



Wixams News

Neighbourhood Watch

February 2018

Published by Wixams Neighbourhood Watch, part of Bedford & District NW Association



Wixams NW National Award for Community Cohesion London June 2014

Caring for the community - Without Prejudice

Give us the Wixams Station NOW!

... not sure whether there is enough passion regarding the train station probably from all sides ... Bedford Borough / Gallaghers etc etc.

I don't mean to be offensive but this subject should have been pushed right from the start of Wixams development.

It's simply not good enough to say 'your concerns have been noted' !!! This has been said for many years now.

A concerned Wixams resident who commutes every day on the train

Burglaries of garages and sheds

I was standing near the corner of Bedford Road and Green Lane last week looking at a van that had pulled up on the path near Falcon Fields. After a few minutes it moved 20 metres nearer and then stopped again. I carried on watching. After a minute it drove off.

It was the same week that a spate of nine burglaries of garages, sheds and one house took place in Wilstead (19th-27th).

Keep a look out for people in vans prowling around. Just standing and observing is a deterrent. Report suspicions to the police on 101. Wixams has CCTV that records all vehicles entering/exiting the village. Alan



Councillor GRAEME COOMBES

Bedford Council's recent decision, as part of its 'Local Plan 2035', to promote a new housing development in the north of the Borough, at Sharnbrook, with its own station, came both as a surprise and a major disappointment. *Continued on page 3*

Saturday 3 March



Email Dave Hodgson the mayor dave.hodgson@bedford.gov.uk
Copy Cllr Graeme Coombes in on emails

Wixams Parish Council

Local Plan 2035 - your comments

Local Plan Key Diagram



Bedford Borough Council has published a new draft local plan for six weeks of public consultation until Monday 5th March. Your comments on the local plan are invited.

It plans for the additional houses and facilities required to support new communities and provide jobs and services such as schools, transport and shops.

To get the plan go to www.bedford.gov.uk/localplan2035
Responses should be emailed to planningforthefuture@bedford.gov.uk

Wixams Parish Plan

Last summer all residents in Wixams received a questionnaire about where the Parish Council should focus its time and resources for the benefit of the local community.

Nearly 10% of the forms were returned and the most positive aspects of life here in Wixams included a strong sense of community; green spaces and lakes; location and good road links; provision of children's play areas; community fun days and the good school.

Less positive comments included inconsiderate and dangerous parking; lack of health facilities; litter; lack of a railway station; and overgrown and untidy public areas.

Improved maintenance of parks and open spaces and crime prevention were felt to be the highest priority.

Action already taken includes the appointment of a street ranger to keep the roads clear of litter and the annual community "litter pick" each spring.

The Parish Council will be working with a representative of Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity to identify and start further addressing those

Wixams Parish Plan cont.

concerns and comments of local people where it can action or influence them.

It will report on a regular basis to the community.

Next Parish Council Meeting

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 20th February 2018** from 7:30pm at Lakeview Village Hall in the Munson room – members of the public are very welcome – we even provide refreshments! Agendas will be published on our website at least 3 working days before each meeting. Planning meetings, if required, are generally held at 7:00pm preceding each Parish Council meeting – please check our website for confirmation. You can also view past minutes and find out who your Councillors are, how you can contact them and what they look like! Our website is: www.wixamsparishcouncil.bedsparishes.gov.uk (or just Google 'Wixams Parish Council').

Diane Robins
Clerk to the Council
Wixams Parish Council
wixamspc@gmail.com
Phone number 07563 108 666

Reported crime

Crimes reported in Wixams

January 2018

2nd 21:34 Brooklands Avenue

Theft from shops and stalls

3rd 18:00-18:06 Brooklands Avenue

Theft from shops and stalls

4th 19:35-19:44 Woodpecker Gardens

Attempted burglary residential dwelling

8th 00:01-13:38 Sending letters etc

with intent to cause distress or anxiety

15th 19:40- 19:45 Brooklands Avenue

Assault occasioning actual bodily harm

26th 17:00-19:33 Southern Cross

Common assault

26th 17:00 Racially or religiously

aggravated intentional harassment, alarm or distress

The crime report is provided by Bedfordshire Police with volunteer help from Bedford & District Neighbourhood Watch.

CCTV is in operation in the Wixams.

Bedfordshire Police, in collaboration with Wixams Parish Council, are able to view footage if crimes have been committed.

Note: the Police need a location and a time.

