# **Weedon Parish Council**

## Clerk to the Council Mrs Ruth Millard

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held in the Old Schoolroom on Tuesday 24 May 2022 at 7.30pm

Present: Joanna Rose, Wendy Kett, Sarah Gibbs, Judy Nagele, Colin Rose, Mike Stevens Minutes Secretary: Joanna Rose

- 1. Receive Apologies: Ruth Millard
- 2. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 27 May 2021 The minutes of 27 May 2021 were agreed and signed.
- To receive a report from Chair of the Weedon Parish Council Chair of Weedon PC Cllr Joanna Rose read the report from the Parish Council.
- **4.** To receive reports from other Weedon village organisations Reports were given by:
  - Weedon Village Association Wendy Kett, Treasurer
  - Golf Society Colin Rose, Chair
  - Charities (Dr John Bridle's & Lord Fortescue's) Wendy Kett, Clerk
  - Tuesday Club –Judy Nagele, Chair
  - Churches (Weedon Methodist Chapel & St Mary's Church Hardwick) Sarah Gibbs, Head Steward
  - Weedon Wildlife Group (Wild Weedon) Mike Stevens, Chair
  - Old Schoolroom Joanna Rose, Chair of Trustees

Copies of reports are appended to these Minutes.

- **5.** Public Open Forum **No issues raised.**
- 6. To agree the date of next meeting. Tuesday 23 May 2023 to be held in the Old Schoolroom

The meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

Chair's Signature

Date 23 May 23

## **Weedon Annual Parish Meeting 2022**

#### 24th May 2022

#### Report by Joanna Rose on the Parish Council April 2021 to March 2022

As with most public bodies, the Parish Council financial year runs from April to March. This is a report on the financial year April 2021 to March 2022.

#### **Constitution and Meetings**

Following the hiatus of the covid pandemic, Weedon PC switched back to in-person meetings in May 2021. So, all six regular general meetings (every other month) plus several planning meetings in the year were held in the Old Schoolroom.

Six of the seven councillors elected in May 2021 continued in office for the full year. However, Steve Gradley left the council in September, and we thank him for his service to Weedon Parish Council over several years. Graham Delaney was co-opted in November, so the council continues at full strength.

The Council is well supported by our experienced and efficient Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer Ruth Millard, who has been employed by Weedon PC since 2013.

# The main part of Weedon Parish Council's work is looking after the public areas of the village for the community

#### 1. The Park and Play Area

The Park is owned by the Parish Council. We arranged for grass cutting, hedge pruning, path weedkilling, lawn improvement treatment, inspection and maintenance of the play equipment and emptying of the litter bin. To supplement the annual inspection by ROSPA, we are grateful to volunteers John and Frances Smith for checking the Park every week in the summer.

Fortunately, in 2021/22 the Park play equipment required only minor repairs to bring it into compliance with the ROSPA recommendations. Works were carried out tightening bolts and other fittings, replacing strimmer guards around the base of several posts, sanding some of the timber surfaces of the equipment and the fence, securing a loose slat in a seat, and re-fixing a ground screw for another seat. The PC was grateful to Gerry Millard for carrying out these repairs professionally at a competitive rate in a timely manner.

At Christmas, the PC again purchased a tree, which was placed on the Park. The previously purchased fairy lights were used again to great effect, plugging in to the mains electricity which had been installed in 2020.

Covid measures were no longer required from May 2021, but the hand sanitiser unit was left in place until the end of the year.

#### 2. Weedon Graveyard and War Memorial

The PC manages the graveyard under a 99-year lease. We arranged for the maintenance of the grounds and handled the administration for new graves and memorials and plot reservations.

While the maintenance of individual graves and memorials is the responsibility of the family, the PC does carry out work to the older gravestones if they become dangerous. No works of this kind were required in 21/22.

We were grateful to Paul Winrow, who continued his volunteer work checking the graveyard on a regular basis and carrying out clearing and tidying around the graves.

