



Wickham and Knowle Parish Council Annual Report May 2022

Chairman's overview



Hello to you all and I trust you are keeping well in what continue to be challenging times for so many people in the world. There are times when we need to reflect on how lucky we are to live in this country and to keep things in perspective viewed against so many tragic stories – especially recent and ongoing events in Ukraine.

This year saw a return to the Annual Parish Assembly which was held at the community centre with some wonderful musical presentations from local groups. I was especially pleased to be able to give awards to residents who contribute so much to the life of both settlements in so many ways through their purely voluntary activities.

This year saw the formal change of the council name to reflect the fact that we represent both Wickham and Knowle settlements equally and fairly.

The council members have remained unchanged since July 2021, although some responsibilities in terms of chairing committees have been made.

I would on this point especially like to thank Sue Roger-Jones for all the sterling work she has done with the Water Meadows Trust over many years. The Water Meadows are a haven

for us all to enjoy and a real jewel in Wickham's crown.

Speaking of crowns, Knowle and Wickham both organised street parties for the historic Queens Platinum Jubilee which were well supported by local organisations and attended by the residents – a lot of hard work goes into the unseen work behind these events and all involved deserve our thanks.

There will be further tree planting events later in the year to create long lasting memorials to Her Majesty.

This year has also seen the settlements come together to challenge housing development proposals from Winchester County Council. These challenges have been successful so far but the long term requirement from government remains and we must continue to state our case for protecting the local character and environment – the Parish Council will continue to run surveys and meetings to gather local residents' opinions, please contribute fully to these – they are vital to the way we are perceived in Winchester and a lack of response will be seen as acceptance.

These meetings will also be run to update you all on developments and options on Mill Lane and we are pleased to be engaging with the WRA on these but encourage all residents to make their voices heard.

The Council continues to support the initiatives undertaken by volunteers who have and are helping vulnerable residents in both Wickham and Knowle. The developing cost of living crisis means that we have to continue these activities and look out for each other- if you are in doubt as to how to access the services or indeed want to know what is available, please visit the parish website where details are given -if you know someone who cannot get to the website please do your bit and tell them what is out there.

The regular Parish Council meetings are now, at last, being held face to face rather than by video conferencing so some form of normality has returned here at least and everyone is welcome to attend.

No parish council succeeds without everyone's support. At Wickham and Knowle Parish Council we are fortunate to have some highly skilled councillors with a breadth of experience ably supported by Nicki Oliver as our clerk. I would like to thank them all for the works and commitment given this year.

I trust you all continue to stay safe and well and can enjoy life in the Parish – it is a lovely place to live with a great mix of people who care for it, their neighbours and community life.

Alistair Hayes Chairman Wickham and Knowle Parish Council

The Parish of Wickham and Knowle

Wickham Parish Council changed its name to Wickham and Knowle Parish Council at the beginning of the 2022 civic year to include the relatively new community at Knowle.

The parish is one of the largest within the District of Winchester City Council with nearly 2000 households.

The parish extends along Titchfield Lane and Fontley Road to the southwest 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.

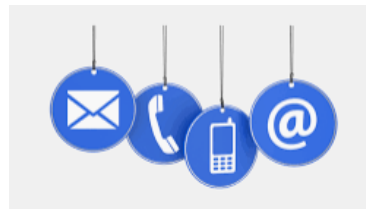
The Parish Council provides a local voice for its residents, each parish council differs in the work it carries out.

The majority of the council's work is carried out through its committees: Finance, General Purposes, Planning, Recreation, and

the Water Meadows Millennium Green Trust.

A Highways and Lighting representative deals with road and street lighting issues; there are also Tree Wardens and representatives for Footpaths and Rights of Way, Police Liaison, Climate Change, Welborne Liaison Group, Wickham Community Association, Winchester District Association of Local Councils, Wickham Community Tennis Club and Wickham Youth Club.

Communication and contacting the council



The Parish Council uses a number of ways to communicate. The council has notice boards in The Square, Wickham Community Centre car park, South Square Knowle and Totsome Cottages.

