

The Parish Council met on the very last day of March, and Councillors wanted to draw attention to a few key items from that meeting. As always, formal minutes can be found on the Parish Noticeboard beside the (newly re-roofed!) bus-shelter and on the Parish Council website.

<https://www.wingrutland-pc.gov.uk/agendas-and-minutes.html>

Resignation of Cllr Tulloch

The formal resignation of Councillor Richard Tulloch was noted, and Richard was warmly thanked for his many years of dedicated service to the community as a Parish Councillor. RCC had already been notified of the resignation which, following the departure of John De Jardin last year, created a second vacancy on the Council. An election having been requested, nominations were invited by RCC. We have learnt since the meeting that only one nomination was submitted before the deadline, Mike Adams of Wing Hall Farm, who is thereby appointed a Councillor. There will therefore be no Parish Council election on 6th May. However there remains one vacancy on the Council and a further call for nominations will be issued in due course.

Anglian Water

A major item of business was an invited presentation by Dan Odlin and colleagues from Anglian Water, who outlined the company's plans to construct a new building on the AW site behind Mill Close. This is required to enable a switch to hypochlorite rather than chlorine as a sterilising agent. A planning application will be submitted shortly, and Councillors and other residents will be able to comment on that. Subject to permission being granted, construction work is expected to commence in August and will take about a year.

Ultra-fast Broadband

The Council were informed of an opportunity to capitalise on the new Village Hall broadband connection, by getting Openreach to install additional fibre infrastructure across the village which would allow residents and businesses to order Ultrafast services. Mark Sayers has kindly agreed to look into this on the Council's behalf.

Wing Maze

Following a site meeting with Cllr. Oakley, RCC have agreed to fund an initial programme of work to restore the Maze to the condition expected by Historic England. Subsequent upkeep, costed at approx. £625 p.a., might then fall on the Parish Council. The Council intends to seek sponsorship from the local business community to cover this cost.

Contact database

The Council would like to establish a contact database to facilitate communication with parishioners, for instance to inform everyone of social events, to consult on the Neighbourhood Plan, and to distribute documents such as this newsletter. Residents will be contacted about this in the near future. (Under prevailing data regulations the information acquired previously by the Covid Support Group can only be used for purposes that relate strictly to Covid support).

Parish Councils Forum

The Chairman reported on the most recent meeting of the Parish Councils Forum, a monthly gathering hosted by RCC.

Cllr Lucy Stephenson had spoken about an RCC initiative to establish a climate action group, which will seek to create a community-driven network to address carbon footprints at the levels of individuals, communities and the whole county. Wing's own David Wood, speaking as Rutland's High Sheriff elect (an appointment on which he is to be warmly congratulated) outlined his ambition to visit every village in the County to discover what communities are doing in relation to climate change and biodiversity, and to present awards to the best villages at the end of the year. Time for environmental action in Wing?

Cllr Oliver Hemsley spoke about the 'Future Rutland Conversation' that he is launching with the aim of finding out what matters most to the lives of the people of Rutland and what they see for the future of the county.

<https://www.rutland.gov.uk/my-council/council-news/the-future-rutland-conversation-have-your-say-on-rutlands-future/>

RCC will be creating a new online engagement platform and hosting a series of virtual conversations, which are open to everyone, and all residents are encouraged to take part and make their views known.

Next Meeting

The next meeting, on Weds 26th May is the Annual Parish Meeting, and with the relaxation of Covid restrictions and an end to the temporary dispensation to hold formal meetings online, it will be held in the Village Hall, albeit still with appropriate measures for social distancing.