

# VIXAMS Neighbourhood Watch July 2017

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

Vixams NW National Award for Community Cohesion London June 2014

Caring for the community - Without Prejudice

#### Time Capsule Ceremony at £44m Retirement Village



The retirement village opens in 2019 and will have 230 self-contained homes for outright purchase, shared ownership and rent. The village is a partnership between The ExtraCare Charitable Trust, the Harpur Trust, Bedford Borough Council and the Homes and Communities Agency.

Facilities include a reception and main street with communal seating areas, shop, library, IT suite, café bar and bistro, hairdressing and beauty salon, craft room, greenhouse and fitness suite.

See www.wixamsvillage.co.uk

## Travelling abroad

- ☐ **Be aware** of your surroundings and be wary of strangers who take an unusual amount of interest in you.
- ☐ Lock your passport in a safe if you have access to one, or if you are required to keep it with you, ensure its location is not visible.
- ☐ Thieves also target hire cars, as they anticipate that holiday makers will leave valuable items such as passports in their hire cars. You can take simple measures, such as leaving your passport in your hotel safe, or keep it with you in a secure pocket, to avoid losing your passport to thieves.

☐ Make two photocopies of your passport – leave one with friends or family and take the second with you, or store an electronic copy securely. Where permitted, use your photocopy as alternative ID, for example when going out at night. See www.police.uk/news/foreignand-commonwealth-office-launchespassportaware-campaign-helpholidaymakers-keep /Ed ridiculously long!/

#### The future of Wixams!



On Thursday 22 June Gallagher Estates held a public drop in session in the village hall to seek feedback on the proposed changes to the planned community, leisure and open space facilities for the Wixams.

Your help is needed! Please see page 3 for details on how to respond.

## Wixams Parish Council



## **Next Parish Council Meeting**

Our next meeting will be on Monday, 17 July 2017 from 7:30pm at Lakeview Village Hall in the Munson room members of the public are very welcome we even provide refreshments! 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')



If you are interested in an allotment plot then please get in touch with the Clerk.

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

## Reported crime

Crimes reported in Wixams - June 09/6/2017 09:15-09:50 Brooklands Ave, Attempt burglary residential dwelling 18/6/2017 10:30-11:00 Mallard Court Criminal damage - to vehicles 14/6/2017 23:52 Ladybird Way

Theft in a dwelling

02/6/2017 09:22-09:45

Non counting fraud - investigation

05/6/2017 10:54-18:17

Harassment

**|2/6/20|7** |7:45-|8:04

Domestic

09/6/2017 09:00-09:30

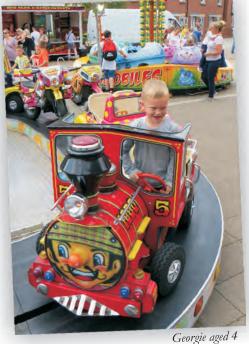
Harassment

24/6/2017 22:05-22:20

Harassment

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

Wixams Beach Party



## 999 - Emergency

where there is a risk of:

- personal injury
- loss of life
- crime in action

## 101 - Call Handling

- Crime in action where there is not a risk of personal injury
- Suspicious incidents

Put this number on your mobile

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 <a href="https://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/contact.aspx">www.bedfordshire.police.uk/contact.aspx</a> See also <a href="https://www.police.uk">www.police.uk</a>

## 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.



## Wixams News

Why each village needs a village hall wenty years ago Wilstead residents worked very hard to build their own village hall. It was a long slog, but they had the crucial advantage of owning the land.

Now on the 22 June Gallagher proposed that Wixams Village 2 and Village 4 should give up any chance of having a village hall for ever! Once the land is built on, that's it!

But right from the beginning a large village hall had been planned for Village 1 and much smaller halls for 2 and 4. They were seen (quite rightly) as the social hub of village activities. Lakeview Village Hall is well used for a village approaching 1,000 houses. Can you imagine life without it?

So, when the other **4,000 houses** in Village 2, 3 and 4 are built, the clubs, societies, fitness activities, parties, etc, will not fit into Lakeview Village Hall and a Village 3 Assembly Hall (to be built many years from now).

Seventeen years ago Wilstead Parish Council spent hundreds of hours making sure good decisions were made for our benefit (ok, parking and station was not for lack of trying). We too should make some effort to make sure future residents get a good village experience. Send in a Feedback Form on Gallagher' proposals (see page 3). Lack of village halls is an arrow in the heart of a community.

If you want somewhere to take the children, try the **John Bunyan Museum**, Mill St, open Tuesday-Saturday 11-4pm. Have a good summer.

Alan



Wixams News deadline - Monday 4th September 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 September.

