

### **VACANCY FOR COUNCILLOR**

We currently have a vacancy for one councillor following the resignation of Cllr Catherine Burbage earlier this year (many thanks must go to Catherine for all her hard work during her time as a councillor), and now welcome applications from anyone wishing to fill this gap – it would be good to have someone from Achurch or Wigsthorpe join the council but any resident can apply if they fulfil the following criteria:

You are over 18, on the electoral register, and have lived, worked, owned or tenanted property in the area for at least the past 12 months.

If you are interested please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council - Mrs Nicki Phillips on 07562372430 (please leave a message or send a text) or by email: parishcouncilforlwta@gmail.com. Please note that the Clerk does not work every day so there may be a delay in replying.

### **WEBSITE**

We now have a new website and although it is still under construction a great deal of information is placed there including all meeting agendas and minutes, copies of our policies and procedures, and financial information. This can be found at: <http://www.lwta-parishcouncil.org.uk>. Copies of the meeting agendas and minutes are also posted onto the noticeboards.

**ALL INFORMATION CORRECT AT TIME OF PRINTING**

# ***LILFORD WIGSTHORPE THORPE ACHURCH PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER***

**Autumn 2017**

**Dear Residents,**

Please find in this newsletter information about your Parish Council and what it does, and can do on your behalf. If you have any questions on any aspect of the Council's work please contact the Clerk, email: parishcouncilforlwta@gmail.com

### **INTRODUCING YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

Lilford Wigsthorpe Thorpe Achurch Parish Council has 6 councillors and meets bi-monthly (January, March, May, July, September, November, usually on the second Tuesday of the month, in The Upper Room of The Fox Inn, Thorpe at 8pm – members of the public are more than welcome at all meetings.

Your Parish Councillors are:-

Mr. Shaun Moffat (Chair) - Lilford  
Mr. Terry Barcham (Highways & Rights of Way) - Thorpe  
Mr. Keith Goldsmith - Thorpe  
Mr. Tim Bird (Vice Chair) - Thorpe  
Mr. Tracy Wright - Thorpe  
Vacancy

### **WHAT DO WE DO??**

Parish Council Responsibilities - it can be confusing to know which council is responsible for what services in the village.

Parish and town councils are part of local government in Northamptonshire together with Northamptonshire County Council and East Northants District Council. Each is responsible for different things.

The Parish Council is responsible for - seats and benches, the village noticeboards, the telephone kiosks, and the Achurch war memorial.

The District Council is responsible for local services including housing, local planning, environmental health and refuse collections.

The County Council is responsible for strategic services such as highways, education, libraries, social services, strategic planning and refuse disposal.

Highway problems - if you wish to report problems such as potholes, overgrown verges, or problems with footpaths, you can report on line at: <http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor>

### **RECENT & CURRENT ISSUES**

**WIGSTHORPE** – we have also adopted the BT kiosk at Wigsthorpe, and are now eagerly awaiting the installation of an oak bench to be situated close by. We are currently waiting for a final verdict on whether NCC will provide a ‘yellow’ (provided and paid for by NCC) grit bin on the junction of the two lanes into the settlement and early indicators are that this will be installed before the winter (fingers crossed)! We are delighted to have received offers of help for maintaining the BT kiosk (the Council would welcome suggestions as to what to do with it), and the installation of the bench from Wigsthorpe residents.

**ACHURCH** - Over recent months we have formally taken on responsibility for the War Memorial, and successfully lobbied the landowner to undertake work on the dead trees around the Well Head, and adopted the BT kiosk (we would now like some suggestions of what to use it for as well as a volunteer to keep an eye on it and clean it occasionally).

**LILFORD** – we are currently seeking a solution to on-going problems caused by vehicles entering and exiting Lilford directly onto the A605, and are in talks with NCC re the provision of a ‘red’ grit bin (provided and paid for by the Parish Council) to be placed near to the junction with the Pilton road, this should be in place for this winter.

**THORPE** – You may have noticed (and hopefully admired) the new village noticeboard which replaced the much dilapidated one that stood there previously. We continually lobby NCC re the on-going issues caused by HGV’s ignoring the weight limit on the bridges on the Aldwinckle Road, as well as the condition of the A605 and are pleased to note that additional funding from central government has been made available for essential repairs to be carried out.

### **GRANTS**

We have been fortunate to obtain several grants over the last year or so thanks to our County Councillor Mrs. Wendy Brackenbury, and to our District Councillor Mr, Geoff Shacklock which have enabled us to adopt the BT kiosks at Achurch and Wigsthorpe, paid for the Thorpe noticeboard and the Lilford grit bin, and partially funded the purchase of the Wigsthorpe bench, without their help we would not have been able to fund these items.