

**Wickwar Parish Council**

**Meeting of the Parish Council – Minutes**

A meeting of the above Council was held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019, at the Town Hall commencing at 7.00pm.

**Attended:**

- Councillor S Isaac
- Councillor A Carroll
- Councillor A Pennington
- Councillor C Maidment
- Councillor M Harris

Ward Councillor and Councillor P Trull

**Apologies:**

- Councillor G Fielding

**Clerk:**

- Mrs R Davis

Public time (extended to one hour)

A number of parishioners attended to view the plans for the Wickwar Traffic Management Scheme consultation, to ask questions and to make comments and representations to the Council on this topic. A request was made for a public meeting with a representative from South Gloucestershire Council available to answer questions from members of the public. The request was later declined by South Gloucestershire Council due to purdah rules, in view of the proximity to the 12<sup>th</sup> December General Election.

The following concerns were raised.

One resident asked if the 20mph zone could be extended to Amberley Way, as this is a route used by families walking to school to avoid the High Street.

One resident questioned the number of speed tables that will be installed along this route, taking into account those proposed outside the two new developments

Some residents were concerned that heavy agricultural vehicles often use the High Street and these will cause a particular noise problem using the speed tables.

A number of concerns were raised in relation to the speed table and parking restrictions proposed at inset H, adjacent to the Buthay Lane junction. Residents were concerned that turning out of the Buthay Lane on to the speed table might make vehicles unstable as they make the turn. Some residents felt that cars parked here actually slow down traffic, so parking restrictions were not needed. Another concern was that the age of the properties on the High Street, and at this location, means that they do not have deep foundations. One resident was concerned about the potential effect of vibration caused by traffic going over the speed bump outside the house, on the stability of the walls. A further concern raised was that parking restrictions will increase pressure on parking in the Buthay Lane.

---

**Signed.....Chairman.....Date**

1.11.19 To RECEIVE and DECIDE whether to accept apologies for absence and reasons given. Councillor Fielding sent his apologies as he had childcare responsibilities. <b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to accept Councillor Fielding's apologies.</b>
2.11.19 To NOTE and RECORD Declarations of Interests relevant to this meeting. No interests were declared.
3.11.19 To AGREE whether the minutes of the last meeting should be signed as an accurate record of the meeting. <b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to accept the minutes of the meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. They were duly signed.</b>
4.11.19. To RECEIVE the Clerk's Report on matters arising from previous minutes/ not covered elsewhere on the agenda. (Attached to minutes Appendix 1) The report was noted.
5.11.19 To determine which items, if any, of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded. No items required the public to be excluded.

<b>Planning</b>
6.11.19 Planning - For the Council to NOTE the following planning decisions The following decisions were noted. 6a. P19/09122/F Ladys Wood Shooting School Mapleridge Lane Yate South Gloucestershire BS37 6PW: Creation of new access road. <b>DECISION - Approve with conditions</b>  6b. P19/09916/F Poplar Farm Poplar Lane Wickwar Wotton Under Edge South Gloucestershire: Creation of vehicular access track. <b>DECISION – Approve with conditions</b>
7.11.19 Planning – For the Council to REVIEW and COMMENT on planning applications received before the meeting.
7a.11.19 P19/13059/F Castle House Sodbury Road Wickwar Wotton Under Edge South Gloucestershire GL12 8NR: Conversion of former care home to form 9no residential units, with car parking, bin and bike storage, and associated works. <b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to support this application.</b> Wickwar Parish Council supports this application on the basis that it makes good use of an unused building. The plans also maintain the characteristics of the original listed building.
7b.11.19 P19/13060/LB Castle House Sodbury Road Wickwar Wotton Under Edge South Gloucestershire GL12 8NR: Internal and external alterations to facilitate conversion of former care home to form 9no residential units. As above.
7c.11.19 P19/5258/RM Land South of Horwood Lane Wickwar Wotton Under Edge South Gloucestershire GL12 8NY: Erection of up to 90no. dwellings with access, parking, landscaping, public open space, drainage and associated

Signed.....Chairman.....Date

infrastructure with details of the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale (Approval of Reserved matters to be read in conjunction with planning permission PK17/4552/O).