Playgroup Christmas Party

Playgroup meets on Mondays, 9.30-11.00am



999 - Emergency

where there is a risk of:

- personal injury
- loss of life
- crime in action

101 - Non emergency

- Reporting a crime that is no longer in progress
- Giving information about a crime
- Reporting theft of property
- Contacting local police officer
- Getting update reported crime
- Suspicious incidents

For further information on **Wixams Neighbourhood Watch** see www.wixams.org.uk/wnw, facebook, or email Alan at wnw@wixams.org.uk

Bedford & District Neighbourhood Watch - bedfordnhw.ourwatch.org.uk

All non-emergency calls to **Bedfordshire Police** should be done via **101**, whether reporting an incident or trying to contact anyone within a local policing team. Additional contact methods can be found at www.bedfordshire.police.uk/contact.aspx See also www.police.uk

Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111
crimestoppers-uk.org

The aim of Wixams Neighbourhood Watch (WNW) is to help develop safer local communities and improve the quality of life. Members of WNW deliver the Wixams News in Wixams.



<http://ecpbedford.org>
Do you have a baby who is not yet walking? Come and join us at Lakeview Village Hall (upstairs) every Thursday in term time, 9.30-11am for our Play and Learn Cruiser Session to meet other parents locally and have a play.

Wixams News

See you on Saturday 3 March



Isabelle & Dexter

The Wixams litterpick needs your support, for just 30 minutes or longer. This is what community is all about. We can take pride in our village. Doing things together also builds

relationships and helps us to keep a look out for each other. And strong friendly communities makes it harder for burglars!

The litterpick is organised by Wixams Parish Council and Wixams Neighbourhood Watch in partnership with Bedford Borough Council, Lakeview Village Hall, Wixams WI and Lakeside Fish & Chips. Willmott Dixon who built Wixamstree Primary and Wixams Academy donated the money for the Easter Egg prizes and a small Easter Egg for every child! Free refreshments. Certificates for the children. Chip vouchers.

Wixams News delivery

Thanks to the following people who have volunteered to deliver Wixams News:

- Carl & Karl (1-21 Brookland Avenue, parts Kingfisher Road, Moorland Close)
- Sue (Eagle Mews, Harrier Leys)

We need someone to deliver:

- 2-38 Brooklands Avenue, Little Causeway, Millbrook Close, Lakeside Way.
- Goldfinch Gardens & Lindum homes
- Juniper Drive, Angelica Grove, etc (Morris Homes, off Bedford/Amphill B530 road)

Thanks, Alan



Wixams News deadline - Friday

2nd March for any copy, news adverts or changes to existing adverts. Contact wnw@wixams.org.uk 47 Green Lane, Wixams, Bedford, MK42 6DA www.wixams.org.uk/wnw The next Wixams News will be published mid February.

Wixams Parish Council cont.

Wixams Parish Council is currently looking for **new Parish Councillors**.

A Parish Councillor is not an employee or volunteer but an elected representative who volunteers their time for free to work on behalf of their community. There is a legal requirement to attend Parish Council meetings and to abide by the Code of Conduct.

Councillors, as individuals, have no power to make decisions on behalf of the Parish Council. We have one vacancy at the moment with further vacancies arising in the next few months. If you are over 18, live in, or within 3 miles of, Wixams and would like to consider applying please check our website for further details and a job description or contact either the Clerk or our Chairman for an informal chat.

Litterpick 3 March

The next Wixams community litterpick is on Saturday 3 March, 9.30-11.30am, starting at Lakeview village hall.

If you care about the community, please put the date in your diary and come for half an hour or more to tidy the village and show that the residents care about litter, care about the streets and public areas and care about the environment. Over 100 people came to the litterpick last March!

There will be Easter eggs for all the children, special prizes, free refreshments, equipment provided, certificates for children attending, Lakeside Fish & Chips voucher.



Wixams Parish Councillors

- Anthony Pedder (Chair) anthonypedder@hotmail.co.uk
- Peter Webb (Vice Chair) peter.webb8@btopenworld.com
- Saqhib Ali saqhib.pc@gmail.com
- Graeme Coombes wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk
- Charlotte Day lottie_day@yahoo.co.uk
- Laetitia Gamble laetitiarw@hotmail.co.uk
- Caroline Johnson carolinejohnson710@gmail.com
- Chris Martin chris@beyondprofit.co.uk
- Paul Stevens paulstevens0307@gmail.com

Table Tennis outdoors in Wixams



An outdoors table tennis table is being funded for the use of Wixams children, teenagers and adults. The money has been made available through Cllr Graeme Coombes.

Sponsorship is being sort to pay for the concrete slab to anchor the table and for a hard standing area for players.

