

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

AGM Meeting Minutes

Attendees	Sophie Blaken – Chair (SB), Terri Slade (TS), Brian Hardy (BH), Joanne Mist (JM), Bob Atherton (BA), Bill Roughton (BR), Clare Roughton (CR), Jude Nicholas (JN), Robert Nicholas (RN), Pat Huxley (PH), Roger Steele, Rebecca Ironmonger (IR), Heidi Shewell-Cooper (HSC).
Also Present	Cllr Andrew Rule (AR), Jonathan Shewell-Cooper (JSC), Jeff Mapp (JM), Emily Gammon (EG), Claire Davenport (CD)
Where	The Ferry Inn, Main Road, Wilford
When	19.30, 15 September 2025
What	AGM of Wilford Community Group Meeting

Item	Description	Action
0	Agenda	
0.1	1. Approval of 2024 WCG AGM Minutes 2. Chair's Annual Report 3. Annual Accounts 4. Election of Officers 5. Election of Committee Members	
1	Approval of 2024 WCG AGM Minutes	
1.1	Minutes were approved without objection	
2	Chair's Annual Report	
2.1	This has been another busy year for the Wilford Community Group and I'd like to start by saying a huge thank you to everyone who has given their time, energy and ideas. Our group only works because so many people care about keeping Wilford vibrant and welcoming. For me our community events have been real highlights. May Day once again brought the village together and I'm especially grateful to everyone who helped set up, ran stalls, lent extra barbecues when ours failed, and cleared up afterwards. A special thank you to Dianne, Claire and the Brownies for their wonderful support, the church for their donation to next year, and everyone who works so hard to make it a success. The Safari Sale continues to be a firm favourite, and it was wonderful to see so many neighbours chatting and browsing on a (mostly) sunny September day. Flood work has been a major focus this year. From the early meetings and the successful multi-agency drop-in, to the progress on flood signage and emergency numbers, we have worked hard to ensure our community's concerns are heard. Thank you to everyone who has taken part, from those gathering evidence to those attending meetings and helping us plan for future flood events. We have also seen great progress at Iremongers Pond. The bridge project is moving forward thanks to local volunteers and generous help from Bridgeways and others. Nottingham Emmanuel School pupils planted dozens of new trees, and many volunteers joined the big effort to remove Himalayan balsam. The Wildlife Trust and City Council have helped with clearance and habitat work and we are delighted to have impressed the Green Flag judge. A big thank you to everyone who helps to care for Iremongers Pond, for your hard work in protecting and improving this treasured space.	

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	Our regular litter picking team deserves special recognition. Twice a month, in all weathers, they keep our streets and green spaces clean, collecting hundreds of bags of litter and even supporting Duke of Edinburgh students to achieve their award. A special thank you to Ruth Brown for leading the team and inspiring so many of us to join in. Our red phone box has become a much-loved community library. It is so lovely to see individuals and families stopping by, choosing a book and sharing their favourites. We have such an abundance of books that we are even able to pass on donations to local charity shops. Thank you to Jude, Rob and Ann for caring for the phone box and keeping it tidy and welcoming. Other achievements include: • The successful traffic and speeding petition, with agreement for a new filter light and further measures being explored. Thank you to everyone that worked, and continues to work so hard to make Wilford an even safer place. • Support for community archives and heritage, with historic materials now safely shared. A big thank you to Rob for all your hard work sorting that. • The continuing care of our village flower tubs, which brighten our streets year-round. Thank you to Jude and Rob Nicholas for their ongoing care and attention to the planters. I would also like to give some special mentions: • Pat Huxley, our vice chair and my right-hand woman, for her constant support and wise advice. And for always being one of the first to offer support. • Terri Slade, for being our secretary and staying across all the meeting notes and actions. • Daniel Atherton, for ensuring our digital presence is always up to date and welcoming and keeping our meetings on track by preparing our agendas. • Jude Nicholas, for keeping our finances on track and providing clear reports month after month. And for always offering to help with the events. • Councillors Andrew Rule and Hayley Spain, for attending so many of our meetings and for acting quickly on so many of our concerns. Especially for their help in ensuring we didn't end up with a dangerous scooter park in the middle of Main Road. Behind the scenes, countless others have helped in ways that often go unseen. From those who bake cakes for our events, send letters of support when it matters most, and work to improve their own corners of Wilford, to those who look after the notice boards and quietly keep everything running, thank you all. As we look ahead to the coming year, I am excited to see what we can build together, from another memorable May Day and Safari Sale to continued work on flooding and the pond. Your energy and kindness are what make Wilford such a special place to live.	
3	Annual Accounts	
3.1	JN - Year end 31/03/2025. Safari sale for 2024 expenses exceeded the donations but 2025 it slightly exceeded the expenses. Safari sale made around £100 surplus. Paid Liability insurance and website costs but these were for a couple of years. Expenditure overall exceeded our income 24/25. At the beginning of year, it was £4470, end of the year was £4038.	

