THE WILLESBOROUGH AND HIGHFIELD VIEW







Cllr Liz Wright



Cllr. Dawnie Nilsson

DEAR RESIDENTS...

In our first newsletter of the year, we're delighted to welcome Dawnie to our local team of Councillors, she'll be a great asset and will work hard to represent the Highfield Community.

All of us will be out in our respective wards over the coming months undertaking 60 second surveys to find out your views about where we live. These are usually undertaken a road at a time, so it can take a while to get round to everyone. If you want to talk to us about any issues in the meantime, please use our contact details on the back page to get in touch.

We know that most of us are extremely worried about the energy crisis, and increases to our household bills. There is help and support available. We don't want to see anyone having to choose between heating and eating. Please do contact the Council, your energy suppliers or Citizens advice for help. We've added some useful numbers on the back page.

Steve, Liz and Dawnie



Above (Left to right): Cllr Steve Campkin, Cllr Liz Wright and Cllr Dawnie Nilsson

HUNTER AVENUE RECREATION GROUND

We're sure, like us, you're excited to see the work on the play park in Hunter Avenue finally going ahead. We've worked closely with the Ashford Borough Council Officers, who have done a great job, and we are sure you are going to love the finished result.

We know it's been a long time coming, but we've made sure it includes something for everyone!



WOMBLES OF WILLESBOROUGH



Steve, Dawnie and volunteer Wombles at a recent community litter pick.

The Wombles are out and about helping to keep our community looking great. Recent community litter picks have included the entrance to Conningbrook Lakes and the roadside areas leading back into Willesborough from there, and also the Hythe Road recreation ground. You can find details of their events on their facebook page — www.facebook.com/womblesofwboro

In March, they have been invited to help give South Willesborough a spring clean — meeting at **2pm on Saturday 26th March in the SWAN Community Centre Car Park.** Litter Pickers, hi-viz and bin bags are available to use — just wear sturdy shoes and gloves.

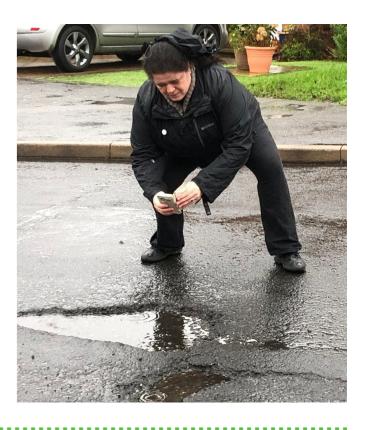
WARD WALK

As you know we undertake regular ward walks to take note of pot holes, street lighting, blocked drains, and various other issues, but it's always worth telling us about them, so that we can get them fixed quickly. Every day we are reporting something such as the damaged manhole cover in Kennington Road which has been reported as a matter of urgency.

If you'd like us to take a look at a particular street, or join us on a ward walk – just get in touch via our contact details on the back page.

Pictured right:

Dawnie, reporting potholes on a recent ward walk in Highfield.



HIGHFIELD IMPROVEMENTS

Dawnie is currently looking into improvements in the area including to the football goal posts and the goal area in the Church Road Sevington Play Park, and the pathways by the side of the stream at the rear of the Highfield Estate. If you have any ideas for other improvements we'd love to hear them.



WILLIAM HARVEY HOSPITAL PARKING

We're very aware of the problems being caused by the building of the Nightingale Hub at the hospital. Visitors are parking in nearby roads and staff being ferried in from the Julie Rose Stadium. We do not know how permanent this situation will be. If you are aware of any additional problems this is causing, please let us know.



FANCY A CUPPA?

The Well Cafe, Willesborough Baptist Church, Hythe Road is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays 9.30_{AM} - 12.00_{PM}.

INSPIRE at St Mary's church open Monday to Friday 9.30_{AM} - 1.00_{PM}.

Coffee afternoon at the **WI Hall** is on Wednesdays 1.30_{PM} - 3.30_{PM}.

Willesborough Windmill is open Weekends and Bank Holidays – April to September for teas and visits.



COUNCILLOR SURGERIES

If there is an issue you want to discuss, you can come and see us at The Well Café at Willesborough Baptist Church, Hythe Road on Saturday Mornings.

Dawnie will be there on the first Saturday of every month.

Steve and/or Liz, are there most Saturdays — to discuss Kent County Council, or Ashford Borough Council issues.

Whether you are a Highfield resident or a Willesborough resident, you can confidently speak to any of us as we work together on your behalf to get things done.



USEFUL CONTACTS

Ashford Borough Council:

01233 331111

Ashford Citizens Advice 01233 626185

Stepchange Debt Charity 0800 138 1111

Household Support Fund

ashford.gov.uk/benefits /claiming-benefits /household-support-fund/





If you have a comment or query about our area, we'd love to know. Get in touch via email or our social media pages.



Clir Steve Campkin Kent County Councillor for Ashford East and Ashford Borough Councillor for Willesborough

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COMMUNITY GRANTS AVAILABLE



Did you know that all Ashford Borough Councillors have access to a Member Grant? That's a small sum of money each year that can be allocated for suitable community projects for the people of Willesborough and Hlghfield. Details are on the Ashford Borough Council website, or email Steve, Liz or Dawnie.

We're especially interested in projects that enhance the community or contribute to our goal of carbon - neutral Ashford by 2030.

We've previously donated funds to the Willesborough WI, The Wombles of Willesborough, The Windmill, Pilgrims Hospices, The Hythe Road Recreation Ground, and we're currently working on making funds available for a defibrillator in Church Road Sevington.

Together we can make Willesborough and Highfield a better, safer and cleaner place to live and work.



Liz and Steve have used some money from their Member's Grants to fund new gazebos for Pilgrims Hospices fundraising team.



The phone box in Church Road Sevington will become home to a difbrillator this year.









WORKING HARD ALL YEAR ROUND

