



Wolvercote Commoners' NEWSLETTER March 2019

A **BIG** thank you to those who came to our last Commoners' work day. We had a great turn out to help plant new trees on Goose Green (a few of our helpers, pictured on the right, looking very pleased with themselves).

Over 25 trees were planted to replace those lost to animal damage (squirrels, rabbits and muntjac). Hopefully we will be able to keep them away this time. The welfare of the trees on Wolvercote Green, Wolvercote Common and Goose Green comes under the care of the Commoners' Committee and the work continues on our next work-day (9th March),



Some of our band of tree planters

when we will be having a qualified tree surgeon attending to undertake necessary pruning and coppicing of a number of trees on Goose Green and Wolvercote Green. We are getting the services of the tree surgeon for free. However, there is a catch, we will have to clear all the 'cuttings'. So yet again we will need as many hands as possible to help with the process. So put the 9th March in your diaries (for those with wood burners there will also be a chance to replenish their stocks for next winter).

Port Meadow and Wolvercote Common seen in a different light

On a warm sunny afternoon the Commons are always busy with walkers enjoying one of the great open spaces of Oxford, but what about at other times of the day? In contrast during the winter, one of the most beautiful times of the day is the early morning just as the sun is just rising. Why not make a point of foregoing your warm bed for once and venture out for a stroll at dawn. If you're lucky with the weather you'll get the chance to witness atmospheric and stunning sun rises, gentle mists and sometimes, when there's a heavy frost, the most amazing sight as the frost turns bright orange as the sun shines obliquely across the ground. Enough to invigorate you for the rest of the day.

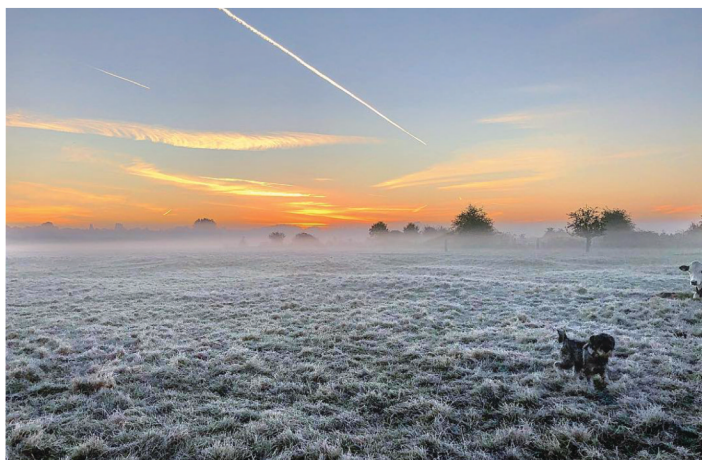
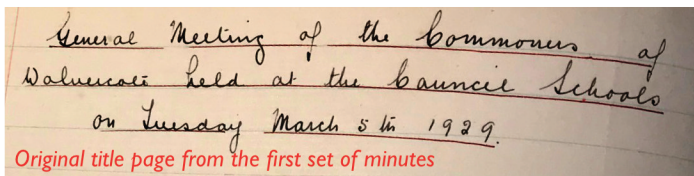


Photo: Johnny Pugsley

90 Years and still going strong!

When, in March 1929, the Wolvercote Parish Council ceased to exist, the Wolvercote Commoners' Committee was formed. Its role was stated then as *'to protect and preserve the commons (Wolvercote Common, Wolvercote Green and Goose Green) and deal with all matters affecting them'*. And, with the help of our many volunteers over the years, this continues to be its role to this day.



Original title page from the first set of minutes

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY Commoners' Committee AGM Wednesday April 24th

The Commoners' AGM is your chance to see what we've been up to during the year and perhaps also a chance to join us on the Committee. We are always looking for new blood so, if you feel you'd like to be involved in the future and welfare of Wolvercote, why not come and join us?

Swift update

The call for volunteers to have swift boxes on their property has proved very successful with 42 boxes being ordered for Wolvercote alone. This, together with over 350 boxes ordered for the rest of Oxford, is very promising for new populations of swifts in the area.



If you would like this Newsletter emailed to you please email medesign@ntlworld.com

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

Meet outside the Village Hall at 10am (bring garden gloves, wellies and any gardening tools you have). Children welcome

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Chair: Mary Brown (01865 236897) Secretary: Eleanor Woods (07815 548351)