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	Need to look at our expenditure to ensure our funds do not continue to deplete. Total income £575.62 and total expenditure £1007.44. Money from the lottery paid for the phone box and information panels along with some towards the jubilee. DA - No requirement to maintain the phone box and signs expenditure wise this year. Boards are powder coated so should last 10-15 years. JN - These accounts have been signed off by the auditor.	
4	Election of Officers	
4.1	Chair: Sophie Blaken Vice Chair: <i>Vacant</i> Treasurer: Jude Nicholas Secretary: Terri Slade Digital Secretary: Daniel Atherton	
5	Election of Committee Members	
5.1	Sophie Blaken, Pat Huxley, Joanne Mist, Brian Hardy, Terri Slade, Bill Roughton, Stephany Schild, Rob Nicholas, Clare Roughton, Heidi Shewell-Cooper, Bob Atherton, Rebecca Ironmonger, Daniel Atherton, Judith Nicholas.	
There being no further business, the AGM meeting ended at 19:45. The next AGM is on Monday 21 November 2026 at 19:30 in the Ferry, Main Road, Wilford.		

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Meeting Minutes

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Also Present	Cllr Andrew Rule (AR), Jonathan Shewell-Cooper (JSC), Emily Gammon (EG), Jeff Mapp (JM), Claire Davenport (CD).
Where	The Ferry Inn, Main Road, Wilford
When	19.45, 15 September 2025
What	Wilford Community Group Meeting

Item	Description	Action
0	Agenda	
0.1	6. Apologies 7. Minutes & Actions from 21/07/25 Meeting 8. Ironmongers Pond Update 9. Litter Picking Update 10. Flood Action Group Update 11. Traffic and Speeding Petition Update 12. Community Events 13. Community Group Finances 14. AOB	
1	Apologies	
	Pam Duesbury (PD), Hayley Spain (HS), Ann Gerty (AG).	
2	Minutes and Actions from 21/07/25 Meeting	
2.1	A sign will to be put in the phone box about only taking what you are reading yourself/family and not reselling. A note also to be placed on TiW FB page about challenging people taking a large quantity of books. - Completed	HSC
2.2	Conversation to be had with the Rugby Club to see if we can trial May Day there for next year. - Move to next meeting.	SB/AR
2.3	No monies received from PayPal so DA to follow this up. - Moved to next meeting.	DA
2.3	Rugby Club celebrates 70 th year in 2026. Want some grant funding and we would like the community to complete a questionnaire and will include it in the applications for funding. AR/SB to upload questionnaire to Facebook. – Moved to next meeting.	AR/SB
2.4	RS to chase up church for £250 donation. – Completed.	RS
2.5	Flood update after next meeting. – to be covered in this meeting	SB

