

# Parish Newsletter Late Summer 2023



## Wilcot, Huish and Oare Parish Council

### Welcome from the Chairman

Into the Autumn - where did the summer go? I would like to apologise to all our residents for the dire state of our pavements, gutters, gullies, road surfaces etc. For over a year, the Clerk has been liaising with Wiltshire Highways who as yet have done nothing to address our issues. We will continue to demand value for money for our residents. If you wish to help, please write to Cllr Clewer at County Hall to let him know how you feel about the Council's treatment of our Parish. **Councillor Dee Nix**

### Pre-empting the winter weather...

Please could all landowners ensure ditches are cleared in good time to maximise drainage efficiency once the autumn rains set in.

### Forthcoming road closures

4<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> September – the C8 Wilcot to Pewsey road will be closed between Black Barn and Cross Hayes for Scottish and Southern Power Distribution to excavate joint hole in verge and 5.8 meters of trenching in carriageway and other associated works.

21<sup>st</sup> September – C268 Huish Lane will be closed at Huish for Openreach to carry out safe access required to carriageway box for engineers to provide a service to a customer.

25<sup>th</sup> September – C8 Alton to Wilcot will be closed at Alton for Wessex Water to complete cleaning and CCTV surveys of the sewers.

31<sup>st</sup> October – C8 will be closed between Alton and the Stowell turning for Wiltshire Council to carry out urgent reactive patching works for SCRIM defect.

Check <https://one.network/> for all road closures.

### Wiltshire Local Plan Consultation

The consultation runs from 27<sup>th</sup> September to 22<sup>nd</sup> November, with drop-in events at Devizes Library on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October and Marlborough Library on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October, both from 3-7pm. A webinar will be held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October.

### New bus service

To download the Wiltshire Connect app, please go to [www.wiltshireconnect.co.uk](http://www.wiltshireconnect.co.uk) For further information and to book the bus by telephone, call the helpline on 01225 712900.

### Voluntary roles available

**Community Emergency Contacts** – Wiltshire Council is updating its register of those who are willing to be the first point of contact for their village in the event of an incident.

**Tree Warden** – Wiltshire Council is aiming to revive this scheme whereby every village has a tree warden, to keep an eye on existing trees and spot suitable locations for new ones.

**LINK** – this charity is looking for drivers willing to use their own cars to chauffeur people to and from medical appointments, shops etc.

Please contact the Clerk for further details if you are interested in any of these roles.

### Community Speedwatch (CSW)

The Oare Team is pleased to welcome a new member who has come forward to help with duties along the A345; the more team members we have, the more sessions we can hold which in turn will go a long way to reducing average speeds through Oare, which is recognised by police as one of the two worst speeding hot spots in this part of Wiltshire. Most of the training is online, with roadside training provided by Councillor Dee Nix. If you are able and willing to give a few hours each month, please contact the Clerk, or Councillor Nix.

### **All things historical!**

**Pewsey People** – an exciting new project whereby Pewsey Vale Local History Research Group, in conjunction with the Heritage Centre is developing a photographic archive of groups of local people. Residents are asked to bring their photos to be scanned for free at The Education Centre, Pewsey Heritage Centre, between 1000 and 1300 hours on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September.

Any questions, please contact Wendy on 01672 564241 or email [lawrence.jazz4us@gmail.com](mailto:lawrence.jazz4us@gmail.com)

**Wiltshire Local History Network** - This Network aims to connect those who have an interest in the history of our county, to share knowledge and provide a valuable point of contact. You'll also hear all about what's going on in the county's heritage organisations such as the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre, Wiltshire Victoria County History, Wiltshire Museum and more. The network meets four times a year online via Zoom on a Wednesday evening at 7.30pm. Membership is free and includes a free place at the forthcoming conference on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at Rowdefield Farm Training Centre - 'Bread or Blood: Social Protest and Unrest in Wiltshire'.

Contact the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre via [archives@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:archives@wiltshire.gov.uk) or tel. 01249 70550 to join the Network or to find out more.

**Wiltshire Online History Portal** – the updated <https://apps.wiltshire.gov.uk/communityhistory> gives a general history of each parish with further information on schools and churches. Contents include maps, details about local authors, literary and creative associations in the county, photographs, along with information such as the most useful newspapers for research, population statistics etc in the Local Studies Library at the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre.

### **New Wiltshire Heritage App**

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/news/explore-wiltshire-new-heritage-app>

### **Victoria County History Wiltshire**

The Wiltshire Victoria County History Trust continues to progress work on its multi-volume comprehensive history of the county. With 18 out of an eventual 25 volumes already published, volumes 19 (covering the area around Mere) and 20 (Chippenham and its surroundings) are both close to completion, and volume 21 (Aldbury and the far south-east of the county) is under way. Current and past volumes can be accessed online at their website, <https://www.wiltshirehistory.org/> which also gives details of this year's programme of online talks.

### **Police matters**

Wiltshire Police are focusing on reducing road casualties caused by the '[Fatal Five](#)' - excess speed, drink/drug driving, driving while using a mobile phone, not wearing a seatbelt and careless/dangerous driving.

Police and Crime Commissioner Philip Wilkinson has launched a survey to explore how crime is affecting rural communities, by asking residents if they have been the victim of any crimes in the last 12 months as well as asking what rural crimes concern them the most.

[bit.ly/RuralCrimeSurvey2023WS101](https://bit.ly/RuralCrimeSurvey2023WS101)

Sign up for updates direct to your inbox at <https://www.wiltsmessaging.co.uk/>

### **Parish Council Meeting Dates 2023-24**

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September, Wilcot

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, Oare

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January, Wilcot

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March, Oare

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, Oare – Annual Meetings

**Chair:** Dee Nix

**Vice Chair:** Dawn Wilson

**Clerk:** Ruth Kinderman

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