



Wixams News

Neighbourhood Watch

February 2019

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



Wixams NW National Award
for Community Cohesion
London June 2014

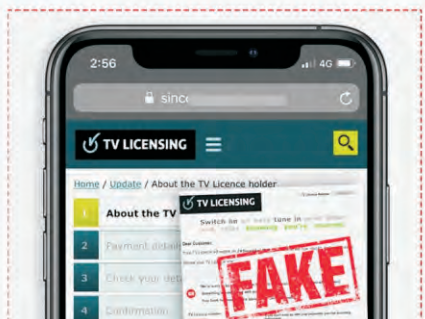
Caring for the community - Without Prejudice

SCAM WARNING

Fake TV Licensing emails received by thousands

Action Fraud has received more than 5,000 reports about fake emails and texts purporting to be from TV Licensing. The messages contain links to genuine-looking websites that are designed to steal personal and financial information.

Always question unsolicited requests for your personal or financial information in case it's a scam. Never automatically click on a link in an unexpected email or text.



For more information about how to stay safe online, visit cyberaware.gov.uk



Cllr Graeme Coombes - Report Feb 2019 East West Rail

I recently met the Mayor to discuss East West Rail and its implications for Wixams Station. You may be aware there is currently a consultation taking place on 5 different route options through Bedford. Three of these

consider a southern route which would involve a 'crossover' station, away from the town centre, but not necessarily at Wixams. I have told the Mayor I will favour whichever route is best for Wixams and most likely to ensure the station is delivered as promised.

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Wixams Parish Council

2019 Budget/Precept setting

The Parish Council has increased the precept from £40,700 to £49,800 to provide for a sharp increase in the number of people living in Wixams, the provision of mobile security, and an increase in the amount of grant funding available for local voluntary groups.

We also need to plan forwards to another expected increase in the population of Wixams. As the precept has increased in-line with the increase in properties, it will only show as a minor change to each household's tax bill.

Average speed cameras



The Parish Council has approached the Borough Council with an interest in having average speed cameras installed on Green

Lane and Bedford Road. The Parish Council will look to allocate funding from savings towards the cameras, to expedite the installation, and is currently deciding on a suitable figure. This is based on the results of a recent speed check by Beds Police.

May 2019 elections

Every four years elections are held so that you can choose your parish councillors. The next elections are in May this year. If there are fewer applicants than positions then it's unlikely a vote will happen and the present councillors will stay in their roles. If you are interested in becoming a councillor then please email the Clerk. Meetings are once a month and occur in the evening.

Mobile security patrols



During the month of December we piloted the use of mobile security patrols around Wixams. Cannons Guard Security carried out the patrols and gave patrol reports back to the council. We have agreed with Cannons Guard that they will patrol again during February and the council has budgeted for their use during other months.



Grants

A reminder: We have extended our grant funding from £5,000 to £10,000 each year to fund local groups. To apply for a grant you must be a charity, community group or local voluntary organisation with a dedicated bank account, operating or providing a service to the community of Wixams. The Council defines a voluntary group as a not-for-profit organisation, set up and run by a voluntary, unpaid management committee. Grants can be offered on a one-off basis to support a particular project or the purchase of equipment, to new groups wishing to start up, or as a contribution towards running costs. Please contact the Clerk for further details.

Cont.

Reported crime

Crimes reported in Wixams 2018

1/11	Harassment
5/12	Assault without Injury The Causeway
5-6/12	Criminal damage to vehicle <£5k Woodpecker Gardens
5/12	Fear or provocation of violence Magpie Gardens
8/12	Criminal damage to vehicle <£5k Brooklands Avenue
9/12	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety
9/12	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety
9/12	Assault (ABH) Bluebird Gardens
29/12	Assault (ABH) Bluebird Gardens
29/12	Assault without Injury Brooklands Avenue
29/12	Assault without Injury Brooklands Avenue
29/12	Assault without Injury Bluebird Gardens
29/12	Assault without Injury Bluebird Gardens
30/12	Assault without injury on a constable, Brooklands Avenue
2019	
14/01	Assault without Injury Magpie Gardens
14/01	Assault without Injury Magpie Gardens
16/01	Going equipped for stealing etc Southern Cross
16-17/01	Burglary - Business And Community, The Causeway
18/01	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety
20/01	Assault without Injury Moorland Close
25/01	Assault (ABH) Bluewater Quay
25-26/01	Criminal damage to vehicle <£5k Kingfisher Road

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

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

To **report online** non-emergency crimes, incidents or give the police information, go to www.bedfordshire.police.uk/report 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

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 - bedforddnhw.ourwatch.org.uk

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.

