



Wixams News

Neighbourhood
Watch

March 2020

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

We joined in the community litter pick



Photos credit: unsworthsugden/Barratt Homes



Pages 4 & 5 of this edition are produced by Wixams Community Group. They also edit www.wixams.org the place to start if you want to know about the Wixams community

Wixams Parish Council

StreetWatch volunteers needed!

"LOOK, LISTEN and REPORT"

Juliet Wright the StreetWatch Scheme Coordinator for Bedfordshire Police attended the January council meeting to provide details of how the StreetWatch scheme works. StreetWatch patrols are run by local residents, with the support of the police, to promote good citizenship and to support the community.

StreetWatch is about going for a walk in areas where crime and anti-social behaviour has been identified, getting to know people, and building up the sense of a community spirit. The physical presence of volunteers acts to deter crime and anti-social behaviour. Training is very simple and will be provided. Volunteers commit to 2 hours a month to patrol in a group, wearing the high-vis jackets provided.

Each patrol is registered with Force Control: what time and where you are going. It's entirely your choice where you want to go; you can even take the dog for a walk. After the patrol you feed back to Force Control anything they need to be aware of and to confirm you have finished the patrol. If you would like to volunteer then please either contact the clerk (wixamspc@gmail.com) or Juliet.Wright@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Benches and a noticeboard...

Having received permission for the new benches and a noticeboard for Village 2, we are moving forward with contractors to obtain quotes for installation. The benches and noticeboard are designated for both borough council and developer land, which makes gaining permission more complicated; especially where land is up for adoption and there are legal implications. We're getting closer... If there are any companies in Wixams who could install the benches could you please contact the clerk.

Thank you to Councillor Ashley Carr

Ashley is unfortunately leaving us. The councillors wish to express their thanks for the time he invested on the council. We therefore have an open position on the council. The meetings are monthly and councillor positions are unpaid, but if you're interested in the inner workings of Wixams then you will find the role enlightening and you have the opportunity to steer the focus and progress of the parish council.

Wixams entrance signs Previously we announced the winner of the competition to design the entrance signs for Wixams (yes you, 11-year-old William). Now we're in the process of choosing a company to design and build the signs. We're narrowing it down and are not too far off ordering them.

Litterpick on Saturday 14th March

Thank you to everyone who joined in - approx 120 people - and to Angela, Leanne, Anne, Anthony, Terry, Joshua, Robbin, Tony, Alan. Also thank you to Lakeview village hall, Bedford Borough Council, Lakeside Fish&Chips and David Wilson Homes & Barratt Homes. Thank you also to Rachel and Roger who do a brilliant job looking after the village. Organised by Wixams Parish Council and Wixams Neighbourhood Watch



Cont.

Reported crime

Crimes reported in Wixams

29/01 00:00 Fallow Lane Burglary

31/01 19:00 Green Lane

Fear or provocation of violence

08/02 00:01-22 14:45 Goldfinch Gardens

Attempted Burglary

11/02 13:00-16:00 Bluebird Gardens

Theft

14/02 18:50 Harrier Leys

Possession of Cannabis

15/02 00:00 Mallard Court

Fear or provocation of violence

17/02 10:45-11:11 Sending letters

etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety,

17/12 00:00 Southern Cross

Theft

18/02 16:30-19/02 08:00 Green Lane

Burglary - Business And Community

18/02 05:00-06:00 Green Lane

Burglary - Business And Community

21/02 02:00 Nightingale Court

Fear or provocation of violence

21/02 00:00 Sexual

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.



www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19

www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response

See LakeviewEvents on fb

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 - bedfordnhw.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.



Saturday, 9th, May, 1-6 PM
Lakeview Village Hall

Opinion

Future of Wixams News

The Wixams Neighbourhood Watch team have been producing the Wixams News in the current format for the last five years. Due to other commitments this is the last edition we are producing.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making it a success. A special thanks to the founder advertisers: Lakeside Fish & Chips, Shine Theatre School, Christ the Word church, Cllr Graeme Coombes and Wixams Parish Council. Thank you to Wixams Neighbourhood Watch who have delivered the local Newsletter since 2010, when it was first started by Linda Whitfield, Wixams Community Officer, and funded by BPHA. Thank you to Barry & Betty Huckle for editorial advice and to Claire Smith.