#### 3. Other public spaces

We had the grass cut and weeds controlled around the pond and on the village green triangle. Steve and Jayne Richards continued to care for and feed the ducks with grain paid for by the PC. The High Street Pump trough and the barrel on the Triangle were beautifully planted and maintained by Clare Macdonald (triangle), and Christine and Nic Nicolay (pump).

A wooden seat by the pond had reached the end of its life. With the help of a donation from residents Mark and Karen Adams in memory of Mark's parents Wendy and Maurice, the PC purchased a replacement. Now many more generations can enjoy sitting in this beautiful and tranquil area of the village.

#### 4. Footpaths

The Council monitors footpaths to ensure landowners keep them clear and undertakes clearance itself on Footpath 12 from New Road to Lilies wood.

The stiles on the main village walk have now all been replaced by more accessible pedestrian gates. Just one stile remains on the outer footpath route and that should be converted this year.

#### 5. Streetlights

These are owned and maintained by the Parish Council, and the PC pays for the electricity to power them. The new heritage-style LED lights installed in December 2020 are proving their worth, reducing electricity usage and cost.

#### 6. Speed control

The MVAS signs are still being rotated around the 6 approved sites in the village by Mark Talbott.

In February we were given the go-ahead to start Community Speedwatch sessions. We bought the required A-frame signs, 11 volunteers carried out online training, and sessions have been held on a weekly basis at two particular locations identified as badly affected by speeding vehicles. A typical hour-long session on New Road between 7.30 and 8.30am results in over 20 offenders, who all receive letters from the police. We're trying to get more volunteers trained up, so that the campaign can continue as strongly as it started.

We're still trying to identify other speed control installations and measures which would be permitted by Highways legislation, and affordable for Weedon.

#### 7. Highways

We continued our Devolved Services contract from Buckinghamshire Council, for which we receive a grant. Weedon PC arranges grass verge cutting within the 30mph limit, road and pavement weedkilling, sign cleaning, and monitoring of hedges bordering roads. These works are carried out for us by a local contractor.

<u>Wildflower verges</u>. We carried out further seeding of the designated wildflower verges after cutting in the early autumn. It can take up to 5 years for wildflower meadows to establish fully, but there are encouraging signs of many native wildflowers and grasses, plus many more bees, butterflies and other wildlife.

Unfortunately, towards the end of the summer 2021 season, the PC's appointed horticultural contractor was unable to carry out the full extent of his contracted works on verges, the Park and chapel grounds. We have appointed new contractors for this year, and they are bringing the areas back to the standards we require.

#### 8. Noticeboards, Newsletters and Website

The annual Parish Council newsletter was not published during covid. However, we are working on an edition for this year, reporting on recent projects and giving contact details of all the key organisations.

The village website at <a href="www.weedonbucks.org.uk">www.weedonbucks.org.uk</a> was maintained by the PC and hosted locally. Community organisations have access to their site areas and can update them. We are still working hard on bringing the website fully in line with the government's Website Content Accessibility Guidelines, and all new postings and documents comply.

Email, which was widely used to communicate with Weedon residents during the pandemic, has continued to be important. The Parish Magazine is now delivered digitally to the majority of households, but we still cover those not on email by providing printed copies.

#### **Best Kept Village**

There was no competition in 2020 or 2021, but we have entered it this year. The PC has encouraged litter picking and tidying by residents, purchasing professional litter picker tools for everyone to borrow.

#### Another important element of the parish council's work is in liaising with outside organisations

#### Planning (Buckinghamshire Council)

The Parish Council is consulted on every planning application for building in Weedon. We can respond with No Objection, Support, Comment or Objection. We consider our response to every application at a public meeting. We were pleased at the quality and appropriateness of almost all the applications in the last year.

We also monitor tree works applications in the Conservation Area.

#### Highways (Buckinghamshire Council/Transport for Bucks)

We continue to liaise with Buckinghamshire Council/TfB, who have responsibility for all the roads, footways and footpaths in the county, to try to speed up repairs and resurfacing.