So where should the Wixams table be located? The triangular grass area bounded by Brooklands Avenue, Lakeside Fish & Chips car park, the lake and the play area seems to be a good location. **If you have any views or comments on this please contact Diane Robins, Clerk to Wixams Parish Council wixamspc@gmail.com**

In France people enjoy playing table tennis on outside tables. Outdoor tables have been successfully installed in London (Leicester Square) Russell Park in Bedford and Milton Keynes.

The table being purchased is a Cornilleau Pro 510 Outdoor table 152.5cm x 274cm, made of steel. This will be bolted to a concrete slab and surrounded by a hard playing surface, hopefully a 'wet pour' playing surface as used in play areas. The overall dimensions of the area will be 352.5cm x 674cm.

For further information, see tabletennisengland.co.uk who publish an outdoor table tennis guide.

Who's Who? Wilstead Pharmacy

1 Crossroads Wilstead MK45 3HJ



Tel: 01234 740609 www.wilsteadpharmacy.co.uk

Wilstead pharmacy is your local chemist ready to help with any medical/health queries. We have a great team comprising of pharmacists, trainee pharmacists, dispensers and even a friendly dentist!

Our pharmacists Prity, Bhavik and Adina, collectively, have over 25 years' experience – armed with plenty of knowledge and expertise to help deal with any questions you may have. They are supported by Chrissie, Alistair, Jess and Michelle our bubbly and enthusiastic dispensing team who are always willing to go the extra mile. Bhavik, is also qualified as a dentist, on hand to provide free advice for any minor dental issues.

Other team members include Dawn, our healthy living champion, specialising in health and wellbeing. Vicky is our smoking cessation expert who can offer free help and advice for those thinking of quitting smoking (definitely a good idea!).

We offer a free delivery service and have two friendly drivers, Peter and Dusan, who always appreciate a wave when they're on the road! Please feel free to drop in any time to meet the team and learn more about the services we provide.

easter

Events Diary:

Sunday 18th March & 1st April, 10 am - 12 pm: Messy Café at Wixams Church meet for breakfast and an all-age exploration of what it means to be a disciple

Fridays, 10:30 am - 12 pm: Little Stars a playgroup for babies & preschoolers with parents & carers (term time only)

Thursday 15th March & 19th April 3:30 - 5:30 pm: Messy Church a way of being Church for families, involving fun, Bible Stories & a family meal together

For more info...

www.wixamschurch.org.uk

e-mail: hello@wixamschurch.org.uk

Facebook: [facebook.com/WixamsChurch](https://www.facebook.com/WixamsChurch)

Twitter: @WixamsChurch

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes in Him may not die but have eternal life through Him. Jesus Christ the Son of God who came in the flesh to save the world. He is the Word who became flesh and dwelt among us. He is the Light that has shined in the darkness. He is the Bread of Life who gives life to the world. He is the True Vine who abides in us and we abide in Him. He is the Holy Spirit who dwells in us and empowers us. He is the Father who loves us and sends the Holy Spirit to us. He is the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. He is the Church: the Body of Christ, the community of believers. He is the Kingdom of God: the reign of God's grace and peace. He is the Gospel: the good news of God's love and forgiveness. He is the Mission: to go and make disciples of all nations. He is the Love: the greatest commandment, to love God and our neighbor. He is the Hope: the promise of eternal life. He is the Faith: the confidence in God's promises. He is the Charity: the love of God and our neighbor. He is the Grace: the unmerited favor of God. He is the Mercy: the compassion and kindness of God. He is the Peace: the harmony and well-being of God's kingdom. He is the Joy: the happiness and gladness of God's people. He is the Power: the strength and authority of God. He is the Wisdom: the knowledge and understanding of God. He is the Truth: the reality and certainty of God's word. He is the Beauty: the splendor and glory of God's creation. He is the Goodness: the kindness and generosity of God. He is the Righteousness: the justice and fairness of God. He is the Holiness: the purity and sanctity of God. He is the Majesty: the grandeur and awe of God. He is the Majesty: the grandeur and awe of God.



Councillor GRAEME COOMBES

Reporting to Wixams - February 2018

Continued from front page

Some of us have lived through 9 years of repeated promises of a station at Wixams, especially from developers keen to sell houses. We have also seen endless discussion and 'passing the buck' between Bedford Council, Gallagher and Network Rail and still the station has failed to materialise. And as we know, £13.5m funding is still on the table from Gallagher, but with an estimated £27m cost of a new station, that leaves another £13.5m shortfall.

