



Wickham Parish Council News

March 2012

Celebrate community life in Wickham and Knowle

**Annual Parish Assembly 6.30pm
Thursday 22nd March 2012
Wickham Community Centre.**

All residents, businesses and local organisations are invited to attend and to set up a display or make a presentation of their work if wished. Local councillors will be available to address any local concerns. There will be a buffet, wine and soft drinks.

Children from Wickham Primary School will be performing.

The evening is a great opportunity to celebrate community life and Citizen of the Year awards will also be made.

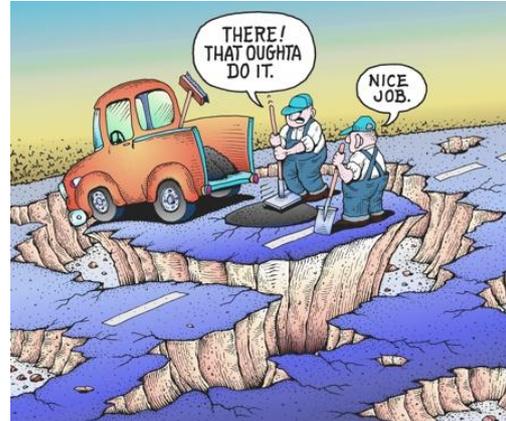
Pylons and overhead cables



The National Grid is carrying out refurbishment to its overhead lines and pylons from March to July this year. Some footpaths will be closed or re-routed during the work. Closures should not last more than two weeks.

Scaffolding will be erected in Lysander Meadow, next to the recreation ground whilst the work is carried out on lines crossing Hoads Hill.

Mill Lane



The Parish Council continues to campaign for improvements to Mill Lane and has been assured that the lane will be upgraded when construction work on the surgery and new houses has been completed.



Wickham Community Tennis Club has 152 new members and would welcome more!

The Club is holding an official open day on Saturday 31st March, there will be tennis activities starting from 9am, come and try it.

Formal opening celebrations 1-3pm.

Everyone welcome to the open day, please note that the recreation ground car park will be shut for the day.

Please see the website for more information.

www.wickhamtennisclub.hampshire.org.uk



Free Tennis Taster Sessions



To celebrate the Olympics all residents are offered the opportunity of five free tennis lessons on the new courts.

First come first served, contact the Clerk to book. (aged 7 and over)

All equipment supplied, just need to wear clean trainers!

Party in the Park



Wickham Parish Council is hosting a Party in the Park on Wickham Recreation Ground.

Monday 4th June 2012

Afternoon tea with hog roast and bar in the evening.

Live music and entertainment.

Local organisations welcome to assist with providing entertainment.

Everyone welcome to the party!

Jubilee Planting in Wickham



The flowerbeds and baskets will have a patriotic theme this summer to celebrate the Jubilee.

Park Place Nurseries are supplying the plants and Paul Collins our groundsman will be carrying out the planting and maintenance.

Jubilee Clock

Plans are progressing well for the Jubilee clock, some examples were displayed in The Square recently and there was unanimous agreement by all those present that a black clock with gold roman numerals was the most attractive.

Cllr Mike Bennett has explored many options for siting the clock in The Square looking at the possibility of placing it on a pedestal or hanging it by brackets. The best solution was decided to be mounting it on the wall of Lilly's.



Festive Lights for Wickham?

The Parish Council is hoping to install new LED lights to the trees in The Square together with new LED festoons fixed between the street lights.

Wickham Chamber of Trade has committed some funding towards the project and the Parish Council is exploring grant opportunities to help towards the costs.

It is hoped to be able to light up the trees during key events in the village that happen throughout the year.

Jubilee calendar of events

The Parish Council has secured a grant to produce a calendar of events being held in the village during 2012. Any profits from advertising will help towards the festive lights project.

Winchester City Council Core Strategy pre-submission consultation

There is a final opportunity to comment on Winchester City Council's development plans for the next 20 years and the Parish Council has continued to maintain its objection to the proposal for 150-250 houses in the village.

The Parish Council has responded as follows to challenge the justification for the numbers:

Consultations with local residents have indicated a deep reluctance to accept further development beyond that required to serve local needs. Residents value the compact nature of the village and the ability to walk to the centre easily whilst recognising that visitors play a significant role in keeping the village services sustainable.

There are very limited opportunities for developing brown field sites in Wickham and green field sites will be needed to increase the number of houses in the village.

Following research through the Market Town Health Check and parish plan surveys the Parish Council believes that Wickham requires no more than 100 new homes to serve local needs and to support existing services.

The majority of Wickham's facilities and services rely on surrounding rural communities to maintain sustainability and these are all set to grow further.

The Parish Council does not feel that WCC sufficiently recognises the impact the proposed North Fareham SDA of 7,500 new homes and attendant services will have on Wickham and considers this another reason to restrict growth in the village.

*For these reasons the Parish Council believes its request for fewer homes to be justified and the second para of Policy MTRA2 Market Towns and Larger Villages should delete the last word **Wickham** and add: **and 100 new homes in Wickham.***

The Parish Council has asked to speak at the public enquiry and has stated the reason for this to be:

Wickham is unique in the Winchester District in view of its proximity to the proposed North Fareham SDA and the impact on the village needs to be recognised and planned for.

All Weather Pitch for Wickham

Planning permission has been secured for a floodlit all weather pitch at Wickham CE Primary School. This is a partnership project for the Parish Council. The School is providing the land, the Community Association car parking and access and the Parish Council is leading the project and providing funding.

A grant of £46,000 has been won through the Sport England Inspired Places scheme. This is a great result for the village, the remaining funding will be from Winchester City Council's Open Space fund which is money from developers that can only be used for improving sports facilities.

The pitch will be for the school to use during the day and for free use after school until later in the evening when it will be booked out to organised groups.

There will be plenty of opportunities for everyone to take part in football and other sports on the new pitch.

Parish Council Meetings

Held at Wickham Centre, all welcome to attend.

Committees 7pm Wednesday 7th March

Full Council

7.15pm Monday 26th March

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