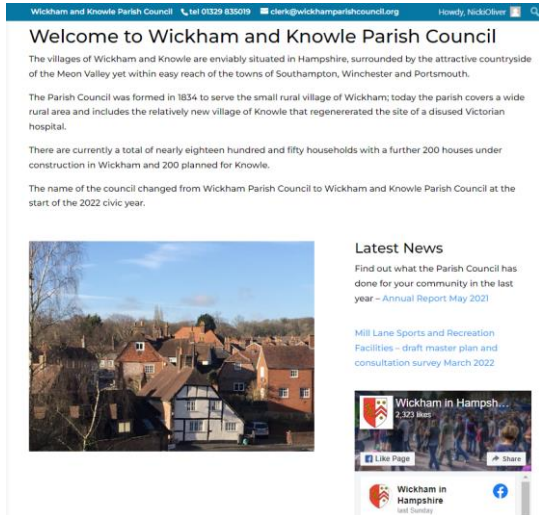
A regular newsletter is included in Wickham Parish Magazine and updates are included in the quarterly Knowle Post. Social media is also used for more immediate news see Facebook - Wickham in Hampshire page and the home page of the council's website.

Information leaflets are hand delivered throughout the villages on issues of importance.

The council's website holds all the information required by legislation as well as keeping residents up to date with its work: www.wickhamparishcouncil.org

Nicki Oliver Parish Clerk is the first point of contact
Email clerk@wickhamparishcouncil.org
Tel 01329 835019

Parish Council website www.wickhamparishcouncil.org



The screenshot shows the website header with contact information: Wickham and Knowle Parish Council, tel 01329 835019, clerk@wickhamparishcouncil.org, and a search bar. The main heading is 'Welcome to Wickham and Knowle Parish Council'. Below this is a paragraph describing the location: 'The villages of Wickham and Knowle are enviably situated in Hampshire, surrounded by the attractive countryside of the Meon Valley yet within easy reach of the towns of Southampton, Winchester and Portsmouth.' Another paragraph states: 'The Parish Council was formed in 1834 to serve the small rural village of Wickham; today the parish covers a wide rural area and includes the relatively new village of Knowle that regenerated the site of a disused Victorian hospital.' A third paragraph mentions: 'There are currently a total of nearly eighteen hundred and fifty households with a further 200 houses under construction in Wickham and 200 planned for Knowle.' A fourth paragraph notes: 'The name of the council changed from Wickham Parish Council to Wickham and Knowle Parish Council at the start of the 2022 civic year.' There is a 'Latest News' section with a sub-heading 'Find out what the Parish Council has done for your community in the last year - Annual Report May 2021'. Below this are two news items: 'Mill Lane Sports and Recreation Facilities - draft master plan and consultation survey March 2022' and a social media post for 'Wickham in Hampshire' with 2,323 likes. At the bottom left of the screenshot is a photograph of a residential street with houses.

Meeting dates, meeting agendas, minutes and accounts information are available to view on the website along with lots of information about Wickham and Knowle and the work of the council.

Parish Council Online Networks



We have over 9,000 people engaging with the **Wickham in Hampshire** Facebook page and **Wickham - a Hampshire Community** Facebook group, an increase of 2,000 during the last year

We also have an Instagram account to showcase our villages **wickham-in-hampshire** which has 835 followers, an increase of 195 during 2021/22

There are links to the Council's Facebook page from the home page of the Council's website.

Council meetings

Residents are welcome to attend council meetings.

Meeting dates, agendas and minutes of meetings are available on our website

www.wickhamparishcouncil.org

together with all the Council's financial information.

Parish Council News for 2021-22

2022 Mayor's Awards

Congratulations to Wickham Surgery nominated by the Parish Council for a Mayor's Award to recognise and appreciate the work carried out by everyone at the surgery.

A big thank you to everyone at Wickham Surgery from the patients that live in Wickham and the surrounding area for continuing to care for us all during unprecedented times.

Wickham Surgery is a calm and reassuring presence in our village which we are privileged to host, particularly during the last two years as the challenges of the pandemic have impacted on daily life.



Annual Assembly 16th May 2022



Thank you to everyone who attended and took part in this year's assembly, it was a very lively event!

We were delighted that the Mayor Cllr Vivian Achwal was able to attend and assist with the presentation of the community awards.

Wickham CE Primary School RAIN Pioneers presented information about their campaign to improve biodiversity and increase sustainability. There was a lot to take away from the group's ideas and proposals and the Parish Council shares the children's concerns and will support where it can.

A new group, Uke-annot Be Serious, played a very well received set of tunes, greatly enjoyed by the audience.



St Nicholas Church Choir performed some of the music that they were rehearsing for the Music for Monarchs concert to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth.

The Mayor and Parish Council Chairman Alistair Hayes presented community awards to local people who have gone above and beyond for the villages of Wickham and Knowle.