**It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to submit a neutral response and raise the following issues.** Wickwar Parish Council remains concerned about the safety of pedestrians and cyclists crossing from the footpath, to Frith Lane on the opposite side of the road. The Parish Council requests that the footpath also be made accessible to horseriders as this is a route well used by them.

7d.11.19 P19/14361/RM

Parcels PI14e North Yate New Neighbourhood South Gloucestershire: Erection of 4 no. buildings to form a mix of 52 no. flats and 6 no. retail units (Class A1) with roads, parking and associated works with appearance, landscaping, layout, scale and access to be determined. (Approval of Reserved Matters to be read in conjunction with outline permission PK12/1913/O as amended by PK17/4826/RVC). **It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED not to respond to this application as it is not in the parish.**

7e. 11.19 P19/14962/LB

74 High Street Wickwar Wotton Under Edge South

Gloucestershire GL12 8NP: Internal and external alterations to install gas and water supply. Installation of 400mm high external mains gas riser pipe.

**It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to submit a neutral response and no comment.**

#### Reports

8.11.19 To RECEIVE a report from the Ward Councillor. (Attached to the minutes Appendix 2)

The report was noted.

9.11.19 To RECEIVE verbal reports from Councillors who are Trustees or Committee members of the organisations listed below, and to take decisions are necessary:

9a.11.19 King George V Playing Fields

The pitch maintenance bill to be shared with Wickwar Wanderers Football Club has now been settled. It was confirmed that WWFC should take home litter after matches as there is no arrangement for it to be collected.

9b.09.19 Wickwar Youth Club

No report.

9c.11.19 Wickwar Community Centre

The management committee is investigating lockers for use by WOOSC and preschool staff and a security system for the doors shared with the school. The preschool is making progress with storing its equipment tidily. WWFC were contacted following a booking for a fundraiser where cleaning was not done and the deposit was lost. All future bookings for WWFC events will be done via the WWFC committee to avoid future problems. The hire agreement is being rewritten to avoid future issues.

9d.11.19 Wickwar Town Hall

The gutters have been cleared.

Signed.....Chairman.....Date

10.11.19 To RECEIVE a report on the Community Engagement Forum 14/10/19 The report was noted. (Attached to minutes Appendix 3)
11.11.19 To RECEIVE the play equipment inspection for October. The report for October was received.
12.11.19 Items for CONSIDERATION and DECISION
12a.11.19 To REVIEW and COMMENT on the consultation on the Wickwar Traffic Management Scheme <a href="https://consultations.southglos.gov.uk/consult.ti/Wickwar_TM_Scheme/consultationHome">https://consultations.southglos.gov.uk/consult.ti/Wickwar_TM_Scheme/consultationHome</a> It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the Clerk should invite an officer from South Gloucestershire Council to a public meeting on the Wickwar traffic management consultation to enable residents to ask technical questions. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to arrange an Extra Ordinary meeting, following the public meeting, to enable the Council to agree its response to the consultation.
12b.11.19b To CONSIDER and take a DECISION on the action required to ensure that the Council meeting room complies with the Equalities Act 2010. The Parish Council has become aware that it is non-compliant under the Equalities Act 2010 regarding disabled access to the town hall for public meetings. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to continue to hold meetings on the first floor of the town hall, but to move to the ground floor of the building if anybody attending has an issue with the access to the first floor. It was further RESOLVED that Cllrs Trull and Harris would investigate solutions to make the town hall compliant with the Equalities Act, reporting back to the Council by April 2020.  It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to post a footnote on the agenda stating that if anyone wishing to attend the meeting has limited mobility, please contact the Clerk in advance of the meeting.
12c.11.19 To CONSIDER and take a DECISION on the formation of a staffing committee and arrangements for the Clerk's annual appraisal. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to form a Staff Committee and approve the Staff Committee Terms of Reference, amended to state that the committee will be comprised of three councillors.  Cllrs Fielding, Maidment and Isaac were nominated, seconded and duly elected to the Staff Committee. Cllr Isaac was nominated, seconded and elected as Chair of the Staff Committee.  It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the Clerk's appraisal should be carried out by at least one member of the Staff Committee in December 2019. Cllr Trull left the meeting at the end of this item.
12d.11.19 To CONSIDER and take a DECISION on the proposal for a working group to carry out a review of the cemetery fees and regulations. It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to form a working group to meet on 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2019, to review the cemetery fees and regulations.

