



Wixams News

Neighbourhood
Watch

October 2017

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

Wixams Academy & Wixams Tree Primary - official opening



*Song sung by Wixams Tree children:
In our school we will try to be the best
that we can be
We will show respect and then we'll get
to live in harmony
We can make this world a better place
For everyone to see
We can make this world a better place
It starts with you and me.*

"Nothing is so important as entrusting your child to a

school," said Ian Pryce CBE, Chair of BCAT and CEO of The Bedford College Group, as he thanked everyone who had helped the schools to open, from the former MP Richard Fuller, to the Mayor Dave Hodgson, the developers Gallaghers and builders Willmott Dixon and more.

Wixams Academy Principal Paul Spyropoulos and Wixams Tree Head Mary Langley and their new teams are keen to become a close part of the community.

Open Doors Days are to be a regular feature of both so take a look at their websites for dates.

Wixams has at last two long-awaited new schools where local families can safely send their children from pre-school to eventually the Sixth Form.

Run now by the Bedford College Academies Trust (BCAT), the schools are spacious and ready to grow as the local community increases.

Wixams Tree already offers a 'dawn til dusk' service where children are looked after by professionals, so helping busy parents who have to work longer than school hours.

No Parking Here!



A very effective 'No Parking Here' event was organised in the first week of October outside Lakeview School. Parking

in the 'No Parking Zone', even for a few seconds, is causing danger to children and parents who are trying to cross the road. Gem, who organised it, and other parents, were awed and excited at the enthusiastic support and turnout.



Wixams Parish Council

A report on the next steps in the Community Governance Review of Stewartby, Wixams and Elstow Parishes is due to be submitted to the Borough Council's General Purposes Committee to be held at Borough Hall on 3rd October 2017.

The General Purposes Committee will be invited to consider the following matters (extracted from the report) in relation to Wixams Parish:

Wixams Parish

2.3 To note that, based on the terms of reference approved by this Council, the trigger for draft recommendations has not been reached (normally 5% of local electors). Notwithstanding this, and in order to fulfil the Borough Council's obligations concerning community governance reviews, further consultation takes place on the following options:

2.3.1 That the name of the Parish should remain unchanged and the number of parish councillors on Wixams Parish Council should continue to increase to 15 from 2019 and that no Parish Wards be established.

2.3.2 That the area of the Parish be extended to incorporate the area of land which includes the site of the retirement village currently being constructed on land just off of the A6 adjacent to the common boundary of the Parish with Wixams Parish currently in Elstow Parish.

2.3.3 That the area of the Parish be extended to incorporate the area of land east of the B530 Ampthill Road incorporating Angelica Grove (currently in Stewartby Parish).

2.3.4 That, if approved, the amendments in 2.3.2 and 2.3.3 above be implemented with effect from 1 April 2019.

Co-option

There were two candidates for the Parish Councillor vacancy, neither who were able to attend the meeting. Councillors were asked to undertake a secret ballot and the Clerk reported that a majority voted for Caroline Johnson who will be joining the Parish Council as a new member in October.

External Audit 2016/2017

Clerk advised that BDO had written to confirm that the audit had been closed with no matters arising.

Planning

1. **17/02582/FUL** First floor side extension over existing garage at 17 Southern Cross, Wixams – it was resolved that the Clerk advise BBC Planning Department that WPC has no objection to the proposal but would like to draw their attention to the fact that WPC believes the site plan is misleading and that two of the carpark spaces on the enclosed documents are not on land owned by the applicant and that the boundary is also incorrect.

2. **16/02595/MAR** Appearance, layout, landscaping and scale for 187 dwellings, associated highways and ancillary works, pursuant to outline approval at Village 4 Ampthill Road, Wixams – notification from BBC that the Officer recommendation is to grant permission. In addition, Cllr Webb reported on the recent Planning Committee meeting and circulated a response from Barratt Homes re: their application for a marketing suite. WPC considered the letter but it did not change the opinion that the building is both oversized and out of keeping with the rest of the development. Cllr Coombes agreed to request that the application go to BBC Planning Committee.

Cont.