2022 Citizen of the Year Jenny Bunce

Jenny trained as a Registered Nurse and practised as a midwife for many years. She now works supporting teen mums as a Family Nurse Practitioner in Southampton a job which she loves. Jenny became involved with Scouts in Wickham in 2011. She has worked tirelessly to enhance the lives of children and young adults that attend the Cubs, Beavers and Scouts in Wickham. She has gained the reputation of devoting most of her free time to the Scouts movement. Working mainly for the 1st Wickham Scouts she is a popular Group Scout Leader and her colleagues would like to congratulate her on receiving this award of Citizen of the Year 2022, she truly deserves it.

Members of 1st Wickham Scouts received the award on behalf of Jenny as she was on a well deserved holiday.

2022 Citizen of the Year Wendy Greenish

Wendy Greenish is a familiar face around the parish. She is very generous with her time and works hard to support those people living in the Knowle and Wickham communities.



Since retirement she has become a Trustee on the Board of Rowans Hospice, Chairman of Wickham Society,

Secretary of the Knowle Residents' Association and is a member of Welborne Community Liaison Group. Wendy is also a board member of Wickham Community Land Trust and a Director to the Hilton House Management Company (Mayles Lane). She genuinely wants to support the parish and is a worthy contender for Citizen of the year 2022.

2022 Services to Knowle Community Mandy Wrenn

Mandy directed the 2021 Knowle village Christmas pantomime the 'Know-el Christmas Tale'.

Mandy really got the cast (all resident volunteers) organised. Mandy devoted so much time to the panto; especially as the cast started quite late in the year and it was an ambitious first project for the newly formed Knowle Drama Group.

Mandy sourced the script, chopped and changed it to suit, created props, organised staging, costumes and lighting.

Most of all Mandy planned all the rehearsals and took the cast through all the scenes, offering tips, encouragement and help learning all the lines until everything was just right; all of this whilst making the panto a fun experience for the cast to be part of.

Mandy also worked with the KRA and Parish Council to gain the required insurance and permissions, publicised the event and ensured every element of the panto went to plan on the night.

The 'Know-el Christmas Tale' was a huge success, a brilliant pantomime production for the village to enjoy and this award is to show our appreciation for making that happen.



2022 Services to Local Sport Dave Fanchi and Harry Gant

Last September some local boys from Wickham, Knowle and our neighbouring parishes expressed an interest in playing football. They were taken on by Waltham Wolves but desperately needed a parent or two to step up to coach and run the team. David and Harry volunteered and now run the Under 9 Raptors.



David and Harry give up their own time each week to train the team, arrange and attend matches and arrange friendlies and the attendance at tournaments. It is a huge commitment. They have been fantastic, the boys have all become firm friends and they're playing brilliantly for such a new team.

The boys and their parents are incredibly grateful to them both, without them these boys wouldn't have a team, and what a team it is!

Thank you to the Wickham and Knowle Wombles

Over 40 local people help keep Wickham and Knowle tidy by collecting litter, it is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everyone with a special mention to Keith Barrett, Mike Hall, Becky Rosamond, Mike Green, Leah Greenbank, Robert Goulson, Andrew Knight, Mike Little, Collette Little, Ross Philips-Lee and Marcus Russell who are often seen out and about.



Leah Greenbank



Ross Philips-Lee



Mike Green



Robert Goulson



Keith Barratt

Thank you

A huge thank you to everyone who helps keep Wickham and Knowle tidy. It is greatly appreciated.

Could you adopt a pavement?

Litter picking equipment available from Nicki, please ask!



Nicki Oliver

clerk@wickhamparishcouncil.org

Summer and Christmas 2021 events

The Parish Council supported a Jazz on the Green event at Knowle in August. It was a successful afternoon organised by volunteers.

The Wickham Christmas Lights Switch On had a boost thanks to a grant allowing for an enhanced event that we hope will continue



At Knowle the Christmas pantomime was supported financially by the Parish Council and was very well received by the residents, thank you to everyone who helped make it happen.



Father Christmas and Wickham's Chief Elf also visited Knowle for an afternoon along with some other interesting characters!



Summer events 2022

The Parish Council has been out and about again this summer.



The Parish Council funded and supported street parties in Wickham Square and at Knowle on Sunday 5th June 2022 to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee.

Thank you to Chrissie Bailey for organising the Wickham event and to the volunteers at Knowle for arranging the celebrations in South Square.