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3	Iremongers Pond Update	
3.1	BR - BA and BR was to meet some people for a nature walk arranged by the council, but no one turned up. Pond dipping to be done next week for WB Cubs/Beavers. Advised to do a Risk Assessment and to ensure adult supervision. Tree planted for Alan Foster with his ashes underneath. BA has put tree protection cage around it. DA updated that news would be shared online and on notice boards soon about future tree sponsorship opportunities in the Community Orchard extension.	
4	Litter Picking Update	
4.1	PD - Still a plan to speak to children at Emmanuel to do litter picking	
5	Flood Action Group Update	
5.1	CD – Last flood meeting has been had. They have a programme of actions such of cleaning drains on a routine. CR – We’ve had Severn Trent round looking at drains. AR - Drains on Main Road are Severn Trent and they are looking at putting valves in to stop it backing up. JSC - Who are to be held account if no more meetings. CD – Need to keep reporting to City Council and Severn Trent. SB – To share details of who to report it to and also log it with AR. JM – If reported to Callum it’ll go onto the system. SB – We have a general email, if it doesn’t work, we’ll look into it – there was a pump with a big log in it that they have fixed. There has been a long list of things rectified. One of the drains at Co-Op are now in the routine. HSC – Can we put a reporting ‘how to’ on the website. CD – Thank you for arranging these meetings.	SB SB
6	Traffic and Speeding Petition Update	
6.1	No Update.	
7	Community Events	
7.1	SB - Thank you to everyone that helped. All the feedback was positive. SS – Concerned that hardly anyone came round for us on Vernon Avenue so packed up early at 13:30. Spoke to neighbours and hardly anyone knew about it. JSC – Was put on the Vernon Avenue WhatsApp group. SB - 34 stalls this year.	

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	SB – Its been on all the meeting minutes, TiW, Compton Acres and WB FB Group. Along with the signs in and around the village. TS – Could we use the car park at the school a bit more for the people on the outskirts. SB – Didn't want to have people outside of the area selling as it's a community sale. BA – People were coming round early to beat the crowd after for certain items. JSC – I think it is a good walk around and meeting the neighbours. SB – It may be better in the summer, but people are away. JN – We raised funds for the community group this year so I think it's worth doing. HSC – Could we do it as part of a garden trail? SB – Unable to due to liability insurance. SB – Suggested date next year for 12th September 2026. To be confirmed nearer the time.	
8	Community Group Finances	
8.1	JN - Money since July apart from church donation of £250. Raised by fees about £120 for safari sale and we had some donations and book sales. Made around £100-£120. Books taken from the phone box then sorted them and put some back and some to charity. Made about £16 from "Buy My Books". Phone box is now neat and tidy. PD – We take them out for the church group and take back the ones not chosen. JN – Roger suggested Community Group pay for the new Christmas lights (£650). Church offered two £50 donations towards it but still need the rest. Can we use the bowls club surplus? It is September now so need to make a decision. AR – I will catch up with Graham and find out how much it is and send it over to the community bank account. SB – Church confirmed they will allow us to use their electricity. BH – Wouldn't the lights not come out of the heritage fund? JN – I can apply but need to do this 16 weeks before. DA – Forward me Roger's email and I will investigate the spec and alternatives. SB – Too much money without a donation to it. School will store them.	AR DA
9	AOB	
9.1	Some posts on TiW are naming number plates and people and it may become a situation. Someone questioned a car. Another is where a car was at speed going through the village and someone posted the number plate. DA – Group administrated through residents and looked over in an informal capacity. We are not responsible legally. We do take things down that are reported. We have semi-admins that see these in minutes and remove when needed. SB – It's not illegal to post someone's number plate online. We are aware of the risk, and it has been investigated. We have accepted the risk. What do you want the outcome to be?	

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	JM – In this day and age they could have looked it up and gone round to their house or could have followed them. SB – This cannot be done – these details aren't available online. DA – We do remove posts that are reported or that we see are inappropriate or dangerous. RN - We have a robust policy to remove these posts which is enough.	
9.2	TS – Please can I have a volunteer for someone to do the minutes on 20/10/25. No one available so meeting cancelled for next month. SB – Lets move the Christmas lights conversation to WhatsApp/Email so this isn't forgotten. If we have the money from the bowls club and donations cover.	
9.3	HSC – Can we do something income generating for the group. DA – We could look at hosting a Christmas bring and buy sale, or a community quiz. SB – Look into it in the early part of the year	
9.4	JM - Could we put the money in an interesting earning account JN – We do want to look at it so may be charged but if you know of anything please let me know.	JN
There being no further business, the meeting ended at 20:40. The next meeting is on Monday 17th November 2025 at 19:30 in the Ferry, Main Road, Wilford.		