## Wixams Parish Council cont.

## WPC

Wixams Parish Council

## are looking to co-opt a new Councillor

If you are:

- · Interested in the needs of your community
- Willing to contribute to debates, make suggestions or comment on proposals
- · Able to spare just a few hours a month

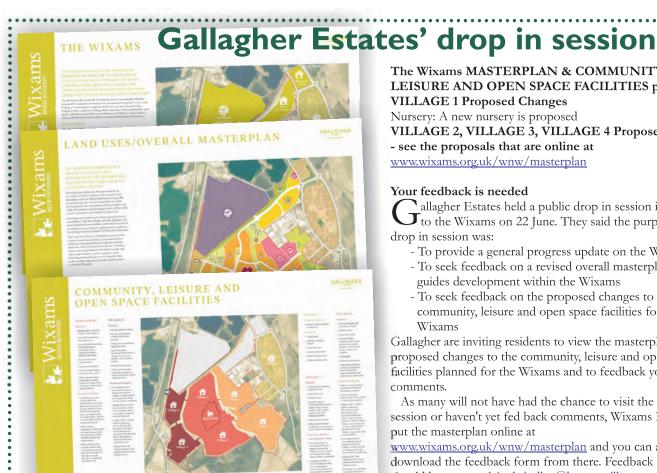
Then please contact the Clerk for further information or to register your interest:

Mrs Diane Robins Tel: 07563 108666 E-mail: wixamspc@gmail.com

Closing date for applications: Friday, 8th September 2017

## Wixams Parish Councillors

Anthony Pedder (Chair) anthonypedder@hotmail.co.uk Peter Webb (Vice Chair) peter.webb8@btopenworld.com Saghib 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 Chris Martin chris@beyondprofit.co.uk Paul Stevens paulstevens0307@gmail.com



The Wixams MASTERPLAN & COMMUNITY, LEISURE AND OPEN SPACE FACILITIES plan **VILLAGE 1 Proposed Changes** 

Nursery: A new nursery is proposed

VILLAGE 2, VILLAGE 3, VILLAGE 4 Proposed Changes - see the proposals that are online at

www.wixams.org.uk/wnw/masterplan

#### Your feedback is needed

allagher Estates held a public drop in session in relation Tto the Wixams on 22 June. They said the purpose of the

- To provide a general progress update on the Wixams
- To seek feedback on a revised overall masterplan that guides development within the Wixams
- To seek feedback on the proposed changes to the planned community, leisure and open space facilities for the

Gallagher are inviting residents to view the masterplan and the proposed changes to the community, leisure and open space facilities planned for the Wixams and to feedback your

As many will not have had the chance to visit the drop in session or haven't yet fed back comments, Wixams News has put the masterplan online at

www.wixams.org.uk/wnw/masterplan and you can also download the feedback form from there. Feedback forms should be sent to claire.brindley@bartonwillmore.co.uk You need to make your comments as soon as possible.





## Councillor GRAEME COOMBES

Reporting to Wixams - July 2017

#### Gallagher drop-in session

I attended the recent drop-in session organised by Gallagher, to look at their plans for future development at Wixams. Frankly, I was disappointed that they seemed to be presenting a long list of things they won't now be doing. Those of you I saw at the session didn't seem too happy with the proposals either.

I raised this at a meeting of the Bedford Council Committee responsible for development in Wixams and it was unanimously agreed that much greater scrutiny is required of all the key players responsible for delivering infrastructure in Wixams, such as Gallagher, Network Rail, the BCCG and developers, to hold them to account.

## Wixams Station

The Department for Transport has advised Bedford Council that no decision can be made on Wixams Station until the route of the East-West rail link is decided in November, as this could have implications for the type of station required. The £16.5m funding gap still exists, but I have raised serious doubts about the accuracy of the numbers being presented, as I don't accept that the price of a station can rise from £13.5m to £30m in just

#### ExtraCare development

A few weeks ago I took part in planting a time capsule at the ExtraCare site. This development will incorporate 230 new homes for those aged 55 and over, as well as a range of communal social and leisure facilities. It is expected to open in Summer 2019. I'll put more information on each of these topics on my Facebook page.

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

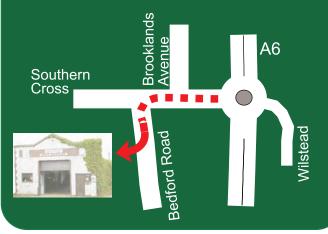


## **M.O.T. Testing Centre**

Cars, Motorcycles, Light Commercials
Also Diesels and Catalysts
free re-tests

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

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







## akeside 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

We look forward to meeting and feeding you soon.

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





MarkaHelen

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

## www.wixams.org/village-hall



Lakeview Village Hall is the perfect venue for a large range of events, including: Weddings, Parties, Meetings, Community Events, Fitness Classes, Playgroups



Wixams News delivered by 25 members of Wixams Neighbourhood Watch