Chairman Alistair Hayes proved to be an excellent Dog Show Judge at Wickham Fete!



By-election

In July 2021 a by-election was requested by some residents and was held to fill three vacancies on the parish council.

Malc Burt, Rodney Burt and Sheila Chambers were elected.

We have been advised the by-election will cost between £5 and £15k but are yet to receive the bill from Winchester City Council.

Defibrillators for Wickham



Residents asked the Parish Council to install a defibrillator in the village after Denmark's footballer Christian Eriksen suffered a cardiac arrest during Euro 2020. We sprang into action and thanks to a grant from Cllr Patricia Stallard there is a defibrillator outside the public toilets. When you call 999 you are directed to the nearest machine.

A further defibrillator is due to be installed at Wickham Recreation Ground.

Could you help save a life?



Thank you to everyone who attended a training session organised by the Parish Council on using a community defibrillator. Look out for other sessions advertised locally.

Free training on using a community defibrillator

Free training on using a community defibrillator

Road safety and speeding – some good news!

Hampshire Highways has advised that the speed limit /junction warning sign on the A32 southbound carriage way, to the north of the church crossroads, will be replaced shortly.

The road safety surfacing at the crossroads is also due to be replaced and the road markings improved this year.

Further measures to improve the safety of the crossroads are also at the planning stage.

The Hampshire Police & Crime Commissioner has announced average speed cameras will be installed on the A32 and A272 to deter speeding and anti-social behaviour, this will be backed up with patrols to manage other offences such as noisy and illegal exhausts. The Parish Council has campaigned for action on these issues for decades, along with many others.



The Parish Council is working towards the purchase and installation of movable speed reminder signs for School Road and Winchester/Fareham Road.

The signs stay in one location for a maximum of two weeks and are then relocated.

Wickham Housing to 2039

Leaflets were delivered to Wickham households inviting residents to attend a drop in event on 18th May 2022 to discuss sites put forward by landowners and developers. An online survey was available for residents to make their views known.



150 people attended the event and 151 responded to the survey of which 59 had attended the event. 44 respondents let us know they were in need of housing to buy or rent.

Winchester City Council has asked the Parish Council to select a site or sites for 90-100 houses suitable for development up to 2039. There is a possibility of no allocation for Wickham in the emerging plan but one may be required later.



See the Parish Council's dedicated webpage for further information.

<https://wickhamparishcouncil.org/housing-in-wickham-to-2039/>

Sign up for updates from Winchester City Council

<https://www.localplan.winchester.gov.uk/>

Committee Reports

Recreation Committee

The Recreation Committee looks after Wickham recreation ground, managing the grounds maintenance, tennis courts, football pitch and pavilion.

This Committee also manages the play areas on the recreation ground, The Circle and in front of the Community Centre and the skate park and all weather pitch at the rear.

At Knowle the Committee is responsible for the village hall, green and pitches, the skatepark and games area, Consort Mews, Barbastelle Walk, Victoria Mews and Greater Horseshoe Way play areas.

During the last year pitch lines have been repainted at Knowle multi-use games area, picnic benches installed on Knowle Village Green, Wickham tennis courts have been repainted as has the Community Centre play equipment, the vandalised zip wire was replaced at Wickham Recreation Ground and new goals have been installed on Wickham pitch.

Plans are in hand to refurbish The Circle play area, tenders are expected shortly.

Thank you to Paul Collins and his team who have been keeping the council's open spaces, pitches and recreation grounds in good condition.

We have also welcomed Crescent Spoon to Wickham Recreation Ground this year, Will and his team are providing a great service to local people with delicious food and drinks and the rent he is paying is helping to keep our costs down.

New Sports Facilities for Mill Lane



In 2003 Winchester City Council's Local Plan allocated a 3.5 hectare site in Mill Lane for sports facilities to provide for a shortfall in sports pitches for the growing population. The agreement for housing to the north of The Circle, being developed by Bewley Homes, includes the transfer of this land to the Parish Council on a long lease.

The Parish Council has employed Fieldform consultants to help deliver the new facilities following a competitive tendering exercise.

A public consultation event was held on 30th and 31st July 2021 at Wickham Community Centre and a leaflet delivered to every household with a further consultation on the first draft of a masterplan for the site.

Local groups and organisations have been invited to take part in a forum to oversee the planning of the facilities. Two meetings have been held to date. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

See the dedicated webpage on the Parish Council's website
<https://wickhamparishcouncil.org/mill-lane-sports-and-recreation-facilities/>

Wickham All Weather Pitch



The pitch is on part of the school grounds leased by the Parish Council.