Our local station: Police HQ, Woburn Road, Kempston MK43 9AX
Opening hours: Mon - Sun 8am - 8pm

Wixams News deadline - Friday 1st 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 March.

Opinion

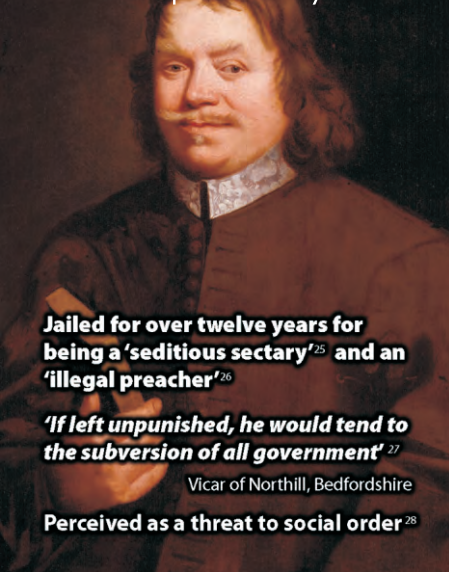
Litter pick Sat 2nd March

A big thank you to the employees at **Galliford Try Partnerships** (who are building the retirement centre at the north end of Wixams). They have sponsored the children's Easter Eggs, Certificates and publicity leaflet at this year's litter pick.

So why have a litter pick?

- To keep our village looking smart and tidy
 - To teach our children by example
 - To come together as a community
 - To have pride in our village
 - To have fun and some memories
- So see you there!

John Bunyan - hero of free speech and toleration but persecuted by the state



The John Bunyan Museum, Bedford opens again from 12th February, 11am-4pm, Tue-Sat. Quizzes for children, café, shop. John Bunyan was born in Elstow and worked as a tinker in 'Wixams'. He wrote The Pilgrim's Progress, one of the greatest classics in the English Language. Thanks Alan



Wixams Parish Council cont. Litter pick 2 March 9.30-11.30am

Do come, even if it is only for half an hour. Easter eggs for all children. Big Easter eggs for wackiest litter! Free refreshments. Meet at village hall.

Some photos from last year!



Next Parish Council Meetings

Our next meetings will be on **18th February 2019, 19th March 2019 and 15th April 2019** from 7:30pm at Lakeview Village Hall – members of the public are very welcome.

Look out for our agenda for the next Parish Council meeting which will always be published on our website at least 3 working days before each meeting. 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').

Robbin Brough, Clerk to the Council
Wixams Parish Council
wixamspc@gmail.com Tel 07563 108666

Wixams Parish Councillors

Anthony Pedder (Chair)
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Saqhib Ali
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Graeme Coombes
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Charlotte Day
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Tracey Flower
tarnaud68@icloud.com
Janine Alli-Balogun
janine.allibalogun1@gmail.com

Gardening Feb/March



New Growth After Pruning the buddleia



chitting potatoes on a windowsill



rhs.org.uk/advice/in-month



Jobs this month

- Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover
- Mulch young trees, bushes and cane fruit with manure or compost.
- Lift, divide, replant rhubarb crowns
- Prune shrubs, climbers, eg Wisteria.
- Chit potato tubers

In March

- Plant shallots, onion sets and early potatoes
- Plant summer-flowering bulbs
- Top dress containers with fresh compost
- Protect new spring shoots from slugs
- Hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control early
- Prune bush and climbing roses

www.mralga.org

Mile Road
Allotments
Bedford
MK42 9UP

Who's Who?

Wilstead & Wixams Community Art Group



A New Year and a change for the Art Group!

After being lead by local artist Sue Driver for the last four years, and as a result of Sue's other commitments, the Art Group members themselves have taken over managing the group.

We have decided to be non profit making; there will be a joining fee of **£20** and a charge of **£3 per session**. New members have their first session FREE. Teas & Coffees are free and are included in the session charge.

Our meetings are **every Monday** throughout the year (except for public holidays) at Wilstead Village Hall at 2pm - 4pm.

We are a very friendly group with members of all abilities, each individually creating pictures with a wide variety of mediums. We welcome new members and visitors.

For further information please contact

Linda Marlton

01234 403829

Mobile 07792 680654

Pete-linda.marlton@ntlworld.com

Wilstead & Wixams



Free Secret Agent! Holiday Club
 Mon 8th, Tues 9th, Wed 10th April
 10-12, Lakeview Village Hall
 For all children aged 4 - 10 yrs
 games on MUGA, crafts, Bible stories, songs, quizzes, prizes, competitions
 Organised by
 Christ the Word Church, Wixams
 Alan & Anne Pibworth
 Chris & Becca Clarke
www.wixams.org.uk/secretagent
 m: 07853985715

COACHED by Matt
Choose Better BOOTCAMP

Get fitter with these group sessions designed to be time efficient, fun and social.