Signed.....Chairman.....Date

12e.11.19 To CONSIDER and take a DECISION on the proposal to develop a Health and Safety Policy and to seek quotations for fire risk assessments of the Town Hall and pavilion.
<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the clerk will draft a health and safety policy and carry out risk assessments of the Council’s activities with support from Cllr Maidment. It was further RESOLVED to obtain three estimates for independent fire risk assessments and electrical testing of the town hall and pavilion.</b>
12f.11.19 To CONSIDER and take a decision on the proposed timetable for approval of the 2020-21 budget.
<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to hold a roundtable working party meeting to consider budget priorities on 20<sup>th</sup> November, followed by a further meeting to consider the draft budget in January 2020.</b>
12g.11.19 To CONSIDER and APPROVE the Clockwinder employment contract.
The public were excluded from this item as it concerned a staffing issue. <b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to approve the Clockwinder employment contract and the proposed rate of pay, to become effective from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2019.</b>
12h.11.19 To CONSIDER and APPROVE the quotation for the EDGE finance accounting package (2019 – 2024)
<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to accept the quotation for the EDGE finance accounting package (2019 – 2024).</b>
12i.11.19 To CONSIDER and take a DECISION on quotations for work to clear the ivy and overgrown trees and shrubs in the closed and open cemeteries.
<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to accept the estimate of £400 subject to the Clerk having sight of the original written estimate, and the relevant insurance documents belonging to the contractors.</b>
12j.11.19 To CONSIDER how the parish will mark the 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day on Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2020 and AGREE a working party to plan for the event.
It was suggested that the Council consider giving grants to community groups organising VE Day celebrations. <b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to consider a proposal for a small grant scheme for community VE Day celebrations at a future meeting.</b> Cllr Pennington left the meeting at the end of this item.
12k.11.19 To take a DECISION on whether to renew membership of the CPRE.
<b>It was proposed, and seconded to renew membership, but the motion was voted against.</b>

Items for Information only
13a.11.19 To RECEIVE the register of correspondence received
The register of correspondence was received.
Requests for financial assistance

14.11.19	To CONSIDER and take a DECISION on the application for grant aid from Wickwar Village Hall Committee. (circulated)
Local Government Act 1972, s.137	
A member of the village hall committee was invited to answer questions on the application for a grant towards roof repairs. He confirmed that £3000 was already promised with further grant applications being made. He confirmed that a grant of £2000 was being sought from the Parish Council, and that all grant aid would be held until spent or be returned to the donor. <b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to make a donation of £2000 towards the refurbishment of the Wickwar village hall roof.</b>	
Burial matters	
15.11.19	To APPROVE the purchase of an Exclusive Right of Burial (cremation) IRO Summers
<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to approve the purchase of an Exclusive Right of Burial (cremation) IRO Summers.</b> The ERB was duly signed.	
16.11.19	To APPROVE the purchase of an Exclusive Right of Burial (cremation) IRO Griffin
<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to approve the purchase of an Exclusive Right of Burial (cremation) IRO Griffin.</b> The ERB was duly signed.	
Finance	
17.11.19	To NOTE the monthly bank reconciliation for September 2019, and the Councillor check of the bank reconciliation. Chairman to sign as a true record.
<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to accept the bank reconciliation for September 2019.</b> It was duly signed.	
18.11.19	To APPROVE accounts for payment and NOTE additional payments made in line with Financial Regulations. (These are listed in the attached payment schedule).
<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the payments in the schedule should be paid.</b>	
19.11.19	To NOTE the budget monitoring report to 31 <sup>st</sup> September 2019, prepared by the Clerk.
The report was noted.	
The meeting was closed at 10.25pm.	

## Wickwar Parish Council

### Expenditure transactions - payments approval list Start of year 01/04/19

Tn no	Cheque	Gross	Vat	Net Invoice date	Details	Cheque
281		£75.00	£0.00	£75.00 28/08/19	St John Ambulance - Donation	
307		£250.00	£0.00	£250.00 16/09/19	WICKWAR FOOTBALL CLUB - Payment for moving goalposts (£540 - £290 advance payment)	
280	D/D ICO	£35.00	£0.00	£35.00 23/09/19	INFORMATION COMMISSIONER - D/D Data Protection Renewal	£35.00