The school use the pitch for free during term time and for afterschool clubs.

The pitch is floodlit and open to the public at no charge from 4.30-6pm every weekday,

9am-9pm at weekends when not booked and during school holidays.

It is available for bookings from 6-9pm weekdays with a hire fee of £35 per hour, there is currently a waiting list for bookable sessions.

When the pitch is not booked it is open for public use.

Access is from the back of the community centre.

Wickham Tennis Courts



The Parish Council has a partnership agreement with Wickham Community Tennis Club for the club to occupy the courts and clubhouse. The club pays into a sinking fund which allows the courts to be self-funding.

The courts were cleaned and repainted last year using the sinking fund, floodlights were also repaired and maintained.

Wickham Community Tennis Club welcomes new members, there are plenty of formal and informal sessions for all regardless of age and experience.

Information about sessions is on the Club's website.

If you would just like to use the courts on a casual basis, sign up on the Club's Clubspark website and book online clubspark.lta.org.uk/WickhamCommunityTennisClub

Knowle Village Hall



Knowle Village Hall is owned and managed by the Parish Council. It is a great venue for sports, parties, events and meetings. With its large hall and a smaller club room together with changing rooms and a well-equipped kitchen there is a space for every occasion at very reasonable rates. See www.knowlevillagehall.com for further information.

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.

Thanks to successful grant applications for over £100k major works are currently underway to repair and reinforce the riverbanks, to create a safe entrance into the water for people and dogs and to upgrade the paths and fencing.

Thank you also to local families and individuals who have donated towards the works. Every penny will be very carefully spent.

The meadows will remain open during the works but please take extra care. The specialists working on the site are happy to answer any questions.

A family of water voles has been spotted in the meadows which is great news. Look out for them in the side stream and please keep dogs out of the water here.



Please join our Friends of Wickham Water Meadows Facebook Group to follow the progress of the project.

The Meadows are regularly maintained by groundsman Paul Collins and his team.

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 Full Council.

Local voluntary organisations that meet the grant terms and conditions are welcome to submit applications for funding.

The application form is available to download from the Council's website or contact Parish Clerk Nicki for paper copies.

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

Hampshire Home Start £2,600
Poppy Appeal £35
Winchester and District Citizens Advice Bureau £2,000
Wickham Primary School sports kit £400
Knowle Post £2,000



New kit sponsored by Wickham Parish Council and Wickham Dynamos FC

Parish Council Accounts 2021/22

Please see the council's website for the accounts information for the last financial year.

<https://wickhamparishcouncil.org/wickham-parish-council-accounts-information/>

Nicki Oliver
Clerk to Wickham Parish Council
clerk@wickhamparishcouncil.org



Wickham and Knowle Parish Council May 2022

Chairman

Alistair Hayes 2 Greenlees Close, Hoads Hill PO17 5GS Finance Committee Chairman, Climate Change representative

Vice-Chairman Craig Manuel 7 Charity View, Knowle PO17 5NG Chairman of General Purposes Committee

Councillors

Mark Ashton Black Cottage, Black Cottage Lane PO17 5HY Tree Warden, Wickham Community Tennis Club and Friends of Wickham Common representative

Malcolm Burt 3 Wykeham Field PO17 5AB Chairman of the Mill Lane Sports and Recreation Facilities Forum

Rodney Burt 2 Tanfield Lane PO17 5NW

Sheila Chambers 3 Dean Villas PO17 5LR Welbourne Liaison

Nick Guy 11 Mayles Corner, Knowle PO17 5AG Highways and lighting and footpaths and rights of way representative, Police liaison

Lorrae Hayes 2 Greenlees Close, Hoads Hill PO17 5GS **Recreation Committee Chairman**

Helen Manuel 7 Charity View, Knowle PO17 5NG Youth Club liaison

Loraine Rappe 29 Knowle Avenue, Knowle PO17 5LG **Planning Committee Chairman**, Southern Parishes Group, Welborne Liaison, WDALC and Climate Change representative

Sue Roger-Jones Moonrakers, Fareham Road, Wickham, PO17 5BY

Parish Clerk

Nicki Oliver, Heatherdene, Turkey Island Shedfield, Southampton Hants, S032 2JE
Tel 01329 835019 email clerk@wickhamparishcouncil.org

For formal enquiries contact the Parish Clerk in the first instance.