



# Wickham Parish Council Annual Report May 2010-2011

## The Parish of Wickham

Wickham Parish is one of the largest parishes within the District of Winchester City Council with 1948 households. The parish extends along Titchfield Lane and Fontley Road to the south west of Wickham centre; it also includes Old Knowle and Knowle Village. To the east are the parishes of Boarhunt and Soberton with Shedfield, Curdridge and Whiteley to the north and west.

## The Parish Council

The Parish Council comprises 11 Councillors who are elected every four years. Councillors are unpaid and are governed by a mandatory code of conduct which includes obligations to act in an appropriate manner.

The Parish Council provides a local voice for its residents; each parish council differs in the work it carries out. The majority of the work carried out by Wickham Parish Council is through its committees: Finance, General Purpose, Planning, Recreation, and the Water Meadows Millennium Green Trust. A Highways and Lighting representative deals with road, transport and street lighting issues; there is also a Tree Warden and representatives for Footpaths and Rights of Way, HCC's Passenger Transport Forum, Fareham Borough Council's SDA, Parish Partnership Forum (Police Liaison), Safer Neighbourhood Panel, Wickham Community Association and Wickham Youth Club.

## Communication

The Parish Council has notice boards in The Square, Wickham Community Centre, Knowle Village and Totsome Cottages; it also produces a regular newsletter for the Parish Magazine and has a website to keep residents up to date with its work:

[www.wickham.parish.hants.gov.uk](http://www.wickham.parish.hants.gov.uk).

Residents are very welcome to attend meetings and to contact Councillors and Clerk with issues of concern.

## Chairman's overview

Once again I am very pleased and honoured to be elected Chairman of Wickham Parish Council, and be able to work with and for the local community.

We have been busy during the past year, especially keeping an eye on the North Fareham SDA and making sure the Wickham/Knowle gap remains in any event a rural one with no changes whatsoever.

We received a grant from Hampshire County Council for Bridge Street cross roads to be enhanced with new steps onto the old railway line, seating and planting which will make this entrance to our village more pleasing to the eye.

Building has recently commenced on the new surgery and housing next to the Wickham Centre. Both ventures will benefit the village greatly.

The new community building at Knowle was completed this year, this facility is for both Knowle and Wickham residents.

Why not attend one or more of our Parish meetings? They are open to the public and you will always be made very welcome. Agendas are posted on the notice board in the Square and at Wickham Centre, also we have reports in the Parish Magazine, and an excellent website.

Our Annual Parish Assembly was held in March of this year in the Wickham Centre, which proved once again to be very successful. There is more on this later in the report.

Your Parish councillors work together as a team combining energies and skills, this can only help to improve the quality of life and the environment for the residents of Wickham and Knowle, and I know we can achieve much more over the coming years in this very special village.

**Angela Clear, Chairman Wickham Parish Council**

## Parish Council News for 2010/11

### May 2011 Elections

The Parish Council elections were uncontested this year but we welcome two new members Jon Taylor and Tony Ryder.

### Councillor retirements

Two councillors have retired, Mike Carter and Colin Roke.

Mike has been involved in a great deal of work for the council and will be sorely missed. Serving on a number of committees during his seven year term of office Mike has actively supported projects for young people and continues to fight for protection for the village from the North Fareham development proposals.

Colin Roke has been the Council's link with Knowle during his three year term of office and he will continue to serve on Knowle Village Residents Association.

### Safer Neighbourhood Panel



Local policing priorities are discussed regularly through the Panel with the Meon Valley Safer Neighbourhood Police team. Current priorities include dealing with anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

The Safer Neighbourhood Panel meetings are open to all to attend. Meetings are held at Wickham Community Centre and dates for 2011 include:

7pm Thursday 15th September  
7pm Thursday 8th December

Alternatively pass your concerns to Parish Council representatives: Trevor Astbury, Angela Clear and Justin Gamblin.

### The Brian Sharp Memorial Cup



## Best Summer Garden Competition 2010

Congratulations to our winners:

**Brian Sharp Cup**  
Maggie and David Smith

**Wickham Parish Cup**  
Joint Winners  
Mike Hollis  
Jane Gawne

**Best Senior Citizen's Garden**  
Joan Law

**Best New Garden**  
David and Pat Geddes

Thank you to everyone who entered, the standard was extremely high.

**Judging for the 2011 competition will begin shortly.**

### Wickham Festival 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> August

The Parish Council has agreed to make a grant to the Festival to allow all residents to experience the event free of charge.

All residents of Wickham and Knowle have free entry on Sunday 7th August. There will also be free entertainment during the weekend in the ground around the community centre

See more details in the magazine

### Street Lighting

The Parish Council is responsible for the maintenance and running costs of 75 street lights in the Wickham area.