Signed.....Chairman.....Date

2019/20

278	£3,204.60	£534.10	£2,670.50	25/09/19	Cumbria Clock Company - Balance of Town Hall clock overhaul
279	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	27/09/19	ALCA - Being a Good Councillor training 25/09/19
294	£25.00	£0.00	£25.00	02/10/19	Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust - Annual subscription 2019/20
282	£28.20	£4.70	£23.50	03/10/19	PLUS NET - D/D Sept Town Hall Broadband
284	£38.56	£1.84	£36.72	03/10/19	Npower - Pavilion electricity Final bill to 15/09/19
285	£35.00	£1.75	£33.25	04/10/19	Npower - D/D Town Hall electricity Oct 2019
291	£1,186.40	£0.00	£1,186.40	04/10/19	Public Works Loan Board - Nov loan repayment
310	£31.94	£1.59	£30.35	04/10/19	Npower - Final Town Hall electricity bill to 21/09/19
283	£11.11	£0.00	£11.11	08/10/19	TESCO MOBILE - Mobile Oct bill
290	£177.12	£29.52	£147.60	08/10/19	CommuniCorp - 2 X Freedom of the Parish scrolls
292	£373.45	£0.00	£373.45	08/10/19	CHRIS MARSHALL - KGV stile
295	£200.00	£0.00	£200.00	17/10/19	ALCA - Planning in Plain English training 09/10/19
293	£7.99	£1.33	£6.66	19/10/19	R E DAVIS - HP Ink October
286	£58.29	£0.00	£58.29	23/10/19	P TRULL - P Trull October expenses Freedom of the Parish
287	£20.90	£0.00	£20.90	23/10/19	P TRULL - P Trull October travel expenses
288	£73.80	£0.00	£73.80	23/10/19	R E DAVIS - R E Davis October travel expenses
289	£179.61	£0.00	£179.61	23/10/19	R E DAVIS - RE Davis October Expenses Freedom of the Parish
308	£25.00	£0.00	£25.00	30/10/19	TONY GARDENER - Town Hall gutter clearing
309	£47.75	£7.96	£39.79	30/10/19	A S CARROLL - Oct expenses - plants for trough
	£1,839.89	£0.00	£1,839.89		Confidential
<b>Total</b>	<b>£8,124.61</b>	<b>£582.79</b>	<b>£7,541.82</b>		

Signature  
Date

Signature

Signed.....Chairman.....Date

## Appendix 1 Clerk's report

### Clerk's Report to the Parish Council Meeting – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019

1. Please see progress against outstanding action points/ resolutions from previous meetings, below.

	Agenda Item	Action/ Description	Who	Progress
1.	03/04/19& 05/06/19 5.Clerk's report	Community infrastructure levy – Clerk to arrange meeting between Councillors and Greg Evans (South Glos) on a Weds evening.	Clerk	<b>To be arranged before Christmas</b>
2.	03/04/19 &05/06/19 5. Clerk's report	Cemetery noticeboard - Confirm cost of oak noticeboard with K Bateman and organise a plaque to read: Handmade in Wickwar by Kevin Bateman 2019	Councillor A Carroll/ Clerk	<b>Ongoing</b>
3.	08/05/19 &05/06/19 5.Clerk's report	Burial fees- Council to review the fees for the Burial Ground at a future meeting (July).	Clerk	<b>On Nov agenda</b>
4.	05/06/19 12i. KGV pitch maintenance	Councillor Fielding to ask WWFC to move the car-park opening sign on the pavilion back to the left-hand side.	Councillor Fielding	<b>Outstanding</b>
5.	03/07/19 11. CEF feedback	Trading Standards have raised concerns that rogue traders have been targeting vulnerable people in their homes. They advised that for any work costing over £42 there is a cooling-off period. - Advertise on the Wickwar Forum Face Book page.	Councillor Carroll/ all	<b>To be completed</b>
6.	03/07/19 13k, wildflowers	Research possible verges for reduced cutting/ wildflowers and bring proposals to a future meeting.	Clerk/ Councillor s Carroll & Trull	<b>Clerk to put on later agenda</b>
7.	04/09/19 13a. KGV Consultation	Research CCTV provision at an isolated site like the Playing Field to get an idea of cost and issues.	Clerk	<b>Contacted and awaiting response</b>
8.	04/09/19 13c. Football club goal posts	<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to approve funding for the full cost of repositioning the goalposts, as specified by the invoice when it is received.</b> Invoice received, but awaiting final cost of pitch maintenance before balancing payment is made for goal posts.	Councillor Fielding/ Clerk	<b>Awaiting confirmation of total</b>
9.	04/09/19 13d KGV pitch maintenance	<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to approach Wickwar Wanderers Football Club to request that the Clerk organise pitch maintenance for the 2019/20 season.</b>	Councillor Fielding	<b>Awaiting feedback from WWFC</b>
10.	04/10/19 11a encryption software	<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that the Clerk should upgrade the software on the Council lap top to Windows 10 Professional and purchase a 1 Terabyte external hard drive for backing up data.</b>	Clerk	<b>In progress</b>
11.	04/10/19 11b KGV Play Area	<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED that two additional quotes for the three pieces of proposed</b>	Councillor Carroll	<b>Dec agenda</b>