The **Wixams Community Group**, with WNW, will organise a meeting to bring together anyone who might want to contribute towards keeping the newsletter going (the meeting for Sat 21st March was postponed). The WCG have produced page 4 and 5 in this edition, and as in previous editions, do a fantastic job. Please support them.

If you would like to get involved or to suggest some ideas for the future of the newsletter then please do get in touch.

Neighbourhood Watch

I will be stepping down from Wixams Neighbourhood Watch, though supporting the new Newsletter initiative.

Have a happy and safe Easter.

Thanks - Alan



Look out for a new Wixams Newsletter in May. Past editions of Wixams News can be seen at www.wixams.org.uk/wnw Contact wnw@wixams.org.uk 47 Green Lane, Wixams, Bedford, MK42 6DA

Wixams Parish Council cont. Next Parish Council Meetings

Our next meetings will be on **20th April** and **18th May** (Annual meetings) 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 07554443800

Grants

The council is pleased to have issued the following grants: £2000 to the Friends of Wixams Tree PTA towards an external teaching structure for Wixams Forest School; £427 to Wixams Events Team for various Christmas related items; £300 to Wixams 1st Brownies for the cost of hiring a coach (and the cost of Eurotunnel) for the Brownies' first International trip to Disneyland Paris on 26th May 2020.

Wixams Parish Councillors

Anthony Pedder (Chair)
anthonypedder@hotmail.co.uk
Saahib Ali
saahib.pc@gmail.com
Graeme Coombes
wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk
Rajesh Varma

Ahmed Nasser

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David Owens
Owensd815@gmail.com
Anthony Musgrove
347musgrove@gmail.com
Clinton Taylor
taylor-c@sky.com
Sergio Fowles
sergiofowles4@gmail.com

Buggy Bootcamp

Fitness classes for mums with their babies and toddlers – bring your little ones to class – no need for a creche

**NEW INDOOR CLASS @ LAKEVIEW VILLAGE HALL
TUESDAYS @ 13.30PM – starting 7th Jan 2020**

Circuit exercise class & weekly weigh in - body measurements – food diary – nutrition advice

Contact Jo 07896040084 /info@buggy-bootcamp-bedford.co.uk

ALL ABOUT DOGS

Wixams based dog walking services



Me! 07450432535

FB allaboutdogswixams

Fully insured
Multiple dog discount
Ad hoc requirements

DAWNUNTILDUSK
CHILDCARE

Lakeview Pre-School



Book Week

At Pre-School we have been reading lots of different books, having fun dressing up and exploring storybook activities

Easter Holiday Club



We are still taking bookings for our Easter Holiday Club. Please go to our website to book a place

www.kidsdawnuntildusk.co.uk

Call Head Office for Holiday Club enquiries on 01234 930505

Wixams Dance Hall, Wixams Retirement Village, Bedford Road, Bedford MK42 6EA

PLANET SWING

EVERY THURSDAY WIXAMS

FREE SWING DANCE CLASS
Followed by Live Band

7.30pm till 10.30pm Entrance: £10

www.swingsters.co.uk 07956-366448 dance@swingsters.co.uk



Wash your hands with soap

Love your neighbour as yourself - Jesus
Matthew 22v39

WIXAMS COMMUNITY HUB

WE HAVE FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY LEADERS INVOLVED IN WIXAMS TO BRING LOCAL PEOPLE, INFORMATION, IDEAS, FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND UP AND COMING EVENTS. THE MEETINGS INCLUDE:

- REPRESENTATIVES FROM SCHOOLS, LOCAL BUSINESSES, CHURCHES, GARDENS, WIXAMS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS, STATISTICS AND VOLUNTARY ACTION ORGANISATIONS
- AND ANYONE WORKING IN THE LOCAL AREA WHO WANTS TO SEE POSITIVE CHANGES & BETTER PARTICIPATION
- AND WHAT YOUR MEETING TO ME... INSPIRE, ACCESSIBLE & FREE ACCESS
- IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE WIXAMS COMMUNITY HUB, PLEASE CONTACT CHRISTOPHER ALLAN@BEDFORD.GOV.UK
- OR YOU KNOW OF ANY STAFF, GROUPS, OR INDIVIDUALS WHO WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE WIXAMS COMMUNITY HUB, PLEASE LET US KNOW SO THAT WE CAN INVITE THEM TO JOIN THE HUB

