

Worplesdon Parish Council Newsletter



SPRING 2025



Groundstaff – Vacancy

Worplesdon Parish Council's Head Groundsman, Peter Trevena, has announced his retirement. We wish Peter a long and happy retirement with his wife, Anita!

Andy Connor will be promoted to the position of Senior Groundsman.

If you would be interested in filling the part-time groundstaff role (2-days per week), please look on our website for further details:

Working outdoors at locations across the Parish the new staff member will be required to undertake a wide range of tasks including: grass cutting, playground inspections, general asset inspections and repair, emptying litter bins, litter picking, painting, ditch clearance, installation of posts, vegetation clearance, and general repairs to benches and bus shelters.

The ideal candidate will preferably live within Worplesdon Parish, have experience in outdoor, manual work. An enthusiasm for working with the local community is essential.

The successful applicant must be computer literate and have:

- Good verbal communication skills
 - A good telephone manner
 - The ability to work under pressure and to deadlines
 - The ability to work contracted hours at flexible times during weekdays (and on rare occasions at weekends)
 - Drive, determination, and organisational skills to manage a varied workload
 - Initiative and the ability to problem solve without supervision
 - A sense of humour
- A valid driving licence and own transport (to include business insurance cover)

REPORTING ISSUES

If you notice any issues, such as potholes, flooding or leaks, don't leave it to someone else ... please report it!

Potholes, pavements, blocked and broken drains, flooding, fallen trees and overgrown vegetation, can be reported **directly** to **Surrey County Council** (www.surreycc.gov.uk). This can be done **online**, or if you consider a problem to be an immediate threat to life or limb, or do not have internet access, call their Contact Centre on **0300 200 1003**.

To report **crimes** or **anti-social behaviour** report incidents directly to **Surrey Police** on **101** or via their **website** (if non-urgent) and **999** (if urgent).

Thames Water can be contacted on **0800 316 9800** for **sewage** flooding.

Flooding on highways and footpaths should be reported to Surrey County Council on **0300 200 1003** or **contactcentre@surreycc.gov.uk**.

Fly-tipping on public highways or council land will be dealt with by **Guildford Borough Council**: www.guildford.gov.uk/reportflytipping

**MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.WORPLESDON-PC.GOV.UK**





Help our Hedgehogs

Hedgehog Street want to make sure the hedgehog, the UK's only spiny mammal, remains a common and familiar part of British life.

Hedgehogs are in trouble. **We've lost a third of all our hedgehogs since the millennium.**

Hedgehogs love gardens, and fortunately there are around half a million hectares of garden in the UK. Hedgehogs need access to lots of gardens to survive, so we are encouraging everyone to cooperate.

That's where you come in! More than 100,000 Hedgehog Champions are registered on the Hedgehog Street website, forming a vibrant and enthusiastic community. Champions help make a real difference for hedgehogs all over the country.

Are you wondering how to start helping hedgehogs? Hedgehog Street have put together some toolkits with all the resources you need, just click on your area and sign up to get started:

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/help-hedgehogs/toolkits-to-get-started/>

What's on in Worplesdon!

- **Tuesday 4 March 2025** - 7pm - **Annual Parish Assembly** - Worplesdon Memorial Hall - All are welcome
- **Saturday 15 March 2025** - 7pm - **Surrey Police Band's Annual Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care Concert**, Emmanuel Church, Stoughton [Tickets from Ticketsource online]
- **Saturday 3 May 2025** - 12 noon - **Maypole dancing** on Wood Street Village Green
- **Saturday 19 July 2025** - **Wood Street Village Show**
- **Sunday 20 July 2025** - 1.30pm - **Wood Street Jazz Festival in aid of Challengers** [Tickets from Guildford Jazz website]
- **Saturday 27 September** - **Macmillan Coffee Morning and maypole dancing**, Wood Street Village Green

Fly Tipping

Disappointingly, there has been a significant increase in fly tipping in Wood Street Village. This has consisted of a mixture of domestic waste, building waste, and garden arisings.

All of these items can be disposed of through the waste centre at Slyfield. There is currently a scheme to allow mattresses to be dropped off at the tip **FREE OF CHARGE**, so if you are going to go to the trouble of driving down a lane to dump it, you might as well drop it off at the tip!

Fines are being issued for residents who allow their waste to be dumped illegally.



Parish News



As in previous years, the Christmas lights across the parish were much admired.

The Parish Council is very grateful to Oscar and Zoe Shaw for switching on the illuminations in Jacobs Well.



Christmas Lights



Trees in Verges

Surrey County Council's Tree Planting Scheme is open again for online applications.

Applicants should be aware that it may take up to three years for requested trees to be planted, depending on the species chosen.



Blue Heart Scheme

The [Blue Campaign](#) encourages the public to re-wild their green spaces. These areas can feature a blue heart, indicating why the grass and flowers are growing longer there. Surrey County Council are currently reviewing the process for Blue Heart verges so are not accepting any new applications at this time. In February 2026 SCC hope to be able to provide information about the new process.



SWIFT TO SAVE SWIFTS

A swift's screaming call is one of the most evocative sounds of summer, but in many places their calls have fallen silent. Swifts are on the Red List of conservation concern, declining by 62% between 1995 and 2021.

The decline is mainly due to loss of habitat, and places to nest and breed. Spending their entire life on the wing, the only time they land is when they migrate here from Africa and find a hole in a building where they nest and raise young. Modern insulation and roofing have closed up these holes, leaving the birds with nowhere to go.

They are in desperate need of our help in order to prevent their extinction. **This is where you come in!** Guildford Swift Project has teamed up with Worplesdon Parish Council to install swift boxes on houses throughout the community!

We plan to put up as many special swift boxes as we can across the parish, across weekends in May/June 2025. Made of marine ply, with a special coating safe for the birds, the boxes last around 10 years.

Swifts mate for life and are 'nest faithful' for their entire breeding life. Let's bring back the sound of Swifts to the summer skies of Worplesdon! If you are interested in having a box or two, please email: swift2saveswifts@gmail.com





**Worplesdon Parish's Biodiversity-focused
Annual Parish Assembly
Tuesday 4th March 2025 - 7pm
Worplesdon Memorial Hall, GU3 3RF
Free entry - All are welcome**

Annual Parish Assembly 04.03.25 YOUR BIN COLLECTION CALENDAR 2025

The Annual Parish Assembly is due to take place on Tuesday 4th March 2025 at 7pm at Worplesdon Memorial Hall.

Whilst this is a meeting of the electors and will include a round-up of the Parish Council's activities throughout 2024/25, this year, the event will focus on biodiversity.

The Parish Council has a legal duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity under the Environment Act 2021.

To reflect this important requirement, this meeting has been used as an opportunity to bring together a diverse range of groups operating across the parish relating to our flora and fauna:

- Surrey Wildlife Trust
- Guildford Beekeepers
- Zero Carbon Guildford

Also attending will be representatives from local groups who look after the interests of bats, dormice, badgers, swifts, and the Thames Basin Heath Wardens.

We look forward to seeing as many residents as possible at the event which is **free to attend**.

March

M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

April

M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

May

M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

Residents are reminded that **kerbside food waste caddies** can be collected from the Parish Council office, by appointment.

Thank you for reading!

WORPLESDON PARISH COUNCIL	01483 300094
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