Signed.....Chairman.....Date



	Agenda Item	Action/ Description	Who	Progress
		<b>play equipment be sought and presented to the Council, before funding for the three pieces is approved.</b>		
12.	04/10/19 11c KGV speed bumps	<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to approve funding for five speed bumps, one warning sign and post, plus fitting.</b> Order speed bumps and arrange fitting.	Clerk	<b>In progress</b>
13.	04/10/19 11g climate change	Develop proposal for an environmental policy on climate change to be considered by the Council.	Councillor Trull	<b>Dec agenda</b>
14.	04/10/19 11n	<b>It was proposed, seconded and RESOLVED to consider what further action could be taken to enforce the weight limit through the village, at a future meeting.</b> Await feedback from S Glos Chief Exec ward walk on 30/09.	Clerk	<b>Put on future agenda</b>

2. A legionella risk assessment of the pavilion was carried out on 22/10/19. The report is due soon, but no major concerns were raised. It is likely that weekly flushing of the taps, showers and toilets will be recommended, and the same should be done in the Town Hall. The Council will need to consider who should carry out this job.
3. Downs Road - A speed visor is currently in place monitoring traffic speeds along the Downs Road. SGC has installed a new warning sign on the approach to the village, to warn of queuing traffic at the junction with Station Road. A further sign to warn drivers entering the village of the Westend turning, has been ordered. A final sign has been proposed to go on the land opposite the entrance to Hill House. This will warn traffic exiting the village, of the turning for Westend. The Clerk has met with SG Highways to confirm the best location for the sign, so that it will not obstruct visibility for traffic exiting the playing fields access lane. The owners of Stable Cottage have been contacted by Councillor Fielding to request permission to erect the sign on their land.
4. Frith Lane - Following a site visit which the Chief Executive of SGC made to Wickwar on 30th Sept, SGC Highways are proposing installing a sign which warns of the lane being a 'Single track with passing places'. SGC is currently conducting utility searches to see if a sign can be positioned near the entrance to Frith Lane. This should take four weeks. Councillor Trull has expressed concern that this will not fully address the concerns raised by Frith Lane residents about unsuitable vehicles using the lane. She has contacted SGC to ask what else can be done.
5. As reported at the last meeting, the first residents have moved in to the Bellway Homes development on the southern edge of the village. Due to workload prioritisation, a draft of a welcome leaflet will now be circulated during November, with the aim of bringing this to the December meeting for sign off. This still allows time to circulate the leaflet with a Christmas card to new residents.

Signed.....Chairman.....Date

6. The new bank account is open and the signatories have accessed the online banking system successfully. The direct debits and standing orders have been transferred across from the old account, but it appears that Natwest failed to cancel them on the old account, and the account balance has yet to be transferred. This has been incredibly frustrating. The Clerk is arranging closure of the Natwest account with the signatories of the account, and the claiming back of any direct debits paid twice.
7. Once the bank accounts have been transferred, the sum of £15,000 will be transferred to a one-year fixed term savings bond with Hampshire Trust Bank, as agreed at the July meeting.
8. VE Day celebrations are on the November agenda. The Social Club have booked some music for the evening of Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May. The Social Club have asked about the possibility of closing the High Street for an afternoon tea party on that day.

**Appendix 2- Report from the Ward Councillor**

**Ward Councillor Mrs Pat Trull – Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge**

**Report – Information for Parishes – November 2019**

A new ‘Changing the Conversation about Language’ project which supports children’s communication skills was officially launched in South Gloucestershire on Tuesday 8 October.