TfB agreed in 2021 to replace the dilapidated wooden rail along the High Street raised pavement with a black heritage-style open metal railing — at their cost. We understand the installation date is now imminent. This should be longer-lived and more robust, as well as looking much more in keeping with the conservation area heart of the village.

We had been talking to TfB about replacing 4 grit bins (we have 7), as they were damaged and degraded. A compromise was reached, whereby the PC purchased two new black heritage-style grit bins for the locations along Lilies wall and at the central crossroads, while TfB supplied two new green grit bins at their cost for verges on East End and New Road. All the grit bins in the village are now robust, fully stocked and well-suited to their individual settings.

After much lobbying of TfB by the PC, the issue of unsuitable HGV traffic going down Stockaway has finally been significantly helped by the addition of a second "No Through Road" sign on the opposite side of the road.

#### **Other Organisations**

Councillors attended meetings of the Wing and Ivinghoe Community Board, a forum set up by Buckinghamshire Council to bring together parish and Buckinghamshire councillors and other local stakeholders in one relatively informal quarterly session. This forum helps us stay informed and linked into projects in the wider local area.

#### **Financial and Administrative**

The accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021 were audited and submitted last summer. The 2022 accounts have been finalised and will be submitted for audit by the end of June.

The PC's main income comes from the parish precept of £13,800, funded by residents' Council Tax. Weedon residents have paid the same amount of village Council Tax for the last eleven years, and we haven't needed to increase the figure for 22-23! We have maintained services and covered our routine expenditure with the precept.

For various reasons, including after-effects of covid, the horticultural contractor's inability to carry out all his contracted works, and delays to major projects, we underspent our budget. We're hoping to move on with the projects this year – Footpath 12 ditch works, paths and landscaping at the rear of the graveyard, and speed control measures – and will spend more on horticultural works (with a new contractor) to recover from the undelivered activities.

All in all, Weedon Parish Council has had a solid year, recovering from covid and generating enthusiasm for carrying out improved maintenance and new projects. I'd like to thank sincerely all my fellow-councillors, the clerk, our contractors and volunteers for making that possible.

# Weedon Village Association Annual Report 2022

# Review of the year Feb 2021-Jan 2022

During the year ending January 2022 we managed to hold a few more events than in the previous year, but were still limited by Covid restrictions.

The Village Clean took place on April 24<sup>th</sup>. We weren't able to hold the Egg rolling event, but still held the decorated egg competition with the eggs displayed, by age group, on the play area railings. We missed the atmosphere of the Egg rolling, but at least children still got the chance to display their artistic creations.

We held the Horticultural Show in September. Entries were down on previous years. We have now agreed to join forces with Hardwick to hold a joint show from 2022 onwards.

The Jazz and BBQ event went ahead, thanks to David and his band. The weather was good and the event very well attended as usual. Unlike the previous year, we were able to offer food from the BBQ, which is an important part of the event and helps cover the cost of the band.

We were unable to hold the children's party in the Old Schoolroom, but did manage to arrange for Father Christmas to meet with the children on the play area and to hand out presents.

We weren't able to hold the Over 65's New Year dinner in the Old Schoolroom, so offered a meals on wheels service which was very well received by the 30 residents who took part.

Because we incurred expenses without any major fund raising events, we finished the year with a reduction of funds of £352, but still have very healthy reserves and managed to put on some events to help relieve the gloom of the lockdown.

#### Weedon Old Schoolroom Management Committee

## Chair's report WOS for APM May 22 re year 2021

As for most people and organisations, the last year was a very strange and challenging one.

At the end of 2020, the Schoolroom had survived the first year of covid with a working boiler, a cleared roof, repaired front door, new store-room ceiling, upgraded de-humidifier and a freshly redecorated main hall. Plus £18,000 in the bank and fully prepared for re-opening at short notice, with covid-secure documentation and signage.

There were very few hirings due to covid restrictions in the first four months of 2021, but we opened for the local elections on Thursday 6th May, and after 17th May, most classes, courses, activities and meetings were possible.

