



©Image by Jim and Gwen Ashling



Hello, I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

I've enjoyed some lovely weekends working in the garden and it really seems that spring is around the corner.

At the end of February we planted seven flowering cherry trees in Wickhambrook Cemetery. Thanks go out to all our volunteers for their help and good cheer on the day!



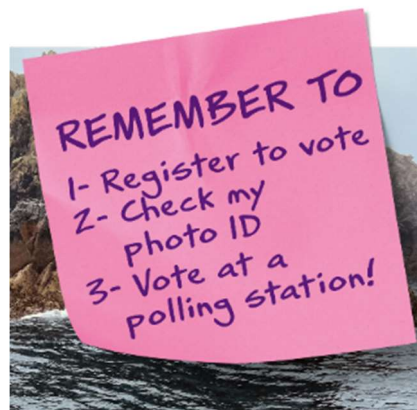
Volunteers planting the Cherry Trees in Wickhambrook Cemetery as part of Queen's Green Canopy
© Wickhambrook Parish Council

The parish council bought the trees as part of the [Queen's Green Canopy](#) project. We'll be adding an image to the QPG map of the trees.

We had very mixed weather, including a very short sharp hailstorm, followed by brilliant clear skies and a rainbow, which inspired me to use this lovely image supplied by Jim and Gwen Ashling as part of the Neighbourhood Plan call for images of [Wickhambrook Parish](#).

April signals the start of a new financial year in the clerk's calendar, with preparation of accounts for the past financial year, and submission of all the documents for the annual audit. This year too, we have the run up to the parish and district elections, which will take place on Thursday 4th May.

Don't forget to check that you're already on the electoral register - a list of names and addresses of everyone who is entitled to vote (contact your [local Electoral Registration Office](#)). If you're not already on the Register of Electors, you can use the .GOV.UK pages to Register to vote online at <https://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote>, it takes about 5 minutes. The deadline to register to vote in these elections is 11:59pm on Monday 17 April.



Don't forget that this year, for the first time, you'll need voter ID to vote at a polling station – you can apply for [voter ID](#) until 25th April.

For more information about the parish and district elections, including timetables and how to access nomination papers, follow this link to our [parish elections page](#) on the website.

March was a busy month, with the first of our volunteer days tidying in the Cemetery. Thanks go out to Mary Jolland and Roger Medley who braved the cold! We got a lot done, clearing the leaves from the new hedge alongside the footpath, and between the yews leading to the Memorial Garden and the main cemetery. We also cut back some of the brambles in the yew trees and started a compost heap. An added bonus were the lovely spring flowers just starting to show!



Mary Jolland and Roger Medley on the Cemetery Tidying Day © Wickhambrook Parish Council

We plan to hold regular volunteer days to help keep the cemetery neat and tidy on the first Wednesday of the month (follow this link to sign up: <https://forms.gle/TdFtWdFqszmNeHhPA>). We also have two further litter picks scheduled for Sunday 23rd July and Sunday 29th October.

The Neighbourhood Plan Working Group have been busy as they continue to prepare the Draft Neighbourhood Plan. Please visit the NP pages on the website at <https://wickhambrook.org/neighbourhood-plan/> for more information.

At its [February meeting](#), the parish council:

- Considered an [update on Neighbourhood Planning](#)
- Reviewed [income and expenditure against budget](#)
- Approved renewal of Parish Council Insurance for the next financial year
- Agreed [Charitable Donations](#) for the current financial year
- Agreed to move to [accept Wickhambrook Memorial Clock as a parish asset](#)

- Agreed the purchase of a [Wooden Senior Goal End and Basket ball hoop](#) for the old Multi Use Games Area and



We hope work to install this will start in April.

- Agreed a further sum (£250 plus VAT) to upgrade the purchase of a garden bench for Six Acres to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III on 6th May 2023.



Our April Estates Committee will be meeting on 6th April 2023 at The Pavilion, Wickhambrook Memorial Social Centre and will be looking at:

- An update on the agreed work plan for 2023 – 24 and
- Proposals for testing memorial stones in the cemetery

If there is anything you would like the committee to consider, [please do get in touch with 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 if they would like to be included in our e-newsletter mailing list!

Wishing you all the best, keep safe and well

Hilary Workman
Clerk for Wickhambrook Parish Council