVING DONATIONS	4	1.60
BANK TRANSFER (CASH-IN-HAND - SEE PAYMENTS BELOW)	1,000	. 00	EASYFUNDRAISING	57	. 24
PARISH VILLAGE HALL - ROOM HIRE	65	. 00	CLLRS J & J FOX - GCYA DONATION	60	0.00
VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES (SALLY WEALD)	91	. 64	CO-OP COMMUNITY FUND DONATIONS [2 No.]	1,486	. 43
TOTAL EXPENDITURE = £ 7,340.14	[A]		TOTAL INCOME = £ 2,406 . 19 [B]		

DEBIT BALANCE : Income less Expenditure [B MINUS A ABOVE] = £ 4,933.95 (* AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022)

TOTAL CURRENT ACCOUNT CREDIT BALANCE as at 31st DECEMBER 2022 CARRIED FORWARD TO 2023 = £4,835.17* [* NOTE : THIS SUM DOES NOT INCLUDE THE CASH-IN-HAND - AS DETAILED BELOW]

£ D

SEE OVERLEAF FOR A SCHEDULE OF THE RING-FENCED AMOUNTS INCLUDED IN THE ABOVE SUM*

2. CASH PAYMENTS

A. EXPENDITURE DETAILS

SUBSCRIPTION (WCA)	5.00
AGM REFRESHMENTS (COUNCIL MEETINGS)	40.00
POSTAGE	8.35
PRESENTATION + AWARDS *	80.43
[* includes Good Citizenship Youth Award £50 p	payment]
EXAMINER'S HONORARIA PURCHASES	30.00
PRINTING	63.95
STATIONERY / OFFICE SUPPLIES	26.91
GOOD CITIZENSHIP YOUTH AWARD - SHIELD ENG	RAVING { C/O TO 2023 }
CAR PARKING (PLANNING MEETING)	4.50
TABLE COVERING	36.00
COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE PURCHASE	759.85
TOTAL EXPENDITURE = £ 1,054 . 99 [A]	

B. INCOME DETAILS	£p
CREDIT BALANCE C/O FROM 2021	59.42
TRANSFER FROM CURRENT ACCOUNT	1,000.00

TOTAL INCOME = £ 1,059.42 [B]

CASH-IN-HAND CREDIT BALANCE: Income B LESS Expenditure A [B minus A ABOVE] = £ 4.43 * (* AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022)

ADDITIONAL ACCOUNTS

THE FOLLOWING EXTANT ACCOUNTS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL CURRENT ACCOUNT BALANCES SHOWN ABOVE.

1. THE WERRINGTON VILLAGE SIGN ACCOUNT : 2022 Opening Balance = \pounds 67.17Interest received = \pounds 0.18 Closing Credit Balance = \pounds 67.352. MISCELLANEOUS ACCOUNT :2022 Opening Balance = \pounds 7.05Interest received = \pounds 0.12 Closing Credit Balance = \pounds 7.17TOTAL ADDITIONAL CREDIT BALANCE (1+2 ABOVE = c/f to 2023) = \pounds 74.52OVERALL TOTAL FUNDS C/F TO 2023 = \pounds 4,909.69

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief that these accounts represent a true and fair view of the Werrington Neighbourhood Council's present financial position for the year ending 31stDecember 2022.

Signed :

167 19

GEOFFREY R SMITH MRSPH HONORARY TREASURER

2023

Signed :

RICHARD COLLINGRIDGE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER 16 th May 2023

16th 1 Dated :

PAGE 13 OF 16

Dated :

AGENDA ITEM 6 ANNUAL REPORT OF WERRINGTON AREA FORUM 2022/23

Overview: Werrington Area Forum exists to develop a Neighbourhood Plan for Werrington. A neighbourhood plan is a document that sets out planning policies for a local area. It's used to decide whether to approve planning applications, including new buildings or changes to existing buildings. It's written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, to ensure the community gets the right types of development, in the right place.

<u>Werrington Area Forum</u>: This is the constituted group of 22 people who receive regular updates and attend meetings to review and agree documents. A smaller steering group is involved the detail of the documents. The Area Forum can only exist for 5 years and this will have to be reformed in late 2023.

<u>Update</u>: A draft Werrington Neighbourhood Plan with supporting documents has been completed. The Plan supports twelve policies as follows :

> Spatial Strategy High Quality Design Sustainable Contruction/Energy Efficiency Car Parking Cycle Parking & Storage

The Natural Environment Local Green Spaces Former Sports Ground, Fulbridge Road Recreational facilities Footpaths and Cycleways

The supporting evidence for the Plan comprises as follows:

<u>Character Assessment</u>: Werrington has been split into 4 areas Conservation Area, Wider Village, Township and Industrial Area. This document details the feaures for each of these areas together with a detailed street overview. **<u>Consultation Statement</u>**: This gives the detail of all communication and the work that has been undertaken with residents. It gives results of Community Questionnaire undertaken in 2019/2020.