If you would like an area to be considered for new lighting or discover lights not working please contact the Parish Council or your local representative Angela Clear

## Parish Council Website



[www.wickham.parish.hants.gov.uk](http://www.wickham.parish.hants.gov.uk)

Would you like some web pages included on the Parish Council website to promote your organisation?

Contact the Parish Council for more information.

## Skatepark extension



The Parish Council worked with young people to design an exciting and challenging extension to the skatepark, it was funded through a grant of £60,000 from Hampshire County Council together with £5,000 from the Parish Council and formally opened in September 2010.

## Church Crossroads



Work will be starting shortly to build new steps onto the old railway line and to enhance the site.

The project involves removing the old steps so your patience would be appreciated whilst the steps are out of action.

## Community Tennis Club for Wickham



The Parish Council has submitted a planning application for two floodlit tennis courts on the recreation ground.

The project will be funded by grants and is being overseen by the Wickham Tennis Club Steering Group.

## All Weather Sports Pitch



The Parish Council is also working with Wickham Community Association and Wickham Church of England Primary School to provide an all weather sports pitch, this will also be funded through grants if it proceeds.

## NHS Dentist for Wickham

After many years of campaigning a mobile NHS dentist is now available at the Community Centre. It is open for new patients, attendance is by appointments only telephone 01962 670501.



See the website for more information  
[www.iosisclinic.co.uk](http://www.iosisclinic.co.uk)

## Highways

Hampshire County Council approved a grant for a new pavement from Blind Lane to the footpath into the village, the grant was specifically for new projects and Wickham was fortunate to secure a share.

Road repairs have been completed to Frith Lane, Titchfield Lane, Bridge St, Blind Lane, School Road and Start Corner. Numerous potholes have been repaired and requests for these are ongoing. Several drains have been unblocked and flushed through.

Get more out of libraries



### Mobile Library

The Parish Council has campaigned for the mobile library to continue to visit Wickham in the face of severe cuts to the service.

The mobile library will be visiting The Square weekly on a Wednesday from 4<sup>th</sup> July 9.20am-12.20pm. Greater Horseshoe Way and Normandy Court will also have visits every four weeks, see elsewhere in the magazine for details.

### Parish Plan

The Parish Council is reviewing the draft Parish Plan in the light of the Government's 'Localism' agenda and new information that has come forward.

During November all households received a leaflet entitled *Planning Responsibly for the next 10 Years* asking for views the need for housing and employment opportunities in the Parish and on two sites proposed for development.

No planning applications have been submitted for either site. The proposals are at a very early stage and as they are greenfield sites are currently contrary to local planning policies.

A public meeting to discuss the proposals was held on 14<sup>th</sup> December at Wickham Community Centre and was attended by 100 people.

**Full details of the consultation results and a report on the meeting are available to view on the Council's website.**

In brief, the majority of respondents support development of up to 50 houses to the north of the village over 10 years, there is some support for employment land and a requirement for increased parking for The Square.

A large majority of respondents object to the proposed north of Fareham SDA and wish for Knowle to be kept separate from the SDA.

These views will be included when the Parish Council responds to consultations on the future needs of Wickham and Knowle.

### Knowle

The Parish Council has taken ownership of the new village hall at Knowle which has been leased to Knowle Community Buildings Association. The new building provides a great venue for events and groups and is well worth a visit.

A formal opening took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011 lead by Chairman Angela Clear



The Parish Council will also be taking ownership and responsibility for the play areas and village green at Knowle in the near future. This should reduce the estate management charges for residents.

### Affordable Housing for Local People

Twenty new homes that can only be let or sold to people with a connection to Wickham are currently under construction on a site adjoining the community centre.



Individuals and families with an income of up to £60,000 can register for affordable housing.

If you have not registered your interest in an affordable home please contact Winchester City Council or the Parish Council as soon as possible.

## Grants agreed for Knowle projects

Wickham Parish Council agreed a grant of £1700 to Knowle Village Community Buildings Association towards the cost of producing the Village Post.

A grant of £3000 has also been awarded to Knowle Cricket Club to help the Club buy equipment and maintain the cricket pitch.

**It is great to see the community developing at Knowle and the Parish Council is pleased to be able to support existing and new projects**

## Annual Parish Assembly

On 24<sup>th</sup> March the main hall of Wickham Centre was full of people celebrating community life in the Parish.

Pupils from Wickham Church of England Primary School shared their experiences of a recent race day with their Green Goblin electric kit cars. Lots of local groups showcased their work through displays and St Nicholas Church Choir entertained with some great singing. The Citizen of the Year Awards were also presented and the winners of the Stan Woodford Photographic Competition received their prizes.

