

# Wicklewood News

SEPTEMBER 2013

Website: <http://wicklewoodpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

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## NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET & SAVINGS PROPOSAL 2014-17

The County Council will shortly be holding a major consultation on its budget proposals for 2014-17 by holding a series of meetings across the county to enable as many residents as possible to contribute to what will inevitably be a change in the way that services are delivered. During this three year period savings in the region of £182 million must be made. The consultation period will commence in late September and will last for 12 weeks.

Details of the consultation process and the meetings schedule will be on the County Council website. The Parish Council will also post the details of the local consultations on the website as soon as they are known. The consultation will allow residents to make comments in a variety of ways: on-line, face-to-face, telephone or in writing. As these budget cuts will affect all of us over the next few years you are encouraged to make your views known to ensure, as far as possible, that the services provided adequately reflect the needs of the communities across Norfolk.

### SWINGS

The Parish Council was very fortunate in securing funds from grant applications from South Norfolk Council (£2,000) and the Geoffrey Watling Trust (£750) to enable the old swings to be replaced which were deemed to be no longer suitable. A further donation of £1,000 from the Open Gardens Committee was extremely generous and quite unexpected but enabled the Parish Council to install the new swings earlier than anticipated and we are very grateful to the committee for considering this project which has clearly improved the facilities provided at the Village Hall.

The Parish Council is delighted to report that the annual inspection, carried out by a RoSPA registered independent inspector, has again judged Wicklewood's play area to be a safe environment. The report is available on the website, alternatively please contact the Clerk for a copy.

### OVERGROWN HEDGES

A number of residents have raised concerns about privately owned hedges causing potential obstructions to others pedestrians and motorists.

It would be appreciated if hedge owners could ensure their hedges are trimmed and do not over grow on to the public highway.

## PARISH COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