However, it was difficult for organisations and individuals to re-start classes and events, and the summer did not see many bookings. It was really September before things got going again – we held the first Café since March 2020! We offered reduced rates for community hirers to encourage people back – half price from September to December 21, then three-quarters of the rate from January to March this year.

Some previous hirers just couldn't make their events work in the hall any more. We lost long-established regular bookings from Pilates, Yoga, Taekwondo, French Conversation and Ballet. But we're delighted to see new weekly classes for Body Tone with Tara and frequent bookings for Thea Bailey. And to welcome back Tuesday Club, Art Class, Upholstery, Weedon Parish Council, Weedon Village Association and Thursday Communion. Of course, parties and functions are also returning, so we look forward to future bookings from families as well as organisations like Wild Weedon and Weedon Golf Society.

We're by no means back yet to the level of hirings we enjoyed in 2019, when our lettings income was just under £400 per month. However, we have now ended reduced hiring rates, and we hope to build up again to a fuller schedule. The addition of free fibre wifi is definitely a step that should help.

We were very fortunate to get more government grants to bolster our finances during the long closure and slow re-start. In addition to the 2020 total of £11,334, we received £9,765 in 2021, and £2,667 in February 2022. These give us a buffer while lettings income is low, and stand us in good stead for keeping up with the repairs and maintenance that are always needed for community buildings – particularly when those buildings are nineteenth century listed ones like ours!

We have been planning and researching some important repair/improvement projects, two of which were finalised in 2021.

- Following recurrent issues with flooding of the roof valley gutters due to the drain blocking after heavy rain, we had specialist contractors in to remove all the moss from the hall roofs. They did a great job in May last year, and we are going to have them back regularly to treat the tiles with fungicide so that the moss does not build up again.
- There were significant repairs and replacements of electrical fittings, including emergency lighting, carried out in April 21.
- We're getting quotes for repairing or replacing the cottage front windows, as the upstairs one particularly is starting to rot in places. Following ridiculously high quotes from several window replacement companies, we are investigating woodworkers who could repair, rather than replace. It's not easy with listed buildings! We hope to find someone who can do the work this year.
- We plan to replace the oil boiler, which is coming to the end of its life. We're running down the oil, and have found a local contractor who specialises in installing electric boilers there are very few of them! We didn't want to go with fossil fuels again, and air-source electric heating is expensive to install (we had a quote of £11,500 even without new radiators), as well as to run, for

the relatively intermittent pattern of use that the hall enjoys. You don't get quick response from air-source heating, which is what we need.

So, while an electric boiler will also be expensive to run when it's on, the basic cost is under £3,000. There are no annual maintenance costs, plus we can use the existing radiators and system. We've just had a final quote of £6,900 for the new boiler, which we have accepted, including power flush of the system, removing the oil tank, fireboarding and flue, making good the roof, supplying a remote controller and a new immersion cylinder controller for the hot water. We are already contracted with a renewable energy supplier (Ecotricity), so we will be doing our bit for clean energy and the climate crisis.

- We're also investigating whether we could put solar panels on the mini-roofs of the kitchen and toilets behind the main hall roof.
- In addition to these planned works, we also had a problem again! with the damp on the chimney wall, which we thought had been solved. Finally, we found an organisation called Damp Detectives. Two specialists spent 3 hours using a combination of a camera on a pole, professional damp meters, and directing water from a hose on to the likely affected areas. They identified the problems mainly leaks due to degraded mortar and we have a builder who can do the work.

Every year we have routine service visits by specialist contractors to check the fire extinguishers, the portable electrical equipment (the PAT test), and the boiler. Additional smaller expenses and projects in 2021 were:

- Installing broadband wifi in the hall
- Purchasing a new portable wireless projector, which connects easily to computers and phones to project on to a screen
- Replacing the letterbox on the cottage door
- Reviewing and extensively resupplying the First Aid Kit
- Replacing the detergent delivery pipes to the dishwasher
- Sourcing and fixing neat new document racks in the lobby
- Putting a coat of preservative paint on the main front door to save it from further deterioration.