SHARING INFORMATION, NEEDS, HOPES AND CREATING ACTION

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: CHRISTOPHER.ALLAN@BEDFORD.GOV.UK

WIXAMS COMMUNITY HUB

LAKEVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL
23RD APRIL 2020 10AM-12PM

SHARING INFORMATION, NEEDS, HOPES AND CREATING ACTION

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: CHRISTOPHER.ALLAN@BEDFORD.GOV.UK



Councillor GRAEME COOMBES

Reporting to Wixams March 2020

A6 Wilstead bypass

The A6 has recently re-opened, after months of repair work. Please be aware that Luton Road Wilstead is now closed for a number of weeks in order to undertake major repairs to that road, which are necessary as a consequence of all the traffic using Wilstead during the A6 closure.

G-Park Planning Application

There is no news yet (as at 16/3) regarding any decision on the warehousing application. I am continuing to press for a rerouting of all HGVs into Wixams, via a new road beyond the bus-gate.

Elstow Park & Ride

A planning application has been submitted by Enterprise car rental, to convert the pavilion at the park and ride into an office area. Toilets and a sheltered area for bus users would remain, though there would be a loss of 60 of the current 330 car parking spaces.

Verges – Green Lane

I have chased up the Environment Department regarding the damaged verges in Green lane. These have now been repaired and re-seeded. Please DON'T park vehicles on grass verges around Wixams or it will just cause further damage.

Coronavirus

Finally, at the time of writing, we are facing a serious escalation of the Coronavirus. I am due to have briefings with senior Borough Council officers to ensure local services are resilient and continue. My advice to all Wixams residents is to follow the guidance of Public Health England and other health experts and to look out for friends, neighbours and the elderly. Please stay safe.

Tel: 07815 302 318

E-mail: wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk

Facebook: Cllr. Graeme Coombes



Wixams Community Group

www.wixams.org/community-group



Spring Bulb Update

A few months have passed now since some 80 of our Wixams residents of all ages came together to plant many crocuses, daffodils and tulips around the area of the Lakeview Village Hall. Due to the last winter having been one of the wettest in the UK, we had our fingers crossed that our bulbs will withstand these adverse conditions and grow into flowers eventually.



Spring is finally arriving and if you walk by the area of the grass triangle next to the lake, you will see that some crocuses and daffodils are starting to pop out of the ground. Many tulips are also starting to come out, with beautiful stripey leaves, but let us be patient and see what this spring has in store for us.

Unfortunately, a few overzealous drivers have destroyed some delicate new growth by mounting the pavement by the village hall. Hopefully the weather will allow for more flowers to make their way to the surface. It quite lifts your spirit to walk past and see the little survivors emerge from their soggy winter sleep!



As Spring Bulb Planting turned out to be such a success, we'd like to organise a Summer Flower Planting event for big and small gardeners! We want to create a nice summer display which will take over from spring flowers.

Join our Facebook group or visit our website, where further information will be announced.

www.wixams.org/summer-flower-planting



Wixams Collection for Bedford's Homeless

In January we held a drop-off-session for donations in support of the Bedford Homeless Partnership. We were very touched by the amount of residents who arrived in the Village Hall with donations. See below how many items were donated and read more about the event on: www.wixams.org/homeless-collection

From all of us in Wixams Community Group & Bedford Homeless Partnership, thank you to everyone who donated!



Wixams Photography Club

If you love to take photos, we'd like to invite you to join our new Facebook page, where you can share your favourite photos of Wixams. When you walk past the lakes when the sun is setting, or observe our swans swimming with their cygnets, you'll probably agree that there are plenty of beautiful moments to capture and share. We are looking forward to seeing your images!

Search for "Wixams Photography Club" on Facebook.

www.wixams.org/wixamsphotographyclub



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Fuse Business Park **NEWS**

On 26th February we held a community meeting about the Fuse Business Park development planned for the land north of Fisherswood Road. The developers Wrenbridge gave a short presentation and then answered questions from the audience.

Wrenbridge describe themselves as a Cambridge based company with 12 employees which has been operating for 25 years. They focus on high quality small unit commercial developments in the south-east for local and regional businesses. They target Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM) certification of 'Excellent' on all their schemes and have a focus on the wellbeing of staff.