The launch event was held at Coniston Primary School in Patchway and was attended by local parents and children along with WECA Mayor Tim Bowles.

South Gloucestershire Council’s Early Years team are helping to deliver Changing the Conversation about Language in South Gloucestershire. Led by children’s communications charity I CAN in partnership with the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists and digital social enterprise EasyPeasy, the project empowers parents and families, giving them information and skills about how to develop their children’s speech and language and improve their life chances.

Within South Gloucestershire, children’s centres, health visitors, speech and language therapists, settings, schools and childminders, plus the Early Years team will all be involved at different points to work with and support parents of young children. The launch event saw parents and children from Coniston Primary School, St Chad’s Preschool, Little Rainbows Preschool and Patchway Centre Preschool, play together and try out some language-based activities. The morning ended with an interactive outside story time. Those attending were asked to make a pledge for things they would like to do to support children’s language development and there was also a wealth of information for parents to take away with them and use with their children at home.

“Communicating with a wide vocabulary is crucial for a child’s successful start at school, and the parent’s use of language with their babies and young children is the most important element in the development of these early communication skills.”

I CAN Project Facilitator Anne-Marie Cray said: “This is a fantastic project that we are really pleased to be involved with. It will help us engage with parents and local communities throughout South Gloucestershire

---

**Signed.....Chairman.....Date**

about the importance of good communication, and increase parent-child interaction. We want to ensure that no child is left behind because of poor communication.

Head of Education at Easy Peasy Jane Bradbury said: “We are proud to be partnering South Gloucestershire Council to support local families through this project. Children learn from birth, not just when they get to school so we’re excited that this project is raising awareness about the importance of the home learning environment. EasyPeasy’s role is to share fun, simple ideas that families can do together at home to develop the crucial language skills that help children succeed at school and in life.”

The launch marked the start of a programme of events which will run until at least March 2020 and hopefully beyond.

For more information visit: [www.southglos.gov.uk/childcare](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/childcare)

### **Property maintenance pilot gets green light**

South Gloucestershire Council’s Cabinet has approved a new pilot scheme to support vulnerable residents in maintaining their properties.

The two year scheme will help the council tackle run down, privately owned housing in South Gloucestershire by working with the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector and focusing on prevention and early intervention rather than reactive enforcement.

Across South Gloucestershire there are a small number of houses which bring down the standard and appearance of their whole street through a lack of maintenance and care. These properties can often increase tensions within a neighbourhood and can even contribute to an increase in crime levels. We currently use our formal enforcement powers to address these properties where they reach the threshold that permits intervention.

We have recently extended the low-cost property loan scheme operated by Wessex Resolutions CIC to include use of these loans for property maintenance. However, some poorly maintained properties are owned by vulnerable residents who are struggling to maintain their properties for capability and capacity reasons. This pilot scheme will see us focus on prevention and early intervention in these instances by working closely with community organisations to offer a supportive approach rather than enforcement action. We will also help vulnerable residents obtain wider support if needed.

“Run down properties can bring down the appearance of an area, and untidy gardens and driveways can sometimes attract bogus callers who prey on people who are struggling to cope.

“Early intervention and prevention is a far better option than waiting for an issue to develop and going down the enforcement route. We want to work with community organisations to help residents keep their properties in good order and tackle any issues before they become a more serious problem.”

This work will be funded by £30k in both 2019/20 and 2020/21 and will be carried out in partnership with Age UK South Gloucestershire, the leading local charity working with older people.

CEO of Age UK South Gloucestershire Martin Green said: “We know that life events can mean that some older people struggle to maintain their homes, meaning they can fall into disrepair.

“This important new pilot project will aim to build a circle of person-centred support around those affected and work with them to find lasting solutions, improve their homes and so improve their independence and wellbeing.

---

**Signed.....Chairman.....Date**

“We’re delighted to be working with the Council to develop this new initiative and look forward to supporting people and their communities in later life.”