## Citizen of the Year Awards

### Business Contributing To Community Life 2011

Buzz and the Kings Head



During his short stay as manager Buzz has transformed the Kings Head and always took the opportunity to be involved with village life.

Buzz arranged lots of activities on the night the Christmas lights were switched on, appreciated by all.

## Knowle Citizen of the Year 2011

Nigel Prior



Nigel is a key representative for the community at Knowle championing the needs of residents at every opportunity particularly with his involvement with Neighbourhood Watch. Nigel is a very modest and unassuming person who deserves recognition for his work helping to build a safe and caring community.

## Citizen of the Year 2011

Sue Leatham



Sue is involved in a great deal of work in Wickham in particular running the Community Care group but also working with the lunch club and until recently Sue was advertising manager for the Parish Magazine.

## Citizen of the Year 2011

Diane Hemingway-Rice



Di has contributed in many ways to community life in Wickham during the 15 years she has lived here, working as a church warden, active involvement with the organisation of the church fete, Community Care group and Wickham Twinning Association which surprisingly also leaves time for a part time job!

### Lifetime Achievement Award 2011

John Gwynn



John gives up many evenings and weekends to help the community, many local groups have benefited financially from plant sales set up by John and AE Roberts. This together with long term commitment to the PCC, Church Choir, Cricket Club, Scouts and other organisations makes John a worthy recipient of this award.

### Lifetime Achievement Award 2011

Malcolm Burt



Malcolm has been involved with Wickham community life all his life. Maybe most of us know of his work with the local cricket and football clubs maintaining the pitches, organising fixtures and managing the football club. Malcolm's tireless work for local sport is greatly appreciated.

### Services to Young People 2011

Elizabeth Gadd



Elizabeth has recently retired from 20 years of teaching at Wickham Church of England Primary School. Elizabeth was committed to young people and helped them to become independent and confident enhancing their

experiences through drama, visits to the theatre or ballet or even the Normandy beaches.

### Good Neighbour

Barrie Marson

Barrie was unable to receive his award at the Parish Assembly as he was being a good neighbour. This really says it all! Barrie's neighbours thank him for shopping and cooking for them when they are unwell and for all his other neighbourly duties.

### Services to Young People 2011

Posthumous award to Bernie Cull

Bernie sadly died last year, a quiet and gentle woman, she shaped the lives of many local children though her work over many years with the Three Bears Playgroup and Wickham Summer Playscheme.

Children who knew Bernie were made to feel valued and special and remember their time at the Playgroup and Playscheme and the activities and creative ideas they were encouraged to explore.

Thank you to Neale Fray for the presentation photos

### Stan Woodford 2010 Photographic

#### Competition winners

Winners and all entries are available to view on the Parish Council website.



**Adult** The Old House  
by Brian Edgworth



**Under 18** Fridge Street by  
Becki Lemon



**Under 13** Chimney Pots  
by Peter Banks

## Committee Reports

### Planning Committee

Between May 2010 and April 2011 the Planning Committee considered and responded to 77 planning applications in the Parish.

Copies of planning applications are available to view locally by contacting the Parish Clerk - no need to travel to Winchester.

Applications are also available to view online on Winchester City Council's website: [www.winchester.gov.uk](http://www.winchester.gov.uk). (Use the public access link.)

### General Purposes Committee

The GP, or General Purposes Committee is landed with the work that can't be allocated to any of the other committees!

The Committee has overseen the completion of the map board project which has provided three new maps in the village: Station Close car park, The Square and Wickham Community Centre, the maps show the rights of way and important features in the Parish.

The Committee has also overseen the installation of a new notice board at the Community Centre. Residents are welcome to place notices advertising local events and non profit making groups and organisations on the centre panels.

The progress to the new Bridge Street village green is being monitored by this Committee and also Knowle Cemetery and the development of the land adjoining the recreation ground as a conservation area.

The flower displays in the village are organised by this committee and it also assists with funding the churchyard maintenance, Christmas tree and lights and maintenance of the bus shelter.

### Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee looks after the recreation ground managing the maintenance of the landscaping, tennis court, football pitch and pavilion.

This Committee also manages the play areas on the recreation ground, The Circle and in front of the Community Centre.

The skatepark is also the responsibility of this Committee. Regular safety inspections are carried out and repairs arranged as necessary.

Projects to develop two new tennis courts and a community tennis club are being monitored by this committee together with plans for an all weather pitch for the village. The delivery of these projects will depend on successful grant applications which are currently being prepared.

### Water Meadows Millennium Green Trust

The Parish Council, as First Trustee, oversees the maintenance of the Water Meadows for the benefit of both wildlife and visitors. The leasing and maintenance of the Old Forge are also the responsibility of the Trust.

The Meadows are regularly maintained by groundsman Paul Collins and his team, helped by local residents who keep the area free from litter and their efforts are greatly appreciated!