Wrenbridge have had 34 meaningful enquiries to date from 14 Bedford based companies and 20 companies from outside Bedford including from Luton, Hemel Hempstead and Stevenage. The development is suitable to businesses which need a modern space and a high quality working environment.

About the Fuse development:

- The site will consist of 6 units and associated parking.
- A total of 7,000 m² (75,000 ft²) floor space.
- Units heights will be 1x 10 and 5x 8 metres tall (the B&M unit is 22 metres).
- All units will have a modern style with slate grey cladding and barrel roofs.
- Unit 2 will be the most visible unit for residents as they enter Wixams, it will have an office frontage.
- Units will be fitted with acoustic cladding to meet the standards set by the Local Planning Authority.
- Wrenbridge have recently changed the plans to increase the space between the site and the dementia care home. There will also be a 2 metre tall bund and trees.
- A landscaped area will be provided for staff to use in their breaks.
- In the S106, Wrenbridge have been asked to contribute towards the cycle route planned for the A6.
- If the planning application is approved, work is likely to start in June with an estimated 6-8 months development time.
- The likely usage will be engineering and Research & Development.

We'd like to thank Wrenbridge for contacting us directly and taking the time to consult with the community.



Wixams Music 4 Memory

A service provided by Tibbs Dementia Foundation

Are you living with dementia? A warm welcome awaits at this weekly **Music 4 Memory** group in **Wixams**. We meet to **sing songs old and new, play instruments, dance and share poems**.

Led by a qualified and experienced music therapist and supported by our wonderful team of volunteers who ensure tea and a friendly welcome. Information and practical or emotional support is always available.

Lakeview Village Hall, Wixams

Friday mornings from

10:00 am to 11:45 am

£5 per person

Please contact Tibbs for more details, or drop in and join us.

Telephone: 01234 210993

Email: contact@tibbsdementia.co.uk

www.tibbsdementia.co.uk



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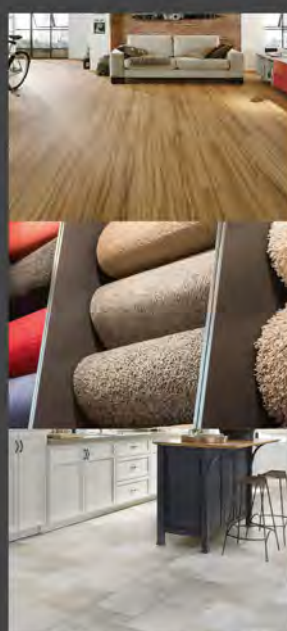
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Stay in touch to keep updated about new projects!

We have a few projects lined up for this year, such as:

- Wixams Treasure Hunt
- Table Top Sale

If you'd like to get involved or stay informed simply join our Facebook group, follow us on Twitter, or subscribe to email updates via the box on the bottom of the website.

- www.wixams.org/community-group
- www.facebook.com/groups/wixamscommunitygroup
- @WixamsCG

Get in via email at:
community@wixams.org



WIXAMS TURFING & LANDSCAPING SERVICES.

Hi my name is Jason, I have lived in Wixams for 9 years and have been in the Turfing & Landscaping Business for 11 years.

I would like to bring my experience to your outside Space so that you can Enjoy 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 e-mail and I Will be pleased to give you a free quote.

Contact Jason
01234 743302
07484651015

E-mail - wixamsturf@gmail.com



every Sunday everyone is

Welcome to

Christ the Word Wixams

church service 10.30-11.30am

Meeting online during the current crisis
www.christthewordwixams.org.uk

Wixams Sunday Club

The WSC and Ignite are cancelled until further notice

Up to date information on Christ the Word is available on our website and facebook

Please contact us if you have any questions

Alan & Anne Pibworth
Chris & Becca Clarke
word@wixams.org.uk



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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.SHINETHATRESCHOOL.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
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QUIZ

1. Which book was read out loud at the Queen's first televised Christmas broadcast in 1957?
2. Which author's work was read out loud at the funeral of Tony Benn in 2014?
3. What was Vincent Van Gogh's favourite book?
4. Which Bedford author is in the world's top one hundred novels?
5. Whose wife said "Because he is a tinker and a poor man, therefore he is despised, and cannot have justice"?
6. Where is the best place in Bedford for children to learn about the 17th Century?

ANSWER: Visit the John Bunyan Museum, Bedford

John Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress

Wixams News delivered by 25 members of Wixams Neighbourhood Watch