



# Wixams News

Neighbourhood  
Watch

October 2019

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



The Wiltstead annual **Remembrance Day parade** takes place on Sunday 10th November 2019 at 10:30am meeting at the crossroads in Wiltstead and ready to depart to the churchyard at 10:45am. The parade will be attended by Service organisations, The Royal British Legion, and the Scouts.

The act of remembrance will take place at the war memorial at 10:50am and will be followed by a church service. All members of the community are invited to attend, during the service a 2 minutes silence will be held, and wreaths will be laid to remember the many brave men and women who served and sacrificed.

The Royal British Legion will be in the community **selling poppies** from 26th October 2019 so please look out for them and show them your support.

## "Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BCG) Where is our doctor?!!!"

IT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH

“Although the Commissioners would not put anything in writing, they verbally indicated a willingness to push internally within BCCG for commissioning a Wixams facility by 2022”  
(See Cllr Graeme Coombes' report on his work to get this moving, page 3)

### Comment by Wixams News

Wixams has been planned since the year 2000! There are now over 7,000 residents in the area. There is the new Retirement Village with over 200 senior residents. Waiting 3+ more years is unacceptable. This story will be on the front page of Wixams News until the BCG and the other quangos deliver a doctor. Email us your story. Wixams builders - you need to be on this case as well as it will affect your sales.

We are in desperate need of our own Doctors Surgery.

Rich

Amphill.. lovely doctors but it's a 35 minute bus ride plus a 10 minute walk and then the same in reverse... A taxi is nearly £20 each way! If [my father] was actually unwell I don't think he could do it.

Sam

Not everyone is able to drive to a surgery we need a 'local' GP now.

Jane

Without a GP surgery, it is putting more strain on A&E at Bedford hospital

Claire

my son (9months) and I had to fight to be accepted by a local surgery. I've tried to get [my partner] in with us and other surgeries in the area but no one takes Wixams!!

Tracey

surrounding surgeries cannot cope ... and registered patients are waiting so long for an appointment .

Tracy

when you look at Great Denham the facilities they have are amazing!

Nicky

## Wixams Parish Council

### Benches

We are in the process of planning the installation of new benches around the lakes in Wixams – in various styles and locations. We'll be placing the proposal on our website to allow residents to provide feedback. We'll then obtain permission for as many of the locations as possible. Please go to the Official Documents area of the website and look for the Benches folder.

### New public noticeboard

Following requests, the council has agreed to purchase a new noticeboard for Village 2. One section will be locked for council notices, but there will be an open space for the public to add notices.

### Highways

Borough Council Highways have agreed to repaint the lines on the roads in Wixams where they have become faded.

### Village signs design competition

We were pleased to have received a high number of entrants for the competition to design the look of the new entrance signs to Wixams. We'll be choosing a winner during October and presenting them with the prize of an iPad.

### Next Parish Council Meetings

Our next meetings will be on **21st October, 18th November and 16th December** 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](http://www.wixamsparishcouncil.bedsparishes.gov.uk) (or just Google 'Wixams Parish Council')

### New councillors and vacancies

We are now up to 10 councillors, with Jody Casey and Terry Christian being coopted to the council at the September meeting. A warm welcome to them.

There are 15 roles in total, so we still have spaces! I'm aware of 3 interested parties, so do get in touch before we fill all the places! If you are interested in becoming a councillor then please email the Clerk; it's an extremely easy application process. Meetings are once a month and occur in the evening. No prior experience is required.

### Report on Wixams Station

The council would like to thank Chris Pettifer (BBC Head of Transport & Operations) for attending the September Parish Council meeting to provide an update on Wixams train station.

You can find full details in the September minutes on our website. In short, Chris is hoping to get the station to the design stage by Summer 2020 and then move on to the tender process, with the aim to have the station built by 2023. The business plan is strong and there is good industry support from the rail companies.

There is a dependency on the East West rail project – this will link Oxford to Cambridge via Bedford. There are five proposals for that route; two linking with Bedford Station and three linking with a new station south of Bedford – potentially Wixams. The outcome of this decision would affect the station design; if the southern option goes ahead then a bigger station would be needed as it would be a crossover point. It is thought that the preferred route will be set out by the East West Rail Company and the Government this year. The final completion date for that project is 2028.

Chris stated that there is a huge commitment from all sides in BBC to get the Wixams station built and it's a standing item on their fortnightly meetings.

Cont.

