



# Wixams News

Neighbourhood  
Watch

October 2018

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*

**WHAT CAN I DO IF I AM BORROWING FROM A LOAN SHARK?**

- Consider contacting the Illegal money lending team for specialist advice in confidence
- If you are in immediate danger you must call 999
- Recognise that this is happening to you and that it needs to stop
- Accept that you are not to blame
- Keep a diary of incidents, noting down times, dates and witnesses, if any
- Keep a photographic record of any injuries
- Your personal safety is the most important thing
- Report each incident to the illegal money lending team
- Tell trusted friends and family
- Seek help and support from agencies
- Keep text messages, voicemails and any written notes

For confidential help and advice contact the Illegal Money Lending Team

**0300 555 2222**

Email: [reportalashark@steploansharks.gov.uk](mailto:reportalashark@steploansharks.gov.uk)  
Text: loan (space) shark (space) + your message to 40003.  
Web: [www.direct.gov.uk/steploansharks](http://www.direct.gov.uk/steploansharks)

**BIS** Department for Business Innovation & Skills

**Stop-Loan Sharks**  
Illegal Money Lending Team  
Working with Trading Standards - funded by BIS



## 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 pocket or throw
- Supervise children around fireworks
- Light Sparklers one-at-a-time, use gloves
- Never give sparklers to a child under 5
- Keep pets indoors
- Don't let off noisy fireworks after 11pm

See advice @ [bedford.gov.uk](http://bedford.gov.uk)

## Station update



Bedford Council's Executive Committee has now formally agreed to bridge the funding gap on the Wixams Station

project and add to Gallagher's previously agreed contribution, in order for the project to move forward at long last.

Naturally, for a project of this size and scale, a long and complicated process to deliver the station now awaits us. The 40 Borough Councillors will now vote on the funding package and, if approved, a feasibility study will then get underway, to lay the groundwork for detailed cost estimates and an evaluation of the technicalities of the project.

In my regular monthly report inside, I have provided some 'key facts' that have come out of my discussions with Council officers during the last couple of weeks.

*Cllr Graeme Coombes*

## Wixams Parish Council

### Silent Soldier



You will probably have noticed the Silent Soldier silhouette in the centre of Wixams. The Bedfordshire Royal British Legion 'Silent Soldier' marks the sacrifice of those who fell in the four years of war leading up to the Armistice in November 1918.

Nearly 1.1 million British and Empire service men and women were killed during the First World War before the guns finally fell silent on Armistice Day 11 November 1918; Bedfordshire RBL is keen to ensure that we in the county pay respects to those who gave so much.

The soldier references those who came home 'silently'.

**A poppy wreath will be laid on behalf of Wixams Parish Council at the Wilstead Memorial on Sunday 11th Nov.**

It goes without saying that the Parish Council was extremely disappointed to see that part of the soldier had been broken off soon after installation.

### Grants

We are pleased to have recently provided a £1200 grant to Wixams 1st Scouts to cover camping equipment costs and £1100 to Lakeview Primary School PTA to cover the costs of 3 school laptops.

We have up to £5,000 of grants available 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 are usually offered on a one-off basis to support a particular project, event, activity or the purchase of equipment. They are also open to new groups wishing to start up and receive a small contribution towards their running costs.

The Council particularly welcomes applications from small or newly formed groups and those that have not applied to us before. Please contact the Clerk for further details.

### Speed Watch and Speeding

Two speed recording data boxes were placed by the police on Bedford Road in September. The first box was placed near to Watson Road and the second box was placed near Falcon Field.

The first box revealed that 55% of all traffic was travelling at 35mph or above (a prosecutable speed).

The second box revealed that 28% of all traffic was found to be travelling at 35mph or above. This evidences that the road has a speed problem. The police have confirmed they will be carrying out manned speed checks, but do not see this as a permanent solution, so we will be approaching the borough council to find out what can be done longer term.

The council is looking for volunteers to create a Speed Watch team to reduce speeding in Wixams. Speed Watch seeks to promote safer driving in our local communities by educating, rather than prosecuting individuals.

Having registered as a volunteer you will be offered a training course run by Bedfordshire Police.

The volunteers will then run the Speed Watch session noting details of any vehicles exceeding the speed limit. (Cont p2)

Cont.

## Reported crime

### Crimes reported in Wixams

At the time of going to print the crime report for September was not available. It will be published in November's edition.

*The crime report is provided by Bedfordshire Police with volunteer help from Bedford & District Neighbourhood Watch. Because of IT changes street names are not available this month.*

**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

### 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](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/report) Additional contact methods can be found at [www.bedfordshire.police.uk/contact.aspx](http://www.bedfordshire.police.uk/contact.aspx) See also [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk)

**Crimestoppers - 0800 555 111**  
[crimestoppers-uk.org](http://crimestoppers-uk.org)

For further information on **Wixams Neighbourhood Watch** see [www.wixams.org.uk/wnw](http://www.wixams.org.uk/wnw), facebook, or email Alan at [wnw@wixams.org.uk](mailto:wnw@wixams.org.uk)

**Bedford & District Neighbourhood Watch** - [bedfordnhw.ourwatch.org.uk](http://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.

