

WILFORD COMMUNITY GROUP AGM

CHAIR'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 18 JULY 2011

This has been another full and varied year of activity for Wilford's Community Group. As usual, the group has been involved in decision-making about a whole range of things from improving street signs to finding out about proposed wind turbines in our area.

During the year we have been fortunate in having the support of Felicity Walker of Nottingham City Council's Open and Green Spaces Department to find additional funding for improvements to the Ruddington Lane Park. Felicity, with our help, applied for and obtained a grant of almost £30,000 from Veolia to add to the £50,000 already available. We expect that work on the park will begin shortly. We would very much like to see residents from that area of Wilford joining the committee.

Our attendance at Area 9 committee meetings has helped us to keep abreast of issues such as the new street lighting in the area, developments regarding Nottingham Universities proposed wind turbines, maintenance, or otherwise, of planters in our streets and generally insisting that the committee pays attention to the needs and wishes of Wilford residents who form a small but very important part of the Area 9 population. Many thanks to residents who have taken the trouble to maintain planters at their own expense and in their own time.

In December last year the Group organized, on behalf of all Wilford based community groups, a survey to discover what residents would like to see in the area. The no. 1 request turned out to be for a Post Office and we have made some efforts to find out if this is possible. Having a building in which to house a post office, meeting rooms etc. is something many would like to see and it is still possible that an asset transfer of the old library building can be negotiated with the City Council. The Asset Transfer group is still working on this, independently of the Community Group.

I need to thank our local Community Protection officers for their continuing work and support on our behalf. In particular Alan Wardle has managed to achieve a great improvement in the tidiness and cleanliness of Wilford Green. He has insisted on the Coop doing their bit to help with clearing the endless litter left, mostly, by school pupils at lunch time.

The police too are as helpful as they can be and keep us posted in relation to crime figures and things to look out for. Thank you for that.

There is a long list of additional items I could mention but won't. What I would say is the coming year is an important one for Wilford. Development of the tram will mean disruption for the area but also there will be money available to put things right again. I am leaving the committee and Wilford but I hope the group will make sure things are done properly and that the views of local residents are made known and respected.

Stephanie Taylor
July 2011