Reported crime

Crimes reported in Wixams

September

04/9/2017 21:30- 21:51

Racial or religious

14/9/2017 16:30-15/9/2017 07:30

Southern Cross, Theft

18/9/2017 17:00-19:00 Brooklands Ave

Theft from shops and stalls

29/9/2017 16:30-30/9/2017 11:30

Brooklands Avenue, Theft from motor vehicle

29/9/2017 08:00-08:05 Green Lane, Common assault

29/9/2017 08:00- 08:05 Green Lane, Common assault

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.

Wixams Cover Street Ranger

Wixams Parish Council invites applicants for the position of an occasional part-time Street Cleaner and General Maintenance Operative to work in the parish of Wixams to cover holiday and sickness for approximately 6-8 hours / week, as required (£10.00/hour)

Applicants should contact the Clerk to Wixams Parish Council by telephone on 07563 108666 or by e-mail at: wixamspc@gmail.com Further information and a job description can be viewed under 'Vacancies' on the Parish Council website at: www.wixamsparishcouncil.bedsparishes.gov.uk

Closing Date for Applications: Friday, 27th October 2017.

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.

Wixams Vixens meet every Third Wednesday of the month 7.45 pm - 9.45 pm
- First visit free - Dates for your Diary:
18 October 2017 - Laughter Yoga
15 November 2017 - Christmas Wreaths
20 December 2017 - Christmas Party
Members - Free Non-Members £5
We would love you to join us. See fb, twitter & wixamsvixens.wixsite.com/wixamsvixenswi

Wixams News

Police forced to ignore Wixams



Bedfordshire chief constable Jon Boucher has hit out at spending cuts to the police force's budget admitting 'we cannot keep people safe anymore*'. He says the cuts have left him without enough officers to respond to 999 emergency calls. 'The position is a scandal. At some point officials have got to sit up and take notice before something happens.'

Commenting on Police funding, Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) said Bedfordshire 'needs to do more to match its limited resources to the challenging demands it faces, especially .. in some areas, for example Luton'.

Wixams comment

Jon Boucher is to be commended for straight talking. There are not enough police resources. HMIC wants to cut policing in villages like Wixams in order to stem the crime wave and terrorist threat in Luton. As a result Wixams will be ignored. Bedfordshire Police need to be given more money. Alan

* Reported in Bedfordshire on Sunday and the Daily Mail



Wixams News deadline - Friday 27th October 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 November.

Litter Picking



You may have noticed that litter is becoming problematic at the moment. This is partly due to our Litter Picker having some time off at the moment. Till Kirsty gets back to work, please would you all try to take extra care to keep our village litter free? We are now advertising for a relief Litter Picker to cover Kirsty during periods of absence, please see our advert for further details.

Next Parish Council Meeting

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 17th October 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')

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

Wixams Good Neighbour Group

Who are we?

We are an enthusiastic group of volunteers of various ages and backgrounds who hope to increase the community spirit in Wixams. We understand that everyone needs help from time to time and we want you to know that we're here to help you.



What do we do?

We offer neighbourly help and assistance to all residents of Wixams. For example, if you need a lift, help with shopping, small jobs done in the home or garden, help with technology or you have problems with your computer, you should get in touch to see how we can help.

How does it work?

We can be contacted by phone or email using the details below. If the phone holder is unavailable you can leave a message and we will endeavour to respond as soon as possible. The phone holder will liaise with our volunteers to determine the best course of action. All our volunteers have been DBS checked and carry public liability insurance to cover small jobs.

Contact Details

Call: 07929 656674

Email: wixamsgoodneighbourgroup@gmail.com

Web: www.wixams.org/wgng

Who's Who? Portu Gallo's



Portu gallo's is a family-run restaurant takeaway which offers customers from the surrounding areas around Wixams and beyond, an authentic Portuguese chicken piri-piri.

Portu Gallo's, will be a dining experience like no other. Sit back, relax and enjoy the truly unique Portuguese churrascaria grill. Our meats are slow-roasted over an authentic Portuguese barbecue to capture their individual flavour, (churrascaria is a Portuguese word for barbecue).

As the produce is freshly prepared in our premises and cooked in the traditionally healthy way, it is no surprise that the famous chicken piri piri has so many lovers.

We offer various types of meats all cooked over live lumpwood charcoal in an old fashioned way.

Come and check us out, see you soon.