## Office to Rent

**Self contained  
Two offices in suite  
Alarmed  
Toilet facilities  
Wixams address  
01234 741152**

## Opinion

### Non-violent extremists

Some non-violent 'extremists' turn out to be heroic people of global significance. They stood firmly against violence, yet were vilified as extremists who incited violence and revolution. They were victims of the most appalling violence yet didn't hit back.

The Government seems to want to silence non-violent 'extremists'. Had their extremism disruption orders (EDOs) been in force there is little doubt that the following people would have received one: Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King Jr, Mahatma Gandhi, Harriet Beecher Stowe, William Tyndale, John Bunyan, John Wesley, Lord Shaftesbury, Josephine Butler, William Wilberforce, Tolpuddle Martyrs, and The Salvation Army!



### Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks became known as the "mother of the civil rights movement" in America.

Her refusal to surrender her seat to a white passenger on a public bus in Montgomery, Alabama, was "the spark that ignited the beginning of the end for segregation" - Barack Obama.

Yet in the 1950s, government officials said 'agitation has resulted in strife and violence' and they said she was 'a dangerous leader'.

Sometimes unpopular ideas are just what a society desperately needs. Ideas put forward by people once thought seditious, dangerous, or just plain crazy have greatly blessed our land and others. Democracy needs dissent, and silencing it undermines its very foundations.

Thanks - Alan



**Wixams News deadline - Friday 2nd November** for any copy, news adverts or changes to existing adverts. Contact [wnw@wixams.org.uk](mailto:wnw@wixams.org.uk) 47 Green Lane, Wixams, Bedford, MK42 6DA [www.wixams.org.uk/wnw](http://www.wixams.org.uk/wnw) The next Wixams News will be published mid November.

**Meet John Bunyan in prison!**

John Bunyan Museum  
Mill St,  
Bedford

Quizzes for children. Shop. Cafe  
Tue-Sat 11am-4pm until end of half term

Dawn until Dusk Lakeview Pre School  
opened on 1st October  
[lakeviewpreschool@kidsdawnatdusk.co.uk](mailto:lakeviewpreschool@kidsdawnatdusk.co.uk)

**Sparkles Clean Hiring Now!**

Sparkles Clean is growing at fast rate and now requires a reliable & trustworthy Cleaner

You will have your own regular clients weekly, be self employed, zero hour contract, be able to work school holidays. Pay £9 ph. Phone Louise on 07746907110 or email [sparklesclean2018@gmail.com](mailto:sparklesclean2018@gmail.com)

### Wixams Parish Council cont. Speed watch (cont)

The results will then be forwarded to the police who will then arrange for the registered keeper of the vehicle to be written to. Persistent speeders will receive a second letter but on the third occasion they can expect further action to be taken by the police. If you don't wish to carry this out in your own area then we have the option of swapping volunteers with Wilstead.

### 10 Year anniversary planters

We are looking to build brick planters backed with a short section of wall at the two main entrances to mark the 10 year anniversary of Wixams. We aim to match the style of the Wilstead planters and use local bricks. If you are interested in building these then please get in touch.

### Next Parish Council Meeting

Our next meetings will be on Tuesday 16th October, Monday 19th November and Tuesday 18th December 2018, 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](http://www.wixamsparishcouncil.bedsparishes.gov.uk) (or just Google 'Wixams Parish Council').

Robbin Brough, Clerk to the Council  
Wixams Parish Council  
[wixamspc@gmail.com](mailto:wixamspc@gmail.com) Tel 07563 108666

### Wixams Parish Councillors

Anthony Pedder (Chair)  
[anthonypedder@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:anthonypedder@hotmail.co.uk)  
Saqhib Ali  
[saqhib.pc@gmail.com](mailto:saqhib.pc@gmail.com)  
Graeme Coombes  
[wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk)  
Charlotte Day  
[lottie\\_day@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lottie_day@yahoo.co.uk)  
Laetitia Gamble  
[laetitiarw@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:laetitiarw@hotmail.co.uk)  
Caroline Johnson  
[carolinejohnson710@gmail.com](mailto:carolinejohnson710@gmail.com)  
Chris Martin  
[chris@beyondprofit.co.uk](mailto:chris@beyondprofit.co.uk)  
Tracey Flower  
[tarnaud68@icloud.com](mailto:tarnaud68@icloud.com)  
Janine Alli-Balogun  
[janine.allibalogun1@gmail.com](mailto:janine.allibalogun1@gmail.com)





[www.stoploansharks.co.uk](http://www.stoploansharks.co.uk)

**The VILLAGE Café**

- 10.30am - 12.00 noon
- At Wixams Retirement Village, Wixams, Bedford, Bedfordshire, MK42 6EA
- Come to the Marketing Suite reception to be directed to the Café.

A raffle will take place every week to cover our costs. Participation will be optional.

