



# Wolvercote Commoners' NEWSLETTER April 2016

## Commoners' AGM 20<sup>th</sup> April 2016

**A**t this year's Commoners' AGM not only will we have all the usual AGM business, there will also be an opportunity to see a unique collection of memorabilia of Wolvercote and its surroundings.

The AGM is a chance to see what the committee has been up to during the last 12 months, a chance to see what we may be planning for the coming year and also, and very importantly, a chance for you all to have your say. The committee's roles are many and varied but it is always led by the needs of the villagers. Some of the duties are obvious, such as caring for the flora and fauna of the 3 areas under our responsibility (Wolvercote Common, Wolvercote Green and Goose Green) but there are always areas/subjects which need attention they may not be getting. This is where you come in. The AGM is a forum where the floor is open to comments and/or suggestions about things that you feel we should be doing. There will be a few specific subjects to be discussed at the AGM this year, which are:

- the 'green' fitness trail on Goose Green
- work days
- the future of the Target Hut on Wolvercote Common (see below)
- the election of committee members and officers

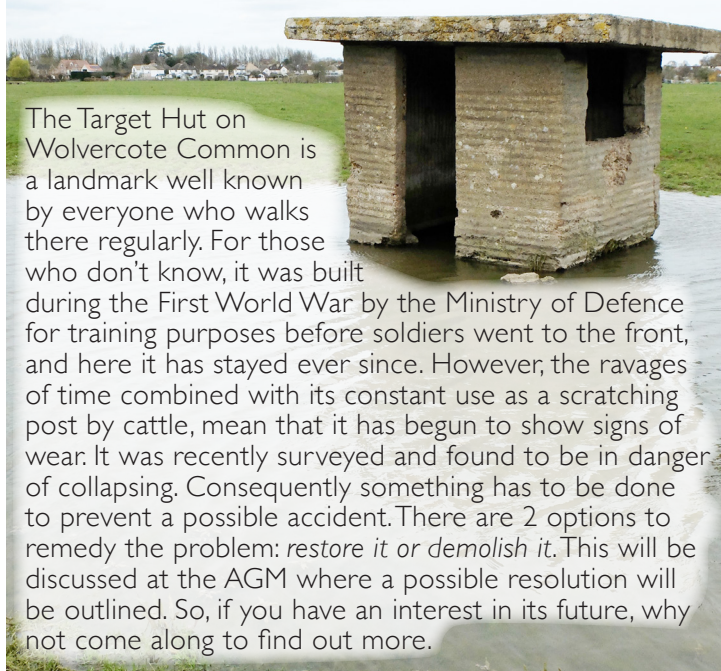
There are several members of the committee standing down this year so, if you feel like joining us, we would certainly welcome new blood. (*However, if you would like to stand, you must be present at the meeting.*) Don't worry, being a member doesn't involve that much work, it just means that you can help contribute to the wellbeing of our village.

The added bonus this year will be the display of a collection of unique photographs (as yet unseen by the public) and memorabilia showing Wolvercote as it was over a hundred years ago.

**So, if you want to see what we are up to, have your say about something, enter yourself into the election or just see our photographic display, put 20th April in your diary and come along to the Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

### The Target Hut

To restore or not to restore that is the question (sorry Will)



The Target Hut on Wolvercote Common is a landmark well known by everyone who walks there regularly. For those who don't know, it was built during the First World War by the Ministry of Defence for training purposes before soldiers went to the front, and here it has stayed ever since. However, the ravages of time combined with its constant use as a scratching post by cattle, mean that it has begun to show signs of wear. It was recently surveyed and found to be in danger of collapsing. Consequently something has to be done to prevent a possible accident. There are 2 options to remedy the problem: *restore it or demolish it.* This will be discussed at the AGM where a possible resolution will be outlined. So, if you have an interest in its future, why not come along to find out more.

### Beware the 'Pink Poo'

As mentioned in this newsletter, the AGM is a chance for subjects to be brought to the Commoners' attention. Consequently, when the subject of 'dog mess' on the Commons was raised at the last two AGMs we responded initially by putting up friendly signs asking dog owners to be more considerate. Unfortunately someone thought otherwise and took it upon themselves to remove them. We tried six sets of signs but to no avail as all of them were rapidly removed!

We have consulted the City Council who advised that some Councils are resorting to spraying the offending piles of poo a bright fluorescent colour. To some this may seem an odd thing to do. However, it seems to have been effective in some areas. Firstly, the 'piles' are more visible which hopefully reduces the chance of them being stepped in (*this is very important, for those with children as dog faeces is a health hazard being a carrier of **toxoplasma gondii** which, if ingested, can cause blindness in children*). And secondly it might just make irresponsible dog owners a little more responsible.

We will be pursuing some further signage but, in the mean time, watch out for the 'pink poos'! (*PS. don't worry, the pink colour is chalk based and biodegradable and soon disappears.*)



**Don't forget Village Work Days second Saturday of every month  
Meet outside the Village Hall at 2pm (Bring gloves/wellies). Children welcome**

**[www.wolvercotecommoners.co.uk](http://www.wolvercotecommoners.co.uk) - [wolvercote.commoners@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wolvercote.commoners@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Chair: Angie Goff (01865 554040) Secretary: Mary Brown (01865 236897)**