For more information about housing in South Gloucestershire visit <https://www.southglos.gov.uk/housing/>

This is an increasing issue as we are all getting older and its even more difficult if you are on your own. If I can help in any way please contact me. Councillor Pat Trull

### **Heath Inequalities**

Since the enactment of the Health and Social Care Act (2012), legal duties have been introduced for health bodies to have due regard in reducing health inequalities within England. However, as the ground-breaking Marmot Review approaches its 10-year anniversary, the health inequalities the report investigated remain; life expectancy in England have risen in recent decades yet increases have not been uniform. Differences between the most and least deprived areas in England are close to eight years. For years lived in good health, this gap doubles to 19 years.

In the coming years, England will face major demographic and socio-economic challenges that will complicate health challenges, such as an ageing demographic with accompanying long-term non-communicable diseases, growing populations within densely populated cities, and wide disparities between North and South. In 2018, the Government announced that NHS England’s budget will see a major funding increase of £20.5 billion by 2024, and the the NHS’ Long Term Plan – guiding health policies over the next decade – makes tackling health inequalities a core theme over the next decade.

Interesting reading. But depends on your post code.

### **One You South Gloucestershire**

I promised a phone number contact.

Making healthy lifestyle choices and advice. Get in touch, call us on 01454 865337

### **Appendix 3 Community Engagement Forum – Chairman Mr Terry Proffit**

**Cromhall Chapel Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2019 – 7pm**

**Attended by Wickwar Parish Councillor Pat Trull & Ward Councillor Chipping Sodbury & Cotswold Edge.**

**Avon Fire and Rescue services attended. Mr Paul Smith Station Commander (Yate).**

Home safety visits are still being undertaken, along with good advice for homeowners and free smoke alarms. A service for private residents, landlords should supply smoke alarms for tenants. However, this does not stop anyone from making enquiries. Telephone 01179262061 (This is an automated service) Chimney fires already had ‘call outs’ this autumn. Please remind everyone to get their chimneys swept. Log fires give off a lot of tar and this will catch fire if not dealt with regularly.

### **Police Report – WPC Lee Bainbridge and PC Ken Smith**

Scam callers are still making headlines. People are still being scammed out of considerable amounts of money. Action Fraud is not very well thought of by some of the users. Action Fraud is a telephone service approved by the Police but run by civilians. It appears to be a reporting line rather than an advice line. The best way to deal with rogue callers is to use call screening and to talk to your phone provider.

---

**Signed.....Chairman.....Date**

There has been a spate of burglaries in the local area. Cash, jewellery, generally have been taken, larger objects such as TV and laptops have been left behind. Entry generally gained via patio doors. There has been reports of thieves carrying ladders and entering the house via first floor windows. Violent crimes reported 32, this includes domestic violence. Crime reporting. Local forums have been mentioned. Whilst these tools are great for getting information into the local community they should be encouraging people to report crimes or concerns directly to the police at the time of the incident. 101 and 999. Wickwar Residents reporting overweight lorries and other issues. Cllr Trull raised the matter of not receiving a reply from PC Ken Hill even when one has been requested. PC Hill said he would endeavour to reply to residents.

**South Glos Waste Management Team – Officer Mr Giles Stoker**

Mr Stoker gave an excellent presentation (which will be made available to Councillors) to the Forum attendees.

Roadside recycling available to all residents, and the success in reducing our landfill. Comments from the floor, ‘why can’t we have a plastics recycling, such as plastic bags, crisp packets, plastic food wrapping collected’?

**‘Plastic film is a difficult material for the council to collect and process. Our current recycling fleet has no spare compartment on the vehicles that could separately store the material during collections. We are unable to mix it with the plastic and metal can stream as we have no processing outlet that will take the mixed stream if it includes plastic film. This means we are unable to collect flexible plastic or plastic film as part of the kerbside collections. In addition to the collection problems, disposal outlets for processing the material are limited, and due to the high volume, light weight nature of the material it is also expensive to transport We will continue to appraise outlet opportunities and if an outlet becomes available we may look to offer collection points at the Sort It centres’**

We do understand that Tesco is piloting this and have a collection bin in Tesco Yate. Black Plastics cannot be recycled. They have carbon black in the pigment.

SGC Waste Management, provide free purple sacks for nappies and incontinence pads. These are collected once per fortnight. You can request these. Also, SGC are trying to encourage multi use nappies and offer a discount kit, ‘Bambino Nappies’ for a 50% discount. So worth investigating and certainly environmentally friendly.

**Forum**

Nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman will be opening at the beginning of November 2019.

Councillor Pat Trull

---

Signed.....Chairman.....Date