We were very grateful to Mike Stevens, ably assisted by Penny, for supplying the skilled labour to finalise four of these jobs, all carried out most neatly and effectively – and for free! Thanks, Mike. The Stevenses are going to put another coat of dark brown stain/paint on both the main and the cottage front doors this year, too.

Management of the hall is not just about looking after the buildings and equipment. We have to ensure we operate within the legal framework for community buildings. In the last 2 years, there was a lot of extra paperwork involved in running the hall during covid. Even so, in 2021 we extended our policies and procedures, which now include a Fire and Safety Risk Assessment, a General Risk Management Assessment, a Privacy Policy, a Safeguarding Policy, and a Complaints Policy, all of which are published on the village website. This year we want to review and update our Hiring Agreement and carry out a full Village Hall Management Health Check, as advised periodically by the Community Buildings Service run by Community Impact Bucks, of which we are members.

Also on the management side, we were very grateful to Alan Askew for coming back on to the committee AND taking on the Treasurership. Alan has migrated the accounts to a new system, acquired at a very reasonable one-off cost. Hirers are appreciating the improved layout of the invoices and enhancements are planned by Alan for the presentation of the accounts at meetings.

You can see from the thanks that have already been given in this report that we have multi-talented and willing members on our trustee committee. Every trustee contributes to the formulation of ideas, reasoned decision-making and successful execution of projects and events.

Supporting the trustees, we are grateful to Jill Lynch for continuing to clean the hall each week, adapting to the different covid regimes admirably.

But the trustees are the heart of the organisation. The Café is a great opportunity for us all to come together outside the formal meetings and step into our alternative roles as bakers, cake servers, waiters, cashiers, librarians and kitchen staff.

Thank you all so much. It's been a privilege to work with you through the vicissitudes of covid and the perils of heritage buildings. Here's to many more years of facilitating the community's enjoyment of Weedon's beautiful and unique village hall.

Joanna Rose Chair of Trustees, Weedon Old Schoolroom 14<sup>th</sup> April 2022

#### Report relating to Weedon Methodist Chapel for the Annual Parish Meeting 24th May 2022

The year to end March 2022 has remained fairly guiet at the Methodist Chapel.

The local ecumenical partnership between the Methodists at the Chapel and the Anglican St Mary's Hardwick continues to operate well and is governed by a joint committee which oversees all aspects of church services, policies, finances and events. It meets every two months and we have succeeded in gathering face to face over the year.

Sarah Gibbs is Chapel Steward and maintains the links with the Aylesbury Methodist Circuit for the planning of church activity. Facilities and maintenance of the Chapel are carried out by Paul Winrow, and Graham Delaney. Thanks also go to Ralph Followell, the retired Chapel Steward, who continues to keep an eye on the building and provides assistance to those who use it.

Church income has been severely affected during the 2021 lockdown with the monthly takings from church attendance reduced. Income from church activities, weddings and funerals was also depleted. In total, the income for the year ending December 2021 was down by about £1600 and continues to decrease year on year. Nevertheless, the Chapel has managed to pay its required share to the Methodist Circuit. It retains an income from planned giving, which will be reviewed this year, and from various donations. Joint fundraising activities with St Mary's are being formulated to boost the reserves as we will have to find a way of halting the decline in annual receipts.

Despite restrictions on social activity during 2021, there was ongoing support from a regular congregation for the monthly family services at the Chapel with ministers from the Methodist Circuit. We held a Christingle Service in December but unfortunately the planned Xmas event had to be cancelled at the last minute due to Covid concerns. We are grateful to the continued dedication of Judy Nagele and Georgie Palmer to keep us in good spirits after the services with cakes and refreshments.

