**SUSTAINABLE WIGGINTON PROPOSAL to WIGGINTON PARISH COUNCIL.**

**Summary of proposal:**

* **Continue the present relationship of having regular contact with WPC and receiving a small budget from WPC, claimed against actual spend.**
* **Prepare annual reports to WPC on projects/budget and for the Oddy.**
* **The proposed budget is £600 for 24/25, the same as this year, broken down as follows:**

**Wilding the rec: £300**

**Community fruit scheme: £200**

**Contingency: £100**

**TOTAL £600**

* **Continue working with and become affiliated to Sustainable Tring. SW will not receive a budget from ST but the benefits will include sharing of ideas, enthusiasm, resources and ability to do larger projects.**

Background Note for Parish Council:

Sustainable Wigginton (SW) is an informal group working with WPC in accordance with a pre-agreed budget. The budget this year is £600 of which about £150 has been spent so far. It is intended to spend the rest.

SW has worked closely with ST on thermal imaging reports over the past year and also on events as part of the Great Big Green Week this summer. It will make sense if SW becomes affiliated to ST. SW will not receive a budget from ST but the arrangement will have many benefits including sharing of ideas, enthusiasm and resources and will enable SW to take part in projects which it could not do alone.

Intended projects for 2024/25 and their likely expenses are as follows:

* Wilding the recreation ground:

More planting (shrubs/flowers), more bird boxes, perhaps a bee hotel, tree surgery - to manage the hazels, dog rose, blackthorn and apple trees.

Estimated expenses £300pa.

* The Community Fruit Scheme, which was started this autumn to make juice out of apples which would otherwise be unused. Despite a generally poor apple harvest, over 100 bottles of pasteurised juice were made using fruit from 10 village orchards. Of these, 60 were taken by the shop and quickly sold out. If next year has a normal harvest we would expect much more juice. The juice is sold to the Community Shop at cost plus a small addition to cover the fuel used transporting fruit and juice to/from the juicer.

Expenses could include: telescopic fruit pickers and a fruit picking ladder. It is hoped to buy a ladder this financial year.

Estimated expenses £200pa.

* Contingency for other items such as events, for which expenses can include venue hire, printing costs, gazebo hire.

Contingency £100pa.

TOTAL £600

DW 9/11/2023