



# Wixams News

Neighbourhood  
Watch

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*Caring for the community - Without Prejudice*



*The Wixams swans and the seven cygnets*

## What's the best food for swans?

It definitely isn't bread. Their digestive system is not designed to metabolize refined flour, preservatives, yeast or refined sugar. If mouldy bread is fed to swans or ducks it can kill them. Bread is very convenient and clearly swans and ducks love it, but to maintain good health they have to eat a natural diet, or foods that are close to their natural diet.

Shredded lettuce, cast into the water, is a healthy food for most waterbirds.

Source and further advice at [wildbirdrescues.com.au/feeding-native-birds/feeding-swans-and-ducks](http://wildbirdrescues.com.au/feeding-native-birds/feeding-swans-and-ducks)



The person who broke into Lakeview Village Hall post box in April has been caught by the police. He was identified on the Village Hall CCTV. He has been fined as well as being made to pay for the box.

## Protect yourself from holiday fraudsters

To help you ensure your dream holiday doesn't become a nightmare, Get Safe Online, the City of London Police and ABTA have produced the following advice

- Check the web address is legitimate
- Do your research: Don't just rely on one review
- Look for the logo: Check whether the company is a member of a recognised trade body such as ABTA.

- Wherever possible, pay by credit card (or a debit card that offers protection).
  - Check paperwork: study receipts, invoices and terms and conditions
- Source: [www.police.uk/news/protect-yourself-holiday-fraudsters](http://www.police.uk/news/protect-yourself-holiday-fraudsters)

## Wixams Parish Council

### Allotments



There are still a few plots remaining – please do get in touch with the Clerk if you are interested.

### Litter Pick



After a very successful litter pick earlier in the year, we will soon be organising another event, together with Wixams Neighbourhood Watch, bpha and Bedford Borough. If you are interested in helping to keep our village tidy (and wouldn't mind some free refreshments!), keep your eye out for further information.

### CCTV



The Parish Council has taken the crime prevention initiative and installed cctv cameras on the only two entry/exit routes into Wixams. The system has the capability of recording in high definition every vehicle that enters and leaves Wixams, including the number plate. These images can then be accessed by the Borough control room and passed directly to the police. Similar systems have proved very successful in other villages, so anyone intending to commit a crime in Wixams should have second thoughts.

### Parish Council Meeting

Our next Parish Council meeting will be on **Monday, 25th July 2016** at 7:30pm at Lakeview Village Hall. It follows our monthly planning meeting which starts at 7:00pm – members of the public are welcome to both meetings – it is always useful to hear your views.

### Clerk to the Council Diane Robins



My name is Diane Robins and I'm married with 4 young children. I live in Little Staughton, North Bedfordshire and this is where I started Clerking part-time about 6

years ago. I enjoyed it so much I started taking on other parishes and, with Wixams, it has become a full time job.

Previously, I have worked in administration and finance for many years as well as having a short stint as a Primary School Teacher! I have recently gained my Certificate in Local Council Administration qualification designed specifically for Clerks and I am really looking forward to being part of Wixams Parish Council.

Please feel free to contact me about any local issues, problems or queries either by e-mail at [wixamspc@gmail.com](mailto:wixamspc@gmail.com) or by telephone on 07563 108666