

# Wilford Community Group

*Striving to build a safe, vibrant local community for all*

Email: WilfordCG@hotmail.com

Website: www.thisiswilford.org.uk

Facebook: This is Wilford

## Meeting Minutes

<b>Attendees</b>	Sophie Blaken (SB) – Chair, Pat Huxley (PH) – Vice-Chair, Jude Nicholas (JD) - Treasurer, Bob Atherton (BA), Pam Duesbury (PD), Emily Gammon (EG), Brian Hardy (BH), Rebecca Ironmonger (RI), Joanne Mist (JM), Bill Roughton (BR), Clare Roughton (CR), Stephany Schild (SS), Heidi Shewell-Cooper (HSC), Jonathan Shewell-Cooper (JSC), Robert Nicholas (RN)
<b>Also Present</b>	ClIr Andrew Rule (AR), Leo Bircham (LB) and Tom (Musical Event Organiser)
<b>Where</b>	The Ferry Inn, Main Road, Wilford
<b>When</b>	19.30, 18/05/2026
<b>What</b>	Wilford Community Group Meeting

Item	Description	Action
<b>0</b>	<b>Agenda</b>	
0.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Apologies</li><li>2. Minutes and Actions from 20/04/26 Meeting</li><li>3. Rugby Club Music Festival</li><li>4. Iremongers Pond Update</li><li>5. Litter Picking Update</li><li>6. Community Events<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- May Day</li><li>- Safari Sale</li><li>- October Quiz</li></ul></li><li>7. Community Group Finances</li><li>8. AOB</li></ol>	
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
1.1	Daniel Atherton (DA), Ann Gerty, Jeremy Pratt, Terri Slade, Hayley Spain	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes and Actions from 20/04/26 Meeting</b>	
2.1	See Appendix 1	
<b>3</b>	<b>Rugby Club Music Festival</b>	
3.1	<p>LB from the Rugby Club and Tom, the Musical Event Organiser, attended the meeting to discuss the forthcoming festival to be held on the rugby pitch on Saturday 4 July (one day only). This gave the WCG an opportunity to give feedback re the one held in Wilford at short notice last year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confetti made a mess.</li><li>• It was noisy until late.</li><li>• Traffic, mainly taxis, built up into a bottleneck along Main Road.</li></ul>	

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	<p>These observations were noted and will be acted upon for this year. No confetti, the bar will close at 9.45 pm, hence no late noise, and attendees will be encouraged to park/be dropped off and picked up by taxi at the other end of the Toll Bridge, hence reduced congestion in the village.</p> <p>Tom reported that this year there is a downturn on tickets by about 50%, people having less disposable income. The current number of bookings is 600, and there will probably not be more than 1500 in total. Letters will be posted through the doors of those living close by, and the team will litter-pick the area before and after the festival. It was suggested that the event be posted on This is Wilford Facebook, possibly with a discount code.</p> <p>Thanks were extended to the Rugby Club for letting us use their area for May Day and the quiz.</p>	<p>Tom/LB</p> <p>Tom/LB</p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Iremongers Pond Update</b>	
4.1	BR reported that mowing etc was all going well, but a volunteer had been threatened with abusive behaviour. The police had been involved and were following up the incident with enquiries of a person known to them. The perpetrator had put a post on Facebook incriminating himself.	
<b>5</b>	<b>Litter Picking Update</b>	
5.1	<p>Report from Ruth Brown as follows.</p> <p>‘We have been asked by West Bridgford Guides if they can borrow the litter picking equipment. They kindly spent some time one Thursday evening tidying up the border between Rushcliffe and Wilford. Tuesday 19 May the Wilford Beavers are borrowing the equipment again and will litter pick around the Church Campus and surrounding areas. This is teaching the young people about looking after the area they live in and for their future too.</p> <p>We continue to litter pick twice a month with new volunteers joining us. This month is our 8<sup>th</sup> year anniversary. In this period, we have collected 1,534 bags for the Nottingham City and 110 bags for Rushcliffe. This is a total of 1,644 bags. I appreciate and I am thankful for all the volunteers who give up their time and litter pick on a regular basis to keep the area we live in clean and tidy.’</p> <p>It was agreed that Ruth should be informed of the litter-picking which will take place before and after the festival.</p>	SB
<b>6</b>	<b>Community Events</b>	
6.1	<p>May Day: feedback on the change of venue to the rugby pitch was very positive - it was regarded as a safe space for the children and people liked the availability of the bar. 420 attendees were counted at one point, though the total for the afternoon is unknown.</p> <p>It was decided to invest in a big WCG barbecue – the small ones belonging to residents ran out of gas. AR to speak to the Rugby Club about storage.</p> <p>JN reported a total spend of £728, with donations of £441. Money made from the quiz covered the shortfall, plus we now have some equipment in hand for future years. The financial structure of May Day was discussed, with SB suggesting that the pressure be taken off donations. If we run the quiz once or twice a year it will fund May Day. Any money donated on the day could then go to local causes eg beavers, playgroup, brownies, guides, etc, with a specific project/piece of equipment being nominated, as long as we ensure we retain enough for our own ongoing projects, eg maintenance of textboards. This approach was agreed unanimously.</p>	AR