Other events have been limited. We held an afternoon tea event in May but that wasn't particularly well attended. The Royal British Legion Service of remembrance takes place in the Chapel grounds each November year and this did occur in 2021, albeit socially distanced. We played the recording of the Last Post made several years ago by Jonathan Freeman-Attward using Wilfred Owens' bugle. Several funerals have taken place but there were no weddings or baptisms at the Chapel over the period.

Outreach has continued from the Chapel with regular foodbank collections organised in favour of the Aylesbury Vineyard Storehouse, a Christian body which serves the Aylesbury area. These collections have been very well supported by the village and are gratefully received by the Vineyard. We also acted as a collection point for the Association of Ukrainians in Britain's campaign for supplies which was extremely well supported by villagers.

Works at the Chapel have included extensive repairs to the organ. We have had several roofers in to check out the damage to the roofing tiles and the cracks appearing in the rear wall, but this will require structural surveys. We have removed the old piano from the back room which frees up some space and plan to work on upgrading this area so that it can be more readily used for group activity. The Community Speedwatch equipment is also now stored at the Chapel.

It is hoped that with some continued investment in the building and facilities we can bring the Chapel back to pre-pandemic levels of activity. It is a much loved place in the heart of the community.

Sarah Gibbs Chapel Steward 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022

# Dr. John Bridle's & Lord Fortescue's Charities 2021

Dr John Bridle's Charity provides grants to applicants living in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Hardwick, which covers Weedon, Hardwick and the south side of Bushmead Road, Whitchurch. Grants are either for people in need or for those in education, and are not means tested. Lord Fortescue's Charity provides grants to residents of Weedon who are in need and can also give grants for the general benefit of the residents of the village.

#### **Dr John Bridle's Charity**

About half the income of the charity comes from agricultural rents and half from investments. An increase in investment income and a small increase in rents resulted in a 7% increase in total income, back to the 2019 level.

During 2021 grants totalling £4,740 were awarded of which £1,000 was given to Whitchurch School to help towards the cost of signs for the nature trail and iPads to help children catch up on phonics and number skills following lockdown. Money was also given to 17 residents of Weedon & Hardwick, 10 as Educational grants and 7 as Need grants.

The charity has now been given permission by the Charity Commission to change its rules governing the allocation of income between need and educational grants, with a portion going into a discretionary fund which can be used for either need or educational grants as decided by the Trustees. Following the approval of the Warden of New College, Oxford and permission from the Charity Commission, the charity no longer needs to ask the Warden of New College to appoint one of its Trustees.

#### **Lord Fortescue's Charity**

Over 80% of the income of the charity comes from agricultural rents with the remainder from investments. Income for the year was almost the same as for the previous year.

In 2021 Need grants totalling £2,100 were made to 6 residents of Weedon.

Leaflets for both charities were printed and delivered to all households in their respective areas of eligibility. Each leaflet provides details of the sort of expenditure for which the charity can provide assistance and includes an application form.

#### Weedon Wildlife Group – Report to Parish Meeting – May 2022

This Group was formed following a combined initiative by the Parish Council and BBOWT (Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust). Membership is open to all and there is currently no membership fee. Activities are funded by voluntary donations. This is the second Parish Meeting Report from the Weedon Wildlife Group, which is now 1 ¼ years old (the ¼ is, of course, very important!) Since last year's report we have continued to be very active, although, having completed our core administrative arrangements, we have now moved forward to some more focussed wildlife events.

Since the last Parish Meeting, we have achieved the following:

- Entered a funding agreement with BBOWT resulting an initial grant of £1,000 when I checked the
  account a few days ago the balance was just over £1,300.
- O Held our first Annual General Meeting, during which we acknowledged the support of two committee members, Alex Rose and Lara Webster, who, due to personal circumstances, had decided to stand down from the committee but I am pleased to say both continue to follow our activities and offer ideas. The meeting confirmed the membership of the committee: Mike Stevens; Sally Jones; Wendy Kett; Martin Routledge; Saskia Welman; Penny Stevens. Although each committee member has a stated 'role' we operate very much as a team.
- Subsequently, we have engaged with our neighbours in Hardwick, with the co-opted appointment of Jackie Brett as our Hardwick Liaison.
- Continued to arrange 'Wildlife Trails' which have been well received with participants from all age groups. These have included a summer wildflower trail in June, pumpkin trail in October and a Spring trail in April this year.
- Continued to arrange talks, including the BBOWT Aston Clinton Ragpits Reserve which preceded our first AGM in September.
- Arranged, from BBOWT, loan of a moth trap which has been successfully used by villagers to gain a surprising insight into the variety of these fascinating creatures near the bottom of the food chain.
- Submitted regular articles for the Parish Magazine.
- Liaised with the Butterfly Conservation charity to receive a dozen disease-resistant elm tree saplings which have now all been planted around the village – this initiative being aimed at providing habitat for the rare White Hairstreak Butterfly which relies heavily on elms.
  - This gave rise to perhaps our most visible activity, with 5 elms being planted in field behind the Methodist Church, just along Aston Abbotts Road from the Five Elms. This public event was attended by around 50 villagers with speeches from the High Sherriff of Buckinghamshire, George Anson, Her Majesty the Queen's Deputy Lieutenant, Sir Francis Habgood, Chair of the Parish Council, Joanna Rose, one of the new landlords of the Five Elms pub/restaurant, Andrew Hemsley and Chair of the Wild Weedon Group, Mike Stevens.
  - The planting was the first in Buckinghamshire recorded under the Queen's Jubilee 'Green Canopy' initiative and was front page news in the local newspaper.
- Welcomed a suggestion from one of our Members to pick up on the plight of swifts, once a frequent visitor to the area but recently in decline to the point where none were reported to our survey. This has been captured in our 'Save Our Swifts' campaign, which has included:
  - a very informative talk from the Oxford Swift City Project;
  - a swift nest box building workshop, organised by Paul Winrow with help from Graham Delaney, which resulted in 20 boxes many of which have now been installed high up on various houses around the village ready for this year's arrivals – fingers crossed!
  - We are also arranging a guided tour by the Oxford Swift City Group to be held in June this year.
- Launched our website at <u>www.wildweedon.org.uk</u> which continues to be developed. It is intended to be a good source of information for anyone interested in supporting our wildlife, whether new to the subject or more experienced. We aim for it to be accessible for all ages, informative, educational and fun.

Some of our activities are taking longer than first planned – mainly due to the considerable energy and enthusiasm of the committee, all of whom are actively engaged in every discussion!

- following on from a competition for design ideas, we are *nearly* in agreement over the detail of our logo
- we are developing an Information Board which will be submitted for agreement with the Parish Council shortly the intention is for this to be located by the pond in Stockaway

Under the banner of 'Wild Weedon', visibility of the group is provided through social media, with pages on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and, of course, our <u>website</u>. We look forward to a growing engagement with villagers of all ages in both Weedon and Hardwick through the coming years.

Ideas for future projects are always welcome!

Mike Stevens Chair – Weedon Wildlife Group (Wild Weedon)

#### Weedon Golf Society – report for the Annual Parish Meeting 2022

This is the 22<sup>nd</sup> successful year of our village golf society - now simply named: Weedon Golf Society. The emphasis is very much on a social club with playing formats suitable to golfers of all levels.

We have 38 members and play six times a year. Each outing is followed by a dinner in the Old School Room which is a fun affair – and guests are welcome.

This year we are trialling a couple of different evening events to follow the day-time match. One is a Race Game evening, the other is a team Cluedo game with club members as 'suspects' and village houses replacing rooms.

New members are always welcome!

# Tuesday club

The Tuesday Club, like many other organisations, had to cancel meetings from April 2020 due to the Corona virus.

the restanted our meetings in Harch 2022 and were delighted that so many members and non-members attended. The Committee decided to have a collection in support of the Ukraine appeal and, through the generosity of everyone who attended we sent faco to the Appeal.

we look forward to our usual varied programme of meetings and fund rousing in 2022.