

## Update from Events WG – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025

(5) Meeting action log was noted; we are waiting for compatible dates for the Wellbeing clinic to tie in with the coffee mornings.

(6) It was **recommended** not to proceed with the Wildlife Support Group within the council, as it was felt there would be too much duplication with other existing and newly formed groups.

It was also **recommended** that existing groups and issues that were going to come under the Wildlife Group 'umbrella', (such as HOG and the multi-agency meeting regarding deer in the canal) would be better to move forward independent of the council.

(7) We discussed the coffee mornings after feedback from previous P&D meeting and agreed that we would change these for fundraising events instead and work alongside the Sports Hub.

We would hold these fundraisers for selected community projects/causes four times over the course of next year.

From previous discussions, it was **recommended** that we would support the Village Hall (to help with the roof), Wildline Wildlife Sanctuary (caring for injured wildlife), Saxilby Nature Project (nature sites) and Westcroft Greenspace Development Project (biodiversity on Green Space).

It was felt that local causes would be better supported than national ones, so this would be a change to what was previously agreed when we were looking to hold coffee mornings with the welcome hub.

It is **recommended** for Cllr Saunders to contact the relevant projects/causes to discuss the potential fundraisers.

The Sports Hub is wanting to work with us to hold these on a Friday afternoon 3:30pm-5:30pm. These are ideal times for getting plenty of footfall and support.

As the Sports Hub are assisting by letting us set up in the bar area, **we would like the 2 hours room fees to be waived** as a goodwill gesture given these events are council led.

(8) After noting that various other groups/organisations in the village were holding similar style events, we agreed that the Preloved sale would be a general table-top/jumble sale. This would be in March to still coincide with the Global Recycling Day; however, the date will be confirmed by Peter and Vicki once they check what else is happening around the field and how congested the car park may be. It was agreed that this event would be held in the afternoon in the Function Room. Room will be booked as soon as date is confirmed.

Tables could be booked by village groups/residents as a way of recycling/raising money. As this will be community engagement there will no charge for the tables.

Risk assessment and posters can be started.

(9) The Dutch Exchange Weekend will take place on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April till Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April. The main events taking place during Friday afternoon, all-day Saturday, and Sunday morning. Over previous years this has been supported by the council, and we are looking to build this relationship back up again. The yearly Duck Race helps to raise funds for this event to take place.

It has been **requested** that the council could assist by providing an official welcome, volunteering to help with events, setting up an easter egg hunt and waiving room hire fees for the duration.

This will enable more of the raised funds to go to providing a positive experience for the visitors.

It was noted that when the football team goes abroad, all expenses are met by the hosts, and the village comes together to welcome the team. It would be good for our village to do the same.

**Waiving room hire** would show the council are supportive in playing a part in assisting with the Exchange visit, this means the money saved by the football club will go towards enhancing the visit.

It is also a gesture to show we are supporting enhancing relations with the visiting teams.

There will be an Exchange meeting later this month, which some councillors on the Events WG will aim to attend.

(10) We have gone through the draft 2026 calendar and propose to the events as listed.

Naturally there will be more events added over the duration of the following year as we aim to contact other village groups to compile a general village events calendar, and there will be lots of non-council events that can be added.

It is **proposed** for Cllr Saunders to liaise with the village hall for their potential events, and for the Events WG to contact the scouts, church hall, WI, drama group and others, for their events to be added.

It would be good to have a community events calendar to help bring the village together.

The council led and council supported events have now been **proposed** by the group, though a couple still have dates to be confirmed due to outside influences. The calendar is being shared with P&D for approval.

(11) Due to the success of the previous Grant Funding Workshop, it was felt beneficial to **hold another workshop** for community groups.

Due to capacity, it was proposed to arrange this for early next year – January or February, a date to be agreed with Jody Raggo.

## Recommendations and actions

1. To note the update

2. To note the action log

(12) P&D Committee agree to set-aside resolution **P25/123 6.** (“That the committee support an all-encompassing Saxilby Wildlife Support Group, and for the events group to liaise with Wildline and other relevant organisations on how to protect and support local wildlife. To liaise with the HOG group to see if they wish to be incorporated into this (Council objectives: Environmental. Biodiversity. Community).” in line with SO 7a to no longer proceed with the council Wildlife Group, and actions sat under the group such as HOG and issues of deer in the canal to proceed with independent groups if they wish to progress

(13) For council to support and work together for the Dutch Exchange (as previously agreed), by assisting with volunteers for activities, waive the room hire fees for the duration, have an official welcome, and hold an Easter egg event.

(14) To receive the 2026 calendar of events and agree to the council led and council supported events.

a) to agree the new fundraising events for local causes

b) to agree to waive the 2-hour room fees

(15) To agree to hold a Grant Funding Workshop in January/February 2026 for the benefit of local community groups/organisations.

## Next meeting

Next meeting to be held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 7:15pm in the Function Room

# Recommendations for Planning and Development Committee with Clerks Comments

1. **Set aside resolution P25/123 (6)** in line with Standing Order 7a (to formally cease work on the Wildlife Group and associated actions).
2. **Discontinue the formation of a council-run Wildlife Support Group** and for related matters (e.g., HOG and deer issues) to be progressed independently if community groups want to.
3. **Replace coffee mornings with quarterly fundraising events** to support local community causes.
4. **Support local causes** through these events, specifically:
  - a. Village Hall (roof project)
  - b. Wildline Wildlife Sanctuary
  - c. Saxilby Nature Project
  - d. Westcroft Greenspace Development Project
5. **Agree for Cllr Saunders to contact the four beneficiary organisations** to discuss involvement in the fundraising events.
6. **Approve the fundraising event time slot** (Fridays, 3:30pm–5:30pm) and **waive the 2-hour room hire fee** as a goodwill gesture.

Clerk: This is not in-line with council agreed policy. Revised recommendation - to note that waiving the 2-hour room hire fee would be outside of the council's current agreed policy. The existing policy permits waiving the Pavilion Bar hire charge when the council itself requests bar provision for council-run or council-involved events; in this case, this is a standing regular weekly booking made by the Sports Hub.
7. **Proceed with a general table-top/jumble sale** (instead of a Preloved sale) in March, to align with Global Recycling Day, with free tables for residents/groups and associated risk assessment/posters to be prepared.
8. **Support the Dutch Exchange Weekend (3–5 April 2026)** by:
  - a. Providing an official welcome
  - b. Offering volunteers for activities
  - c. Delivering an Easter egg event

d. Waiving room hire fees for the duration

Clerk: Waiving room hire fees would be outside the council's current policy. The council's existing policy permits waiving the Pavilion Bar hire only when the council itself requests bar provision for council-run or council-involved events; in this case, room hire is not booked directly by the council. Waiving fees for this event raises issues of fairness and parity, as other independent village groups do not receive fee waivers for their use of the centre. Waiving room hire fees would incur a direct operational cost with the centre being cost-bearing to the taxpayer, as it does not generate a surplus.

The football club could apply for a parish council grant to support the event provision e.g. for food, travel etc.

Recommendation: Note that waiving room hire fees is outside council policy.

9. **Approve the proposed 2026 calendar of council-led and council-supported events**
10. **Agree for Cllr Saunders to liaise with the Village Hall**, and for the Events WG to contact village organisations (scouts, WI, church hall, drama group, etc.) to contribute to a village-wide events calendar.
11. **Agree to hold a Grant Funding Workshop** for local community groups in January/February 2026, subject to date confirmation with workshop leader.
12. **Note the Events WG update and action log.**