### Finance Committee

The Finance Committee reviews the Council's income and expenditure on a regular basis, it also discusses applications from local organisations seeking funding assistance and makes recommendations to the Full Council.

The Parish Council approved the following grants during the last financial year:

Wickham Youth Club	£2000	Grant towards running costs
Meon Valley Home Start	£1000	Grant towards running costs
St Nicholas PCC	£958	Grant towards church yard maintenance
Wickham Summer Playscheme	£1070	Contribution towards running costs
Citizens Advice Bureau	£1750	Contribution towards running costs
Knowle Community Building Asc	£1700	Contribution towards newsletter costs
Knowle Cricket Club	£3000	Contribution towards equipment
Wickham Community Association	£2500	Contribution towards kitchen improvements
Wickham Festival	£2000	Contribution to allow free entry for residents
BTCV	£50	Contribution towards equipment for maintaining the Meon Valley Trail
Wickham Society	£600	Contribution towards flag pole for Armed Forces Day events

**Income and Expenditure Accounts  
For the Year Ended 31 March 2011**

2009-10		2010-11
<b>£</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>£</b>
90,139	Precept	100,797
Nil	Agency Services Reimbursed	0
Nil	Loan/Capital Repayments	0
80	Interest	60
1,038	Football fees	990
436	Training income	Nil
Nil	Village of the Year prize	Nil
	<b>Running costs</b>	
600	General Purposes (flower bed sponsors)	1,400
193	(Christmas lighting contribution)	160
	<b>New Projects</b>	
2,500	Loan to WCA repaid	Nil
300	Sale of handcart	Nil
6,745	HCC grant for skatepark	60,000
0	HCC grant for parish plan	750
0	Grant for map boards	950
	HCC grant for Bridge St village green	12,500
1,884	VAT Reimbursements	3,529
<b>103,915</b>	<b>Total income</b>	<b>181,136</b>
<b>£</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>£</b>
21,521	Employment	22,182
10,615	General Administration	11,122
	Agency Services	0
2,190	S. 137 Payments	5,110
1,569	Grants	13,385
	<b>Running Costs</b>	
17,062	General Purposes Committee	21,323
5,716	Lighting Committee	3,739
25,313	Recreation Committee	19,687
34	Chairman's allowance	0
744	Councillor / Clerk training	50
	<b>New Projects</b>	
3,794	New projects/contingency	72,984
3,509	VAT	15,688
<b>92,067</b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>185,270</b>

£	General Fund	£
104,867	Balance at 1 April	116,715
103,915	Add: Total Income	181,136
<b>208,782</b>		<b>297,851</b>
-92,067	Less: Total Expenditure	-185,270
<b>116,715</b>	<b>Balance at 31 March</b>	<b>112,580</b>

**Wickham Parish Council  
Contact details**

**Chairman**  
**Angela Clear** 14 Manor Close, Wickham, PO17 5BZ tel 01329 832923  
(Chairman of Finance Committee, Highways, Street Lighting and Safer Neighbourhood Panel representative)

**Vice-Chairman**  
**Sue Roger-Jones** Moonrakers, Fareham Road, Wickham, PO17 5BY tel 01329 833165  
(Recreation Committee and Water Meadows Trust Chairman, Community Association representative)

**Councillors**  
**Trevor Astbury** 15 Wykeham Field, Wickham PO17 5AB tel 07787 495779 (Lighting, Rights of Way and Safer Neighbourhood Panel representative, Tree Warden)  
**Mike Bennett** 9 Cold Harbour Close, Wickham PO17 5PT tel 01329 835205 Police Liaison Panel and Passenger Transport representative.

**Marie du Boulay** Great Pecks, Blind Lane, Wickham PO17 7HD tel 01329 832136

**Thérèse Evans** 3 Copperwood, Holt Close, Wickham PO17 5EY tel 01329 832700 (North Fareham Liaison Panel representative)

**Di Frost** The Laurels, Mayles Lane, Wickham PO17 5ND tel 01329 832633

**Justin Gamblin** Niagara, Tanfield Lane, Wickham PO17 5NW tel 01329 832076 (General Purposes Committee Chairman and Safer Neighbourhood Panel representative)

**Jenny Hollis** 12 Buddens Road, Wickham PO17 5HQ tel 01329 835243 (Planning Committee Chairman and Tree Warden)

**Tony Ryder** 2 Gwynn Way, Wickham PO17 5GW tel 07585 954 257 (Wickham Youth Club, Wickham Community Association and Highways representatives)

**Jon Taylor** 12 School Road, Wickham PO17 5AE tel 07917 804 477

**Parish Clerk**  
**Nicki Oliver**, Heatherdene, Turkey Island Shedfield, Southampton Hants, S032 2JE

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