

Winnersh Matters

The community newsletter for the residents of Winnersh and Sindlesham



Winnersh Parish
Council

WINNERSH SUMMER FETE

Saturday 15th June 1:00 – 4:30pm
at the Bearwood Recreation Ground

On Saturday 15th June the residents of Winnersh and Sindlesham will come together with family and friends to enjoy a traditional family fete.

Now in its 12th year the fete goes from strength to strength.

There will be lots of voluntary groups doing their best to entertain you while raising a little money to support their activities and some local businesses offering their wares.

Children will enjoy the free inflatables - mega-slide, obstacle course and bouncy castle - as well as the ever popular climbing wall and circus skills, whilst parents listen to the St Sebastian's Brass Band. The birds of prey and dog display will be back in the arena supported by local performing groups and ball drills from Winnersh Rangers Football Club. The wheelbarrow racing and Tug of War contests will again provide some fun – why not join in?

The Scouts will be catering for those who enjoy a burger while the Winnersh Churches will again be providing hot drinks and cakes. Ice cream, candy floss, speciality coffee will also be available as will drinks from the Community Hall bar.

We are supporting Wokingham Homestart and the ARC Counselling Service as our main charities this year and our grateful thanks go to this year's sponsors: Bovis Homes, Nirvana Spa, Roy Wood Transits, AquaKing, Mayfields Guest House and the WBC Tenant Involvement Team.



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Observing the Weather - Wind

The standard equipment for measuring the wind is in two parts, firstly the direction of where the wind is coming from. This is measured by a wind vane and many churches with tall spires used to have a wind vane attached to the very top of the building. The older wind vane would normally have four compass points, N = North, E = East, S = South and W = West. Observers would record which direction the wind was coming from at a set time each day, normally 0900 GMT.

With continuous records over a long period of time, the direction of the wind that was most common could be established and this is known as the prevailing wind.

The second piece of equipment for observing the wind is the anemometer, this provides the wind speed and is normally mounted on a secure pole 10 metres above the ground and like the wind vane needs to be located in open space.

Wind speeds are also observed as average speed over a 10-minute period and gusts. Normally they are measured in miles per hour (mph), kilometres per hour or knots. The weather forecasts that you see on the television normally express the gusts in mph.

In 1805 a scale for measuring the wind was devised by an Irishman called Francis Beaufort, later to become Admiral Beaufort of the Royal Navy. The scale starts at zero calm and goes up to 12 Hurricane. There is a specification for each of the points on the scale which provide mean wind speeds measured over the 10-minute period.

For an inland place like Winnersh it is rare to get 10-minute wind speeds above what on the Beaufort scale would be a strong breeze.

However, the area has been subjected to damaging winds such as the night of 15/16 October 1987 when many trees were felled by the wind. On 30th December 2006 Winnersh was hit by a tornado that damaged trees on Bearwood Road near Bearwood Lakes Golf Club and felled some trees in the former woodland that has now made way for the planned Reading Road / Winnersh Relief Road Phase 2 junction. One large oak tree fell across the A329 Reading Road and blocked it for several hours. The trail of destruction to mainly trees and hedges continued north east past the British Legion building and along the track near the new allotments. Today, most wind instruments are electronic and can measure the wind direction and speed that can be averaged over any given time limit together with gusts. With equipment such as this, actual 'live' data is available via the internet.

However, most people are only interested to know if the wind is going to be too gusty for what they plan to do. As the wind speeds are measured at 10 metres above the ground, on the ground the wind speed can be 50 to 70% less than the measurements being quoted.



Winnersh Community Centre Hall Hire



WINNERSH COMMUNITY CENTRE HALL

Licensed bar
Capacity for 190 people (150 seated)
Refurbished kitchen facilities
Professional catering available
Car parking
Facilities for disabled
A pleasant green field setting
For hire costs contact the Parish Clerk
0118 978 0244

Allotment Update

After many delays plotholders were officially allowed onto the new allotment site off Woodward Close as from 8am on Thursday 18th April 2019. The contractors had not completed all the work required but Winnersh Parish Council (WPC) pressed hard for access before Easter to allow plotholders the opportunity to start transferring equipment and plants etc across and begin working their plots over the Easter weekend. In advance of the official access day WPC organised an Open Morning on Sunday 14th April to allow plotholders the opportunity to see what the new allotment site would look like and to discover exactly where their new plot was.



Before

There was a good turnout with 34 plotholders, new and old, and their families attending. The feedback was very favourable. The photo is looking at the new allotments from the Woodward Close end before any plotholders had started their transfers.