Open Space Assessment: Every open space in Werrington has been reviewed to see if it fits the criteria for Designated Local Green Space or a biodiversity area. Significant trees and tree features have also been reviewed.

Locally Protected Views: This assesses those views within Werrington which are attractive and enjoyed by residents and identifies those worthy of further protection

<u>Statistical Profile</u>: This contains data relating to Werrington and gives a comparison to Peterborough <u>Basic Conditions</u>: This shows how the proposed policies link with Peterborough Local Plan and National Planning Framework

Equalities Impact Statement: This shows how each policy might impact on people from various different groups.

Financial Report: Over the last 5 years there has been government funding to support Neighbourhood Plans. In 2022/2023, £5800 was successfully allocated to Werrington with most expenditure being made on the employment of a consultant to assist on the Plan development. At the time of writing it is not clear what funding will be available going forward which may delay further progress.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS		1 st March 2021 to 31 March 2022	
Income		Expenditure	
Government Grant	£ 5714	Website	£ 50
		Consultancy(just under 4 days)	£ 2310
		Carnival Stall	£ 30
		Total expenditure	£ 2390
		Income returned	£ 3324
Total =	£ 5714	Total = £ 5714	



NEXT STEPS

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening and Health Check by Peterborough City Council

Pre-Submission Consultation by Werrington Area Forum

Formal Consultation by Peterborough City Council

Independent Examiner Referendum

Want to play a part in developing Werrington's Neighbourhood Plan either to receive mailings, to become part of the Forum or a more active role..... then email werringtonnc@gmail.com

All documentation is on www.werrington.org.uk



AGENDA ITEM 8



ENVIRONMENT GROUP ANNUAL REPORT 2023

ROGER PROUDFOOT REPORTS :

G Over the past year, WEG has had some incredible wins thanks to the support of the Co-op and Waitrose. Their funding has been instrumental in our efforts to transform Werrington into a wildlife haven, complete with vibrant wildflowers and thriving ecosystems. We've been hard at work, focusing on essential tasks

like reducing litter, managing the meadow, and procuring important signs to raise awareness of the meadow's precious wildlife.

Working closely with RiverCare, we have made it a priority to clear the boom from litter and debris at Fulbridge Road, led by our dedicated Neighbourhood Councillor, Charles Coxon. By

preventing litter from polluting Cuckoo's Hollow, the River Welland, and ultimately the Wash estuary and North Sea, we're not just safeguarding our precious river wildlife, but also our marine wildlife too. Whether it's clearing out unsightly debris or protecting vital waterways from pollution, we're committed to doing our part to preserve this beautiful corner of the world. Fortunately the PE4 Wombles have joined us in this mission and litter rarely gets left for long before a Womble happens by!

We're also encouraging Werrington residents to get involved in rewilding their own gardens and green spaces. By planting wildflowers, you can make a real difference to local biodiversity - and help combat the devastating effects of climate change and pollution. We've already seen amazing results from our work and have encouraged residents with free wildflower seeds, but we know that there's still so much more we can do together.

The conservation efforts around Cuckoo's Hollow, Werrington Brook and the Paddocks have unfortunately been stalling due to limited funding and community participation. We are constantly on the search for enthusiastic residents who want to lead and support local projects, and we can provide equipment and wildflower seeds.



As part of our Mindfulness Meadow Campaign recently, thanks to funding from the Co-op, we were able to procure a wildlife sign for our beautiful Werrington Meadow. We're now just finalising a date for it to be erected by the City Council's contractors. With the assistance of the equipment provided by the Co-op, we tended to the

meadow, managing individual plant species, such as creeping thistle and ragwort. This prevents any one of them from overpowering the rest in an attempt to try and keep the meadow ecosystem in balance and maximise its potential for as wide a range of wildlife as possible. Hunting frogs were found to be abundant



again in the grassland amongst the rich and varied insect population.

We've also been monitoring bird and bat boxes that we have located throughout Werrington, and it's been fantastic to see them being used for nesting during the spring and shelter during the colder months. We're still on the hunt for new locations to place some of the remaining boxes we have left, so please let us know if you have any good suggestions. Plus, we're still looking for the perfect home for our new hedgehog box!

Looking into the future, we are are continuing to manage the meadow and encouraging new projects. We've been in talks about revitalising the coppice and pond in Werrington Primary School's grounds.

We're always thrilled to hear new ideas from residents, and encourage everyone to volunteer and help out in any way they can. If you managed to see David Attenborough's recent Wild Isles series, you'll know how important volunteering to help out can be and that every little helps.

Now more than ever, let's support our incredible local wildlife. It provides residents so much enjoyment and wellbeing which helped us during the pandemic. If you're interested in leading a project or volunteering, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Why not start to spot Werrington Wildlife and help us record species on iNaturalist - we have a dedicated group. Join us on this exciting journey towards a brighter, more sustainable future for people and wildlife a Wildlife Friendly Werrington.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET MORE INVOLVED CONTACT ROGER PROUDFOOT AT <u>rogerproudfoot@yahoo.co.uk</u> OR VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE.



PAGE 15 OF 16

