



# Wickham Parish Council News

September 2012

## Winchester City Council Local Plan update



Winchester City Council is proposing to include a requirement for 150-250 new homes in Wickham for 2011-2031 in its Local Plan. In the first instance this will be through infilling and redevelopment but green field sites may also be required.

The Parish Council has challenged the need for such high numbers and has asked that consideration be given to reducing the number of new houses to 100.

At this stage no sites have been identified and no specific sites have been supported by the Parish Council.

Developers are starting to consult with residents about their own proposals and this is outside the control of the Parish Council.

Further information is available on Winchester City Council's website:  
[www.winchester.gov.uk](http://www.winchester.gov.uk)

## Hampshire Village of the Year Competition

The Parish Council agreed to submit an entry to the Hampshire Village of the Year competition and in late July we heard Wickham had been shortlisted and we were given less than two weeks to prepare for the judges to visit.

Team Wickham went for gold as might be expected from such a forward thinking village!

The competition was looking for evidence of quality of life, a pub at the heart of the village and Jubilee and Olympic celebrations.

We showed the judge some key sites as part of the tour: the allotments at Park Place which are an amazing achievement in just three years, the new tennis courts which were filled with club members and also the village green in Bridge St and the Water Meadows. This was followed by a quick look at the houses in Houghton Way, the surgery, skatepark and sites for the new Scout HQ and all weather pitch at the school.

The tour included our Jubilee and Olympic projects, the new clock and flagpole were particularly admired.

Greens was our chosen Pub at the Heart of the Village. Their motto 'Nothing is too much trouble' says it all. Frank and Carol provide such a successful business and give back a great deal to the community both by raising funds for charity and by employing hundreds of our teenagers over the years!

The judge was then invited into the community centre.....and what an amazing exhibition the local groups and businesses had prepared!



35 local organisations and 10 businesses prepared eye catching stands to explain their work. Wickham Morris Dancers provided the hilarious entertainment and Becky Wilson a Wickham Olympic Torch

Bearer was definitely the celebrity with young and older queuing up to have their photos taken with the torch.

The exhibitors were very appreciative of the cream tea provided by Sue Roger-Jones and Wickham Wives, the scones and cake were delicious and the tea much needed as everyone was talking to new and existing friends for two hours or more!



The Co-op also provided some extra special cake and juice samples which were disappearing remarkably quickly!



The judge spoke to representatives from every organisation which meant he ran over his allotted time but he was determined to meet everyone as he appreciated the work everyone had put into the event.

After the visit the judge wrote to say:

**I would wish personally to sincerely thank you and all the amazing villagers involved, in making our visit a fun and interesting one. Of course I particularly enjoyed the allotments and talking to the lady with the Olympic Torch! I was also very impressed by the range of facilities and projects being currently undertaken around the village. Whatever the results, Wickham is a winner! I personally look forward to bringing my wife to Wickham to show her around!**

Five villages were shortlisted for visits by the judges and we will hear the results on 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

Thank you everyone that took part and **Good luck Team Wickham!**



Thank you to Neale Fray for the photos

#### **Parish Council Meetings**

Held at Wickham Centre, all welcome to attend.

#### **Committees**

7pm Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September

#### **Full Council**

7.15pm Monday 24<sup>th</sup> September

Please see notice boards and website for agendas, dates and times of other meetings.

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