## Reported crime

### Crimes reported in Wixams

2018 -30/08/2019 00:00

Harassment - without violence

29/08 00:00

Harassment - without violence

29/08 00:00 A6

Theft of a motor vehicle

05/09-06/09 07:09 Jackdaw Drive

Criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5k)

08/09 12:45 Harlequin Crescent

Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control

10/09 00:00 Waterside Way

Theft of Pedal Cycle

13/09 - 23/09 00:00 Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety

16/09 18:00-18:15 Teal Close

Fear or provocation of violence

21/09 00:00 Brooklands

Avenue Assault without Injury

21/09 22:45-23:00 Brooklands Avenue

Wounding with intent to do grievous bodily harm

22/09 14:00- 15:00 Brooklands Avenue

Theft of a Pedal Cycle

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

### 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

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.

**SA Tutoring**  
**Maths, Business Studies and**  
**Biology to GCSE**  
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**£25 per hour**  
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## Opinion

### IT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH!

I have two children under 3 and a medical centre in Wixams will make life so much easier for us!

Anon

We desperately need a doctor and a medical centre in the Wixams. The response from the Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BCCG) that something may happen in three years time is simply not good enough.



Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group Capability House, Silsoe, Bedfordshire, MK45 4HR [www.bedfordshireccg.nhs.uk/page/?id=3250](http://www.bedfordshireccg.nhs.uk/page/?id=3250)

We should be grateful for the hard work that our borough councillor, Graeme Coombes, puts in behind the scenes. His report on the provision of doctors and a medical centre is on page 3.

Good communities don't just happen, they don't simply arrive out of a box. They are a result of many people working together - mostly voluntarily in their own time - to make it happen. And that is what makes Wixams such a great place.

Will you help to get the medical centre that this young parent with two young children desperately need?

Thanks Alan



### Wixams News deadline - Friday

**1st 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.

### Wixams Parish Council cont.

#### Grants

We have grant funding of £10,000 each year to fund local groups. To apply for a grant you must be a 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 can be offered on a one-off basis or as a contribution towards running costs. Please contact the Clerk for further details.

Robbin Brough, Clerk to the Council  
Wixams Parish Council  
[wixamspc@gmail.com](mailto:wixamspc@gmail.com)  
Tel 07554443800

### New Councillor Terry Christian



"I've lived in Wixams for the past 5 years with my wife Charlotte (an intensive care sister), daughter Isabelle (7) and son Dexter (4). I currently lead a team of Business Relationship Managers for Barclays where I've worked for the last 10 years, which has also included leading various mortgage teams as well as providing mortgage advice myself. Before that I graduated from University with a degree in Mathematical Sciences. In our 5 years at Wixams, we've got to know many of the community (mainly through school, football, and taking part in a number of activities). I'd like to contribute to its representation, protecting its interests and provide support in its future development."

### 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)  
Tracey Flower  
[tarnaud68@icloud.com](mailto:tarnaud68@icloud.com)  
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Sam Mardel  
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Terry Christian  
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**THE GREAT ESCAPE**  
— HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB —

ALL FREE

**Wed 23–Fri 25 October**  
10am–12pm, Wilstead Village Hall  
For all children, aged 4–11

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

**Halloween Decorations Competition**

This Halloween we'll be running a new competition to find the house with the scariest decorations in Wixams. The winning house will be awarded a prize worth around £100!

You don't need to do anything to enter, just decorate the front of your house and our judges will make their way around the whole village on All Hallows' Eve to see which puts the most shivers down their spines!

[www.wixams.org/halloween-competition](http://www.wixams.org/halloween-competition)

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MK45 3DN

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8.30am–5.30pm.




**Wixams Book Club**

Did you know that Wixams has its very own book club? If you love reading and enjoy interesting chats with friendly people in a relaxed atmosphere, why not join us?

We meet once a month in the evening to unwind and discuss our latest book. Some examples of past reads are:

- The Handmaid's Tale
- Becoming
- The Homegoing
- Secret Pigeon Service
- The Story of Arthur Truluv

New members very welcome! Email [wixamsbookclub@yahoo.com](mailto:wixamsbookclub@yahoo.com)



**DAWNUNTILDUSK**  
CHILDCARE

**Forest School**



Meadow Crowns    Clay Hedgehogs    Muddy Faces

This term we have introduced weekly Forest School sessions. The children have been exploring natural resources, flowers, leaves, feathers, lavender and rosemary. We have also been talking about hedgehogs and other nocturnal animals, mammals and birds such as foxes, bats and owls.

**Holiday Club**

We run a Holiday Club at the Pre-School for 2-7yr olds throughout all school holidays and school training days. Visit our website to book and to find more details.

