



Hello, I hope you are keeping safe and well.

Thanks go out to the group of lovely ladies in the parish who put on Warm Winter Wednesdays in the cold months at the Womens' Institute Hall, where people of all ages can gather for free tea, biscuits and soup etc and spend time in company at card games, board games jigsaws etc.

Carols were enjoyed by all at their December event when children from Wickhambrook Primary Academy joined the team to hand out refreshments and sing.

Further dates (to be confirmed) are planned for:

24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January;

7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February



Five of the wonderful team of ladies in the parish who put on Warm Winter Wednesdays (from left to right): Vinita Bonini, Mitch Karunaratne, Lorraine Juniper, Ali Byrne and Amanda Lavelle

**WICKHAMBROOK  
NEIGHBOURHOOD  
PLAN**

Your village - your voice -  
your chance to comment

Public Consultation  
4 November - 22 December 2023

If you haven't already, please comment on our draft Neighbourhood Plan! You can view our summary of the draft plan on this [short video](#).

Your comments are really important to us! Please read our [Draft Neighbourhood Plan](#) and then go to our [on-line survey](#) to tell us what you think (or [download a form](#)).

Don't forget if you don't have access to the internet, paper copies will be available to borrow from the following locations:

- Wickhambrook Stores
- Greyhound pub
- Phone box at Thorns Corner
- Memorial Social Centre

You can also borrow a paper copy from any of your Parish Councillors or email:

[neighbourhoodplan@wickhambrook.org.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodplan@wickhambrook.org.uk). You can submit your completed comments form by posting it in the post box in the phone box at Thorns Corner.

This is your chance to help create a vision for development in Wickhambrook for the next 20 years. To make sure the Neighbourhood Plan reflects your views, please send in your comments – even if you support everything in the draft Plan.

Follow this link for more information on the [Draft Neighbourhood Plan](#).

At its November meeting, the parish council agreed:

- A draft budget to be considered and finalised at its January meeting
  - A grant towards the cost of bringing Memorial Clock back into commission
  - Some proposals to address infrastructure and highways issues which, although not the responsibility of the parish council, do have significant and adverse impacts on parish residents. These include:
    - A volunteer team focussed on flooding issues to report to a councillor; and
    - A Community Speedwatch Group (at least six volunteers needed)
- If you would like to be involved in either, please e-mail [parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk)
- To support the Climate and Ecology Bill
  - Authorise the cost of purchasing replacement hedging and guards for the boundary between the cemetery and cemetery road (following payment of £500 received from SCC Highways.
  - To appoint TOP Garden Services as Grounds Contractor for the year 2024 – 25.
  - To adopt revised Cemetery Fees and Charges

To authorise the cost of conveyancing work to register land in the name of the parish council (part of Bury Road Pocket Park).

Our next parish council meeting is on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7:00pm in the Pavilion, Memorial Social Centre. At this meeting the parish council will be considering the following matters:

- An Update on Neighbourhood Planning
- Reviews of Internal Control and income and expenditure against budget
- The proposed budget and setting of the precept for the next financial year (2024-25)
- Nominations for the Alf Hicks Biscuit Barrel – thank you for so many!

Parish Council Meetings are open to the public so why not come along? If you would like to get more involved there are lots of ways to contribute, from attending meetings and asking questions, to joining in with volunteer events, becoming a lay member on our Estates Committee, or becoming a Councillor! We currently have three vacancies for parish councillors, and are also looking to recruit a lay member to the Estates Committee.

If you would like to find out more, please do call me or one of our councillors, or come along to one of our meetings. If you would like to be considered as a councillor, please take a look at the [website](#), and complete and return a co-option application and eligibility form to Hilary. We look forward to hearing from you!

You can find draft minutes of our recent meetings here:

- [Estates Committee](#) – 2nd November
- [Parish Council meeting](#) – 30<sup>th</sup> November

If there is anything you would like the parish council to consider at a future meeting, [please do get in touch with me](#).



Thank you to all our parish volunteers and supporters in Wickhambrook this year - we've achieved so much and it wouldn't be possible without you!

**Our Councillors**, past and present - Paul Couzens, Jeff Claydon, Mel Karunaratne, Mike Lavelle, Kerry Merritt, Sandy Thwaite and Tracey Turner;

**Our Lay Members**, past and present - Mary Jolland, Roger Medley and John Norton; and footpath and cemetery volunteers

**Neighbourhood Plan Working Group**, Emily Bayman, Penny Bayman, Richard Byers, Diana Carroll, Jamie Green, Tara Hayde, Sandra Law, Maro Limnios, Roger Merry and Sue Sternberg.

**The Wickhambrook Memorial Social Centre Team**, Sandra Long, Barbara Merritt, Steve Thwaite, Beverley, Gloria and Ken

**Web Master** - our wonderful Maria Sumner!

**County and District Councillors**, Bobby Bennett and Sarah Pugh

If I haven't mentioned you, please forgive me!!

Do feel free to forward this message on to neighbours, friends and family in the parish and ask them to get in touch with me at [parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@wickhambrook.org.uk) if they would like to be included in our e-newsletter mailing list!

Wishing you all the best for Christmas and the New Year

Hilary Workman

Clerk for Wickhambrook Parish Council