**12<sup>th</sup> October 2018**

On Friday 12th October we will be holding our first **Village Café**. Join us for a coffee or tea with friends. Decorate your own tote bag to take home and enjoy a quiz.

Don't forget to bring along your favourite family recipe for our Wixams Village Resident's Cook Book.

For any more information please contact Liz on [liz.hollingshead@extracare.org.uk](mailto:liz.hollingshead@extracare.org.uk)

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**OPERATION RESCUE**  
— HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB —

**Wed 24–Fri 26 October**  
10am–12pm, Wilstead Village Hall  
For all children, aged 4–11

2–4pm, Sch. years 6,7,8,9 at Jubilee Centre

Run by Wilstead Evangelical Church [www.wilstead.org](http://www.wilstead.org)

## Who's Who? Wixams 1st Scouts



After many months of hard work and dedication we are finally able to say that the Scouts have landed in Wixams! There was a huge demand for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts groups to be established for the young people of the village. This has finally been made possible by a group of local parents who have volunteered to get the groups off the ground. They have been working tirelessly over the past 6 months to create a fun filled programme for the local children. It has been a tough journey but finally on the 17th September for the scouts and the 21st September the Beavers and Cubs had lots of fun at their first meeting. This would not have been possible if the parent volunteers had not been willing to get it started. To join the Wixams 1st Scouts group as a Scout, Beaver or Cub see [www.facebook.com/1stwixamsscouts](https://www.facebook.com/1stwixamsscouts) and [www.bedfordshirescouts.org.uk](http://www.bedfordshirescouts.org.uk)



### Councillor GRAEME COOMBES

Reporting to Wixams October 2018

I've recently had a series of meetings and discussions with the Mayor, Council Finance Officers and the person at Bedford Council now charged with responsibility for delivering Wixams Station and thought I'd let you have.....

#### 12 quick facts about the Wixams Station project

1. A funding package of £27m is being put together to cover the estimated costs of planning and construction for Wixams station
2. Bedford Council's Executive has agreed to add £14m funding to Gallagher's £13.4m contribution
3. This funding package will be voted on by Councillors on 10th October 2018
4. £200k has been set aside to complete the next stage of the feasibility study
5. When it's built, Bedford Council will own the station via a 'Special Purpose Vehicle' (SPV)
6. It will be run and managed by a professional operating company, not the Council
7. It is estimated that up to 600,000 passengers a year could use Wixams Station
8. The business case for the station estimates the Council will be reimbursed over 40 years
9. Income will be produced via fares, a retail outlet and advertising
10. There will be a station car park, run by Bedford Council. (I have asked for a residents parking scheme to avoid parking problems for those living nearby)
11. It is estimated that the station will take 4 years from the initial feasibility study, through the planning and construction phase, until it is ready to operate.
12. If the project stays on schedule, Wixams station will be ready to operate in 2022

Tel: 07815 302 318 E-mail: [wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk)

Facebook: Cllr. Graeme Coombes



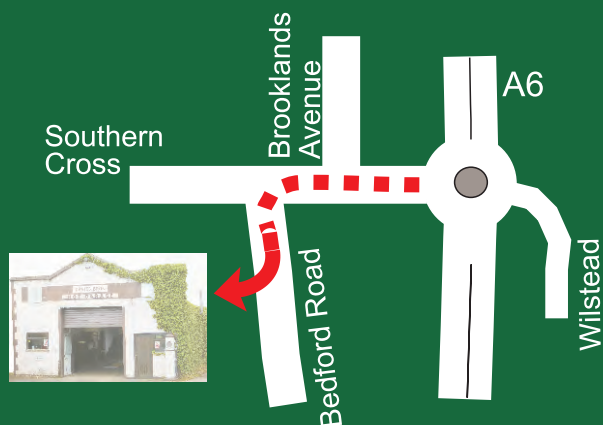
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Mondays - Fridays 8.30am - 5.30pm  
 Saturdays 8.30am - 1pm (March-Sept)

**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](http://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](mailto:word@wixams.org.uk)

**Shine Theatre School**  
[www.shinetheatreschool.co.uk](http://www.shinetheatreschool.co.uk)

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Classes in Acting, Singing, Musical Theatre, Ballet & Street Dance. Book your free trial session!!!

# 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](http://www.lakesidewixams.co.uk)

## Wilstead Pharmacy

- Free Walk In Flu Jab Service
- Free Quit Smoking Service
- Free Sexual Health Service
- Free Prescription Collection & Delivery

Opening Times: Mon-Fri 9am-6pm  
 Sat 9am-1pm

Call 01234740609

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01234 740 609

[www.wilsteadpharmacy.co.uk](http://www.wilsteadpharmacy.co.uk) | [wilsteadpharmacy@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wilsteadpharmacy@hotmail.co.uk)  
 1 Crossroads, Wilstead, Bedford MK45 3H

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to discuss your language needs

Wixams News delivered by 25 members of  
 Wixams Neighbourhood Watch