WPC, working with Wokingham Borough Council (WBC) organised six transfer days, including a weekend, when transport and assistance was provided to enable plotholders to move equipment and plants etc to their new plots. This worked very well and although not without the odd hiccup plotholders succeeded in moving satisfactorily.

The new allotment site is slightly bigger than the old one with 86 plots as opposed to 74. Two plots have been reserved for the planting of the new orchard. WBC has paid for new trees to replace the existing ones as they were too big and mature to move. Another two plots roughly in the centre of the new site has been reserved as a manure compound.

The whole of the new site is enclosed in a two metre high metal security fence with padlocked gates. A pedestrian entrance has been constructed off Woodward Close next to the railway bridge also secured by a padlocked gate.

Additional facilities include two composting toilets, one at either end of the site. Three steel storage containers are provided for use as communal storage facilities to allow plotholders the ability to store tools and equipment in a secure environment. Two five metre vehicle roadways now allow plotholders the ability to drive and park temporarily alongside their plots.

Two separate water pipes have been laid and this should alleviate the problems of the old allotments of demand outstripping supply.

While the completion of the new site has taken longer than planned due to some awful weather earlier in the year the new site is already beginning to look like a proper allotment and as the second photo shows many plotholders are ahead of the game in creating their new plots.

It is always very sad when a much loved facility such as the old Winnersh allotments has to close. Since they opened in April 1977 the old allotments have given much pleasure and happiness to generations of gardeners.

After



However, the new site offers so much more with additional modern facilities designed to make life easier for plotholders. Winnersh is very lucky to have this opportunity to move to the new site and for residents of Winnersh to enjoy the benefits for future generations of gardeners. There are still some plots available if anybody wants one. A standard plot is five poles, 10 metres wide by 12.5 metres in depth, half plots of 2,5 poles are also available. The ground has been ploughed and harrowed flat so there is still time to get a plot and to sow crops for picking later in the summer.

If anybody wants one then please contact the Parish Clerk at the Community Centre at Bearwood Rec or ring him on 0118 9780244 or email parishclerk@winnersh.gov.uk.

Annual Christmas Lights

On a cold but clear Friday night in December 2018 Winnersh Parish Council held its annual Christmas Lights and Firework event at the Community Centre, Sindlesham, over 100 residents attended.

The pupils of Bearwood Primary School provided the choir who sang a selection of seasonal favourites. Many thanks to all the pupils who took part and their teachers for all the hard work that obviously went in to what was a very enjoyable performance. After the choir the Deputy Mayor of Wokingham Borough, Cllr Bill Soane accompanied by his wife, officially switched on the Christmas lights.

To round off the evening there was a display of fireworks on the Recreation Ground, Thanks to all who made it an enjoyable evening, especially the ladies of the Winnersh Churches who served the free mulled wine and mince pies as well as providing other refreshments.

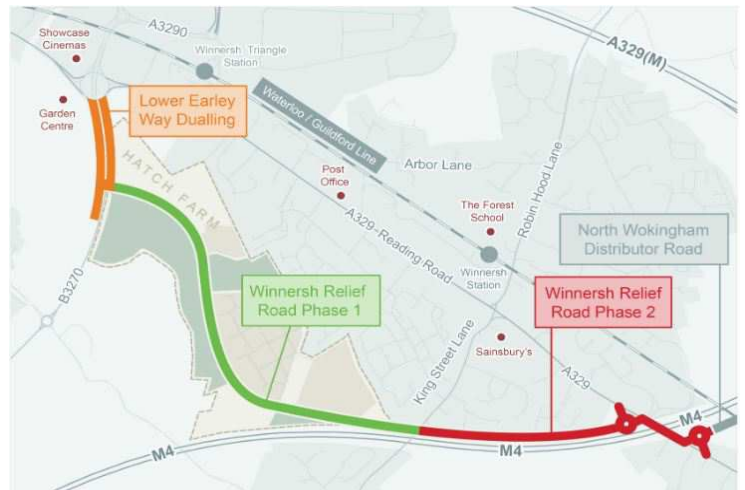
Winnersh Relief Road

Planning approval for Winnersh Relief Road Phase 2 was granted in October 2018. Detailed design work is ongoing.

Prior to starting main construction on the Winnersh Road Relief phase 2, enabling works are taking place.

Detailed design work is progressing and remains on track to be completed in the summer. Advanced surveys works have been completed including topographical and radar scanning.

Scheduled to be open for traffic in Autumn 2020.



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