Facebook: Dawn Til Dusk Lakeview Preschool  
[www.kidsdawnatildusk.co.uk](http://www.kidsdawnatildusk.co.uk)  
Call Pre-School on 07818036499

**Councillor GRAEME COOMBES**  
Reporting to Wixams October 2019



In September, along with members from both Wixams and Wilstead Parish Councils, I had a meeting with representatives from the **Bedfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (BCCG)** to discuss the ongoing delay with provision of a local health facility.

A **GP service/health facility** was one of the early pieces of infrastructure promised for Wixams that has never quite got off the ground, due to the inaction and lack of collaboration between the health commissioning organisations and Bedford Council. This has been incredibly frustrating, but thankfully Wilstead Parish Council (which used to cover Wixams) has been continuing to pursue the health commissioning groups to provide a facility at Wixams, since our first meeting with them back in 2011.

During the September meeting, we again pressed BCCG to provide us with concrete plans for delivery of a health service facility at the earliest opportunity. BCCG confirmed that they are now in discussion with the Planning Department at Bedford Council about a site for a health facility as part of what will become Wixams town centre. Although the Commissioners would not put anything in writing, they verbally indicated a willingness to push internally within BCCG for commissioning a Wixams facility by 2022. I have now requested Bedford Council Planning Department to meet us as well, to present their side of the case for a health facility and to discuss town centre plans in more detail. Like the station, this has been an incredibly long, drawn out process, but both the local Parish Councils and I will continue to press BCCG and Bedford Council for urgent delivery of a health centre at Wixams.

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E-mail: [wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:wilshamstead.ward@yahoo.co.uk)  
Facebook: Cllr. Graeme Coombes



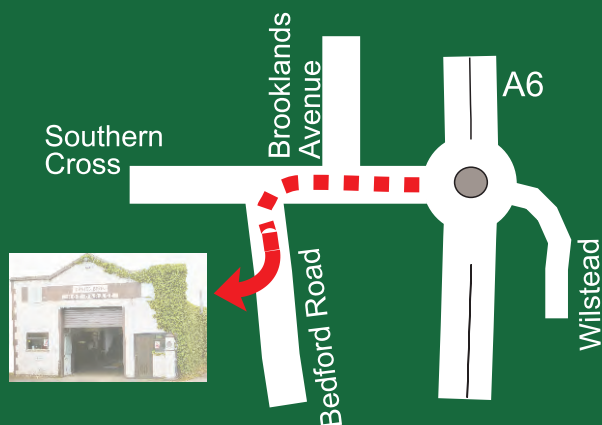
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**133 Bedford Road, West Wilstead**  
**(Wixams) Telephone: 01234 740252**



every Sunday everyone is Welcome to

# Christ the Word Wixams

church service 10.30-11.30am

Munson Room, Lakeview Village Hall  
www.christthewordwixams.org.uk

## 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

# Shine Theatre School

**PERFORMING ARTS CLASS**

THIS FUN 1 HOUR CLASS CONSISTS OF SINGING, DANCING AND DRAMA. STUDENTS WILL HAVE FUN, BUILD CONFIDENCE AND STRETCH THEIR IMAGINATION.

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.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

Find us on Facebook

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

# DAWNUNTILDUSK

## LAKEVIEW PRE-SCHOOL & HOLIDAY CLUB

Do you like having fun and working with children? If so, we want to hear from you! Due to growth and expansion Dawn until Dusk at Lakeview Pre-School have various exciting new staff positions available for both qualified and unqualified staff members, we especially want to hear from practitioners with 2-year-old expertise in their skill set. Along with staff who enjoy working with the older age range at after school club. For more details please contact our recruitment Manager Katie on 01234 930505 or email [joinus@kidsdawnuntildusk.co.uk](mailto:joinus@kidsdawnuntildusk.co.uk)

All posts are covered by the Children Act 1989 and are subject to a satisfactory DBS and reference checks and are not open to anyone on the ISA Barred List.

## Wixams Turfing & Landscaping Services

Hi my name is Jason, I have lived in Wixams for 8 years and have been in the Turfing & Landscaping Business for 10 years

I would like to bring my experience to your outside space so that you can enjoy it 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 email and I will be pleased to give you a free quote.

E-mail [wixamsturf@gmail.com](mailto:wixamsturf@gmail.com)  
Contact Jason 01234 743302, 07484651015

Wixams News delivered by 25 members of Wixams Neighbourhood Watch