However, instead of continuing to push all parties to put a financial package together and seek additional sources of funding, in its wisdom Bedford Council has now decided that they want a station at the Sharnbrook development, but this time the station has to be built before a single house is occupied. Apart from the fact that this 'ghost station' will at first only benefit passengers from surrounding Northants villages, it makes a Wixams station much less likely as it would mean trains stopping immediately before and after the town centre as well as in Bedford proper.

We need to insist that the Mayor and Borough Council prioritise Wixams Station before any other stations are built in the Borough. Therefore, I am asking you to respond, with your comments, to the Borough Council's consultation on the Local Plan 2035, making the case for putting Wixams first.

Either write to: Planning Policy Team, Bedford Borough Council, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street MK42 9AP or email your comments to: planningforthefuture@bedford.gov.uk and please clearly mark them as being feedback on the Local Plan 2035 consultation.

The deadline for comments is Monday 5th March.

Tel: 07815 302 318 E-mail: wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk

Facebook: Cllr. Graeme Coombes

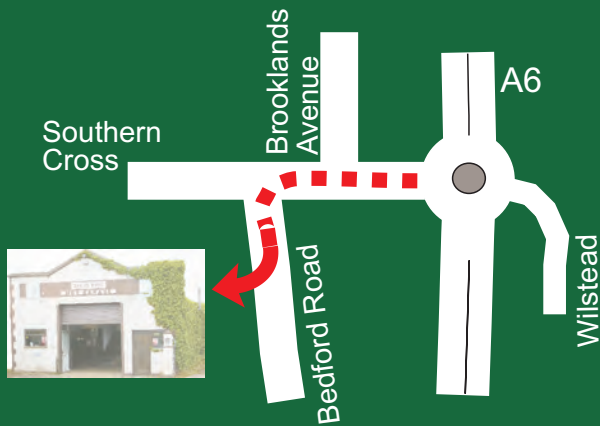
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Mondays - Fridays 8.30am - 5.30pm
 Saturdays 8.30am - 1pm (March-Sept)

133 Bedford Road, West Wilstead
(Wixams) Telephone: 01234 740252



Free
Easter holidays
 Tue 3, Wed 4, Thu 5 April
 10am - 12noon

SEARCH & RESCUE

Holiday Club

Lakeview Village Hall
 All children welcome
 aged 4-10yrs
wixams.org.uk/rescue

Organised by
 Alan & Anne Pibworth, Chris & Becca Clarke

IGNITE
 Tue 3, Wed 4, Thur 5 April
 2pm-4pm, Lakeview
 Village Hall all young
 people in school years
 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 welcome
wixams.org.uk/igniteh

members of Wilstead Evangelical Church

WESTEND WORKSHOPS!

Shine Theatre School
www.shinetheatreschool.co.uk

Classes in Acting, Singing, Musical Theatre, Ballet & Street Dance. Book your free trial session!!!

Lakeside Fish & Chips

Lakeside offers a variety of fresh and homemade choices for all the family.

Fish wraps and fish tacos if you are in the mood for something different or mini meals for those who want a lighter option.

Do come in and give us a try if you haven't already.
 We look forward to meeting and feeding you soon.

Mark & Helen

Opening Times
 Lunch Tues-Fri
 11am-2pm
 Dinner Mon-Fri
 4.30pm-9pm
 Open all day Saturday
 12-9pm

Find us on **Facebook**

Tel: 01234 743 942
www.lakesidewixams.co.uk

Slimming World Wixams was back **be inspired**
 in full swing following the Christmas and New Years celebrations, with many members returning, and feeling in control of their weight!
 What a great way to start 2018!

By far the happiest slimmer in the room was Holly Snoxell. Just two weeks after having her beautiful twins, Holly hopped on the scales and lost a staggering two and a half stone!!

She said "I stuck with the plan throughout my pregnancy and it paid off! I'm so happy I only have a few lbs to lose to get back to my pre-pregnancy weight, and I'm already back in my favourite jeans! It's great that I can still enjoy healthy snacks, like a banana or hifi bars, during the midnight feeds, knowing it's not going to affect my weight. I'm thrilled!"

Slimming World Wixams meet every Tuesday 5.30 & 7.30. Everyone is welcome. Contact Danielle on 07462 444645

Become a member of your hospital

NHS Bedford Hospital NHS Trust

"Bedford Hospital is not a Foundation Trust but is merging with the Luton & Dunstable Hospital which is already a Foundation Trust and has 16,000 members. It is vital that local people sign up so that their voices are heard.

With the recent threats to services at Bedford Hospital the more that we are represented in this merger, the better."

- Laetitia Gamble
 Wixams Parish Councillor

Complete the online membership form at www.bedfordhospital.nhs.uk

Wixams News delivered by 25 members of Wixams Neighbourhood Watch