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	JN requested that we spend more money on the bulbs/plants in the tubs – this was also agreed. JSC suggested that next year we check the direction of the prevailing winds, in relation to the barbecue. Leftover food was donated to the Meadows Foodbank and to the Parkgate Community Kitchen. SS was keen that more of the bunting be handmade for next year, and it was agreed that we purchase a new arch.	JN
6.2	Safari Sale: SB reported that this would take place on Saturday 12 September; marketing was in hand and help would be needed on the day to put up and take down signage.	
6.3	October Quiz: 2 <sup>nd</sup> or 16 <sup>th</sup> , dependent upon timing of Rugby Club fixtures, to be published in July. SB to send a reminder if we have not been given the date by the end of July.	LB/SB
<b>7</b>	<b>Community Group Finances</b>	
7.1	<b>Expenses</b> Breakdown of expenses since the last update at the April meeting related mostly to May Day. <b>Balances</b> Balance in current account £1400/reserve account £4010.	
<b>8</b>	<b>AOB</b>	
8.1	JM: The new traffic lights are still out of sync, albeit already reported. Queuing across the lights – take photos and send to AR, in order to gather evidence.	
8.2	BH: Overhanging bushes and trees as highlighted previously: AR has spoken to CPOs, who are looking into the issue. Advice: pensioners in receipt of simple assessment tax bills should check their accuracy, as errors have been made.	
8.3	BA: On Bee Bank there are two gaps in the trees – can we fund replacements or involve the council? AR will take this further on receipt of costings.	BA/AR
8.4	PH: Thanks to SB for May Day.	
<p><b>There being no further business, the meeting ended at 20:31</b></p> <p><b>The next meeting is on Monday 15 June 2026 at 19:30 in the Ferry Inn, Main Road, Wilford.</b></p>		

## Appendix 1 - Action Log

No.	Action	Responsible	Due	Complete (Y/Next Meeting)

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1	Litter towards the A52 is bad. Write and ask Highways to look into it.	DA	June	
2	Various improvements requested/agreed in relation to this year's Music Festival.	Tom/LB	June/July	
3	Message to Ruth Brown informing her of litter-picking to take place before and after the festival.	SB	June	
4	Contact Rugby Club re storage of large barbecue to be purchased for next May Day.	AR	June	
5	Purchase of more bulbs/plants for tubs.	JN	June	
6	Date of October quiz to be established, to be followed up by end July if not received.	LB/SB	July	
7	Costings to be provided for replacement of missing trees on Bee Bank.	BA	June	
<b>Completed by May 2026 meeting</b>				
1	<del>Remove Traffic and Speeding Petition Update from the Agenda.</del>	<del>DA</del>	<del>May</del>	<del>Y</del>
2	<del>Speak to Music Festival Organisers/Rugby Club about not using the paper confetti due to mess last time.</del>	<del>AR</del>	<del>May</del>	<del>Y</del>

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