Tuesdays & Thursdays | 7pm | Wixams Village Hall

BOOK NOW 07745 712482
FIRST SESSION IS FREE coachedbymatt@icloud.com

facebook.com/coachedbymatt [@coachedbymatt](https://instagram.com/coachedbymatt)

Councillor GRAEME COOMBES

Reporting to Wixams February 2019

East-West Rail - continued from page 1

There is a **consultation event** taking place on **15th February** at 3.30-7.30pm, Scott Hall, Barford Avenue, Bedford MK42 0DS and the deadline for responses to the consultation is 11th March. You can find out more about East West Rail at: www.eastwestrail.org.uk I am currently trying to arrange for the consultants for Wixams station to make a presentation at Lakeview Village Hall, that residents can attend and ask questions.

Speeding Traffic from the MUGA

Residents have been in touch recently about speeding traffic leaving the MUGA along Harrier Leys and into Green Lane, which has led to a number of 'altercations' between drivers and residents. There are currently no proper junction lines in Harrier Leys, an unadopted road. I raised this with the Borough Council and Gallagher have agreed, in advance of its adoption, to paint white lines at the junctions in Harrier Leys with the MUGA and with Green Lane, which means drivers exiting the MUGA car park have to stop and give way.

Additionally, people need to be aware that they shouldn't park right on top of the junction between Green Lane and Harrier Leys. The Highway Code states that drivers should not park within 10m/32ft of a junction or on a bend. Drivers need to respect these rules and be considerate of other road users, pedestrians and residents around Wixams.

Tel: 07815 302 318 E-mail: wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk
 Facebook: Cllr. Graeme Coombes

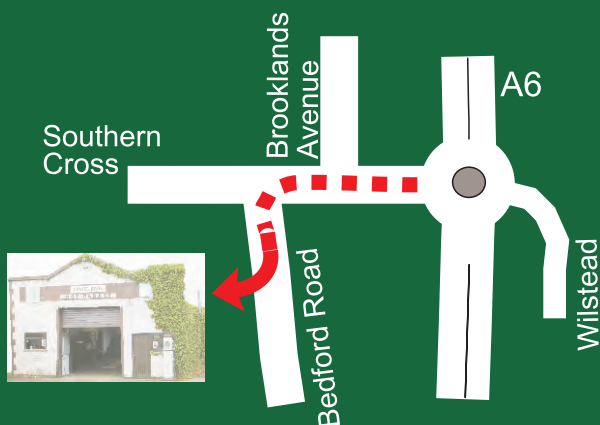
DAVIES BROS

M.O.T. Testing Centre

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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



every 2nd & 4th Sunday
 everyone is
 Welcome to
Christ the Word Wixams
church service
10.30-11.30am
 Munson Room, Lakeview Village Hall
www.wixams.org.uk/christtheword

Wixams Sunday Club
 ages 4-10, 3 to 4pm
 every Sunday term time
 Lakeview Village Hall

IGNITE
 Ages 10-14, Tuesday
 6.30 - 7.45pm
 Alan & Anne Pibworth
 Chris & Becca Clarke
word@wixams.org.uk

Shine Theatre School

NEW PERFORMING ARTS CLASS!!!!

THIS FUN 1 HOUR CLASS CONSISTS OF SINGING, DANCING AND DRAMA. STUDENTS WILL HAVE FUN, BUILD CONFIDENCE AND STRETCH THEIR IMAGINATION. IF YOUR CHILD LOVES TO PERFORM, COME ALONG FOR A FREE TASTER SESSION.

TO BOOK CALL **07749091885**.
 LAKEVIEW VILLAGE HALL, WIXAMS - SATURDAY'S 9.30-10.30AM.
 BALLET CLASSES ALSO AVAILABLE - MONDAY'S 3.30PM & 4.00PM
WWW.SHINETHEATRESCHOOL.CO.UK

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



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

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 MK45, 3RA

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 07934529318 07913404023

Wixams Turfing & Landscaping Services

Hi my names is Jason, I have lived in Wixams for 8 years and have been in the Turfing & Landscaping Business for 10 years

I would like to bring my experience to your outside space so that you can enjoy it throughout the year. If you would like a full or part transformation or simply a garden tidy or haven't the time for upkeep of your garden please give me a call or drop me an email and I will be pleased to give you a free quote.

E-mail wixamsturf@gmail.com
 Contact Jason 01234 743302, 07484651015

Wixams News delivered by 25 members of Wixams Neighbourhood Watch