



# Wolvercote Commoners'

## NEWSLETTER September 2016



### Just one broken bottle – that's all it takes

A horse bleeds to death on Port Meadow because of a discarded bottle

For those of us who use Port Meadow regularly and value it as one of the treasures of the area, it's always sad to see the amount of litter left by some walkers and picnickers. The damage that such littering can cause came to a head recently when a horse cut its leg on a bottle left on the meadow. Unfortunately the glass severed an artery. Sadly the horse had lost so much blood that by the time it was seen by a vet it was not possible to save it.

This just highlights not only the mess caused by litter, but the possible danger it may cause. Animals can easily ingest harmful things, ducks and swans can become entangled with discarded fishing line, not to mention the chance of someone (or in this case a horse) standing on broken glass or a sharp can. We also have a new litter problem which seems to have appeared in the last few years. Dog owners are quite rightly responding to the request that they should pick up and bag their dog's poo for disposal. However, some dog owners have decided that they only need to bag the poo and ignore the disposal part of the exercise just leaving the bag on the meadow. This is almost as bad as leaving the poo on the ground as it doesn't break down in the bag and can then cause problems later.

The council does what it can to keep parts of the meadow rubbish-free but they need help. If you're a regular walker try to carry a spare plastic bag and pick up any rubbish you might see. Although many people do this already, why not make this part of your walking habit?

#### Wolvercote WWI Aerodrome Memorial Project Update

17 young airmen were killed in flying accidents while visiting, instructing at or learning to fly from a WWI training aerodrome on Port Meadow, north of Oxford near Wolvercote. Their tragic loss has never been properly recognised or even widely known about. With this in mind a group has been formed to erect a memorial to honour them.

Planning permission has been submitted to site the memorial near the bathing place including an information board outlining the history of the aerodrome.

There is a funding website

[www.gofundme.com/23khg78k](http://www.gofundme.com/23khg78k)

and a Facebook page

[www.facebook.com/wolvercoteww1memorial](http://www.facebook.com/wolvercoteww1memorial)

and, if you would like more information, email

[wolvercoteww1@btinternet.com](mailto:wolvercoteww1@btinternet.com)

#### Commoners' Half Yearly Meeting 7.30pm 12<sup>th</sup> October at the Baptist Hall

The Commoners' half yearly meeting is the occasion to hear what we are up to. Issues will be raised from earlier meetings or as mentioned in previous newsletters as well new items that have arisen since our last AGM.

They will include:

- The future of the Target Hut
- Further tree planting on Wolvercote Common
- The future of the pond on Wolvercote Green
- A proposed pavilion on Five Mile Drive

The commoners' role is the care and well-being of Wolvercote Common and Green and Goose Green, on your behalf. We do this in a democratic way but we need your input as well and this is YOUR chance to contribute. So come along to discuss/comment on any of these subjects or raise any other subjects you feel should be discussed.

#### Don't forget Village Work Mornings second Saturday of every month

Meet outside the Village Hall at 10am (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)

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