

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), Jude Nicholas – Treasurer (JN), Pat Huxley – Vice Chair (PH), Daniel Atherton – Digital Secretary (DA), Robert Nicholas (RN), Bob Atherton (BA), Brian Hardy (BH), Bill Roughton (BR), Stephany Schild (SS), Roger Steel (RS), Clare Roughton (CR), Claire Davenport (CD), Joanne Mist (JM)
Also Present	Cllr Andrew Rule (AR)
Where	The Ferry Inn, Main Road, Wilford
When	19.30, 17 th March 2025
What	Wilford Community Group Meeting

Item	Description	Action
0	Agenda	
0.1	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Apologies2. Minutes & Actions from 17/02/25 Meeting3. Iremongers Pond Update4. Flooding Action Group Update5. Litter Picking Update6. Community Events<ul style="list-style-type: none">- May Day7. Community Group Finances8. AOB	
1	Apologies	
1.1	Ann Gerty (AG), Haley Slate (HS), Jude Nicholas – Treasurer (JN), Jonathan Shewell-Cooper (JSC),	
2	Minutes and Actions from 17/02/25 Meeting	
2.1	Actions are covered later in the meeting within the agenda.	
3	Iremongers Pond Update	
3.1	<p>BR welcomed the IPA work day, went well and good maintenance undertaken.</p> <p>SB updated on subsequent information relating to the Swales. NET has noted that the Swales is not intended to have permanent flow of water – it is designed to go dry at times. SB suggested having an action plan for what to do in the next occasion. BA noted that the EA would be interested given the wildlife present in the Swales. DA noted having a damn to prevent outflow from the Swales, group generally agreed.</p> <p>DA updated on EA works to reinstate site following their works in 2024. Unfortunately, wildflower seeding could not take place on the Swales Embankment. Re-seeding of grass and path clearance, in support of IPA work to raise the pond bridge, will take place soon.</p> <p>BR welcomed progress on uplifting the bridge from DA.</p> <p>BA updated that a deserted tent at the north-eastern corner of the site has been removed, noted further planting of ferns at the northern-end of the Railway Embankment.</p>	

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4	Flooding Action Group Update	
4.1	<p>SB updated that during the meeting on Tuesday 11th March, permission was given from both local authorities to close Wilford Lane when flooding reaches above the pavement. SB still seeking to bring in flooding wardens to assist in putting up signage warning about flooding and to meet with Severn Trent to look further into drainage along Wilford Lane – city side.</p> <p>Further investigations continue as to whether Aldi was draining into the mains drains illegally during the time of the most recent heavy flooding.</p> <p>Drop in event on Wednesday 12th March – feedback was overwhelmingly positive and well-received from attendees. Noted that complaints were received about the meeting being during working hours but this was an unfortunate necessity given those attending in an official capacity were doing so during their working hours.</p> <p>Urged that in future flood events, residents submit concerns. Previous events have not registered as seriously due to a minimal response from residents.</p> <p>BH celebrated the Wednesday meeting and congratulated the organisers. Welcomed the role of Callum * as a mediator between local authorities and entities involved.</p> <p>CD noted positive work and cooperation to look into solutions for flooding at Roland Avenue and with Klondyke Allotments.</p> <p>The group thanked Nottingham Modern’s Rugby Club for facilitating and hosting the event. Also thanked AR for assistance.</p> <p>RS asked whether the group was struggling to locate historic maps of local drains and waterflow. SB thanked RS for the offer but noted that the group currently has access to the necessary files and maps. RS offered to put a former contact at the Council should SB and Severn Trent be unsatisfied with mapping.</p>	
5	Litter Picking Update	
5.1	<p>PD welcomed that numbers are reviving since Winter. AG, in absence, updated the group that 7 bags were collected on Saturday 8th by 7 pickers.</p> <p>There was a suggestion that we concentrated around Iremongers pond but their regular letter picker had already cleared the area. The next litter pick Saturday 22nd meeting in the Emerald Pub car park.</p> <p>SS noted that sock tape seemed to be a regular presence around Modern’s Rugby Pitch – SB suggested that AR politely ask the club to encourage players to dispose of their tape responsibly.</p>	
6	Community Events	
6.1	<p>May Day – SB welcomed that the event will still be going ahead. Location is still waiting to be confirmed. Further conversation about location with Brownies will continue as to whether to remain on the Village Green or relocate to the Modern’s Rugby Club. Appeal has gone out for a May Queen. The layout for the event will continue as previously.</p> <p>DA suggested approaching the Modern’s Rugby Club about donating the BBQ to them on the proviso that we have access in the future, should it still be usable. Agreed to approach the question in the future, following the event.</p>	

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7	Community Group Finances	
7.1	JN noted a £5 donation from sales of Walking Guides.	
8	AOB	
8.1	<p>BH updated the group that allotment bonfires had become a nuisance again. Noted that in previous meetings, it was agreed that the rules would be reiterated to allotment users. Noted that complaints had been shared online about bonfires. RN, Chair of the Wilford Village Allotments (formerly Coronation Avenue Allotments), noted that the Village Allotments have rules regulating bonfire use – the most recent spate was located on Klondyke Allotments.</p> <p>BH warned that it was still a severe issue and has serious health implications for local residents and re-emphasised that agreement had been made in the past with the council about two bonfires taking place only twice a year for on-site agricultural waste disposal. RN noted that rules are strict for the Wilford Village Allotments but softer at Klondyke Allotments.</p> <p>SB noted that concerns should be directed to Sophia Kourpas at the City Council relating to local bonfire rule infractions. RN offered to share contact details with BH so that future concerns could be shared and acted on immediately.</p>	
8.2	<p>DA celebrated the work of AR in submitting the Wilford Crossroads Speeding and Congestion Petition to Full Council – pulling together addresses for as many of the 414 signatories as possible owing to a digital error with Change.Org. The petition was formally submitted, asking for three clear requests: yellow boxing, filter lights and better phasing of lights. The group should receive a formal response by Monday 24th March – if no response, DA to chase up via AR.</p> <p>The next step is to provide formal evidence of speeding and congestion concerns – video or photo proof taken legally either as a passenger or as a pedestrian. Proof should be submitted to AR (andrew.rule@nottinghamcity.gov.uk) or WCG (wilfordcgc@hotmail.com).</p>	DA/AR
8.3	<p>RS asked whether the group would be willing to pursue a community fundraising plan for up to £500 to cover new strings of lights for the Village Green. DA noted that online fundraising had not been very successful for daffodil bulbs. BA suggested local support schemes. SB agreed for the group to look into it and requested RS to forward details of new lights.</p>	SB/RS
	<p>There being no further business, the meeting ended at 20:27.</p> <p>Owing to the next meeting falling on Easter Monday, it was agreed to bring forward the meeting by one week.</p> <p>The next meeting is on Monday 14th April 2025 at 19:30 in the Ferry, Main Road, Wilford.</p>	

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