

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

Attendees	Sophie Blaken – Chair (SB), Pat Huxley (PH), Terri Slade (TS), Daniel Atherton (DA), Brian Hardy (BH), Joanne Mist (JM), Bob Atherton (BA), Rebecca Ironmonger (RI), Bill Roughton (BR), Clare Roughton (CR), Ann Gerty (AG), Alma Davies (AD), Robert Nicholas (RN), Emily Gammon (EG), Jonathan Shewell-Cooper (JSC), Hayley Spain (HS), Heidi Shewell-Cooper (HSC), Pam Duesbury (PD)
Also Present	Cllr Andrew Rule (AR).
Where	The Ferry Inn, Main Road, Wilford
When	19.30, 20/04/2026
What	Wilford Community Group Meeting

Item	Description	Action
0	Agenda	
0.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Apologies2. Minutes & Actions from 16/03/26 Meeting3. Iremongers Pond Update4. Litter Picking Update5. Traffic and Speeding Petition Update6. Community Events<ul style="list-style-type: none">- May Day7. Community Group Finances8. AOB	
1	Apologies	
1.1	Jude Nicholas (JN), Jeremy Pratt (JP), Stephany Schild (SS)	
2	Minutes and Actions from 16/03/26 Meeting	
2.1	See Appendix 1	
3	Iremongers Pond Update	
3.1	<p>BA – Planted about 50 trees over the last couple of weeks.</p> <p>DA – The spoil heap from a badger sett blocking a path has gone. Now levelled, chopped back brambles along the path to ensure access is fully restored. Emmanuel students are coming to look at the trees they helped plant in the coming week. DA minded to apply for more cherry trees next year.</p> <p>HSC – Asked what is the progress of the bridge.</p> <p>DA – Local engineer hopes to facilitate some pro-bono work in support of the bridge (plans) by end of April, meaning we can then provide to Bridgeways to take to the next step.</p> <p>BA – Impressed with size and the standard of English Oaks 22 planted. Mainly on the border of the tram. Some near the toll bridge. When they grow, they should keep down the brambles and undergrowth. A helpful local helped to clean the noticeboard.</p>	

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4	Litter Picking	
4.1	AG – Ruth sent a glowing report to say there has been a really good turnout for litter picking.	
5	Traffic and Speeding Petition Update	
5.1	<p>DA – Welcomed the success of the WCG Petition, emphasising that it has been a longstanding desire to have filter lights - 1997 there was mention about Wilford crossroads and a call for filter lights. Highlighted that if we still see room for improvement, then we can look into it. Final call in the petition was for yellow hash-boxing to prevent through traffic preventing entry into and out of Ruddington Lane and Main Road.</p> <p>Thank you to both Councillors for supporting this.</p> <p>To be removed from Agenda.</p>	
6	Community Events	
6.1	<p>SB – Quiz night at the rugby club went very well; the final total profit was £908.74.</p> <p>Overall feedback from the quiz night was very positive, with the majority of attendees saying they really enjoyed the evening and describing it as great fun and well organised.</p> <p>A key highlight was the strong community feel. Many people valued the opportunity to meet new people, reconnect with others, and socialise in a relaxed setting. Mixed tables worked well in helping to encourage this.</p> <p>The quiz format, questions and additional elements such as the raffle and Sticky 13's were well received, contributing to an engaging and enjoyable evening.</p> <p>There was also clear appreciation for the organisers and volunteers, with several comments recognising the effort that went into delivering the event.</p> <p>Most attendees said they would come again, with general consensus suggesting the quiz should be held once or twice a year.</p> <p>Some practical suggestions were raised for future events, including improvements to space, sound and bar stock, which will be considered moving forward.</p> <p>Overall, the event was a success and a valuable opportunity to bring the community together and raise money for community group funds.</p>	
6.2	<p>SB – May Day: Bouncy castle will come but likely to need people to monitor, BBQs are sorted between AR, RI and SB.</p> <p>Could buy 2 urns and store them in SB loft.</p> <p>BA – Will bring their sound system.</p> <p>DA – May know someone who may have better speakers.</p>	

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7	Community Group Finances	
7.1	<p>Summary of WCG finances since last update at March meeting</p> <p>Income</p> <p>Quiz Raffle & sticky 13s receipts £325</p> <p>Interest in reserve account £2.49</p> <p>Expenses</p> <p>PL Insurance £117.60</p> <p>Expenses for quiz (snacks prizes quizmaster gift) £188.76</p> <p>Balances</p> <p>Balance in current account £1825.02</p> <p>Reserve account £4008.19 (having transferred an additional £1000 from current account following the quiz)</p> <p>QUIZ</p> <p>Total Profit from quiz £908.74</p>	
8	AOB	
8.1	BH – Toilets in Nottingham are now 50p and people are struggling to get in. It has made news headlines. Just want to emphasise this to the councillors as they are both present.	
8.2	EG – Was accused of fly tipping. Was passing stuff between the path and the corner to the car. To be resolved by the Allotment committee outside of this meeting.	
8.3	<p>BA – July 4th is Wilford music festival on the Rugby field. Noted that last year, traffic had been bad (taxis).</p> <p>AR – Invited the festival organiser (Tom) to the next committee meeting. Saturday will be pop themed, Sunday is country music.</p> <p>DA – Last year they used paper confetti. Andrew will raise this.</p>	AR
8.4	AR – Invited volunteers to help at the South Notts Real Ale Festival, 1 st & 2 nd of May	
8.5	<p>DA – Phillip Ward encouraged the group to consider signage for the area again.</p> <p>SB – Raised concerns that this may cause previous issues around boundaries. May become divisive.</p> <p>DA – Suggested another option be to put an information panel at Ruddington Lane park and end of Ruddington Lane, mirroring the Heritage Trail.</p> <p>SB – Anything that unites us.</p> <p>DA – Will consider options, potentially inviting residents' thoughts.</p> <p>DA – Litter towards the A52 is bad. DA will write and ask highways to look into this.</p>	DA
8.6	JSC – The Emerald Pub is still not occupied, could it be used for community space. However, aware of the need to wait 2 years.	

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	AR – Was a year in May and is in the process of being redecorated with a potential occupier lined up.	
8.7	AG – Phone box has been a success but sometimes some odd things are left. AG, RN and JN are managing this. Would be good to have an audible recording of the history of Wilford in there and encouraged DA to pick this up again.	
8.8	JM – Any news on the flooding on the corner of Main Road. SB – Pub thought it was their problem as per Severn Trent. However, owned by both Rugby Club and Pub AR – This flooding is now logged as sorted. SB – All should report if flooding seen.	

There being no further business, the meeting ended at 08:27

The next meeting is on Monday 18th May 2026 at 19:30 in the Ferry, Main Road, Wilford.

Appendix 1 - Action Log

No.	Action	Responsible	Due	Complete (Y/Next Meeting)
1	Remove Traffic and Speeding Petition Update from the Agenda.	DA	May	
2	Speak to Music Festival Organisers/Rugby Club about not using the paper confetti due to mess last time.	AR	May	
3	Litter towards the A52 is bad. Write and ask highways to look into it.	DA	May	
Completed by April 2026 meeting				
1	Ask council for a bin replacement.	BA/BR	Apr	Y
2	Share the allotment on the This is Wilford FB page.	RN	Apr	Y
3	Speak to council to remind them to send a letter to the residents about the bushes along path the pigeon bridge.	AR	Apr	Y

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