Vitor Silva, General Manager

Portu Gallo's, Brooklands Avenue, T: 01234 741 116

*"Watch for the new thing I am going to do.
It is happening already—you can see it now!
I will make a road through the wilderness
and give you streams of water there."
Isaiah 43:19*

Events Diary:

Sunday 5th Nov & 10th Dec, 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 19th Oct & 16th Nov 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](http://www.wixamschurch.org.uk)

e-mail: hello@wixamschurch.org.uk

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

t: @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. John 3:16

Family Love Bible Heaven Welcome Wixams Church Expression Prayer Worship Life Village Gospel Heart Holy Spirit Forgiveness Mission Serve



Councillor GRAEME COOMBES

Reporting to Wixams - October 2017

I wrote last month about the lack of a parking and drop-off point at the new schools in Green Lane and now that they are both operational we have already seen an increase in traffic and parking along nearby roads. The decision not to include a drop-off point at the schools was deeply flawed and I have again spoken to the Council's Planning Department last month, to try to find a solution to relieve traffic pressure on Green Lane and surrounding roads.

Additionally, in March this year, at a meeting with a Council Highways officer outside Lakeview School, we – Parish Councillors, School staff, and myself – were promised that yellow lines would be painted on the road outside Lakeview School. This would make it abundantly clear to those who still refuse to obey the parking restrictions and thus put children's lives in danger. Parking tickets could be issued via Bedford Council's mobile camera van.

It will not have escaped your notice that there are no such yellow lines yet in place. I have requested an answer from the Council as to why they have dragged their feet. I am told that Gallagher objected to the scheme, but that the Highways team intend to proceed with the yellow lines option anyway, once they have checked with Planning whether a planning application is necessary first.

Be assured that I intend to see the Council fulfil its promise on this. Schoolchildren need to be able to walk to school safely, without having to dodge inconsiderate drivers too lazy to park further away and walk a few yards.

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

Facebook: Cllr. Graeme Coombes

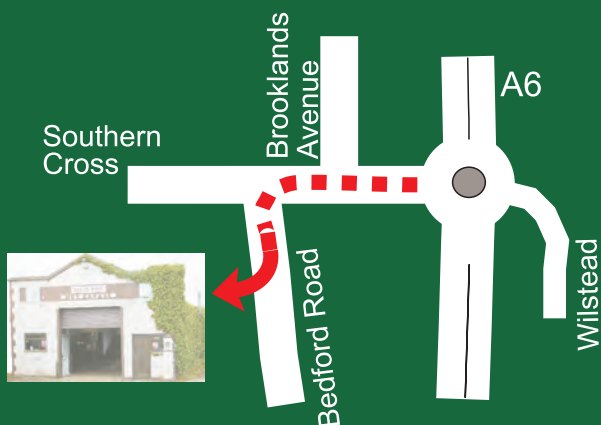
DAVIES BROS

M.O.T. Testing Centre

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

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

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




Jungle EXPLORERS ALL FREE
 — HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB —

OCTOBER HALF TERM
 WILSTEAD VILLAGE HALL
 For all children, aged 4-11

Run by Wilstead Evangelical Church www.wilstead.org



Shine Theatre School

Classes in Acting, Singing,
 Musical Theatre, Ballet and
 Street Dance

Lakeview Village Hall, Wixams

www.shinetheatreschool.co.uk 07749091885 info@shinetheatreschool.co.uk

Lakeside Fish & Chips

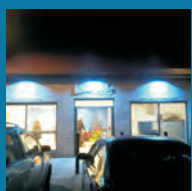
Lakeside offers a variety of fresh and homemade choices for all the family.

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



Advice to ensure your bonfire night is a safe one

- Only buy Fireworks marked Bs7114
- Keep fireworks in closed boxes
- Don't drink alcohol if lighting fireworks
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Light them at arms length using a taper
- Stand well back
- Never go near a lit firework-even if it doesn't go off it could still explode
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Light Sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Keep pets indoors
- Don't let off noisy fireworks after 11pm

See Fireworks Advice Info by Env Health & Trading Standards @ bedford.gov.uk



NO COVANTA INCINERATOR

2nd Environmental Permit Consultation open to 23rd October

If you did not respond to the 1st consultation you can still submit comments to the 2nd consultation.

If you did respond to the 1st consultation you will still need to respond to the 2nd consultation in order for your comments to be considered by the Environment Agency.

visit: www.bedsagainstinincinerator.com

join/follow:   @BedsACI

Wixams News delivered by 25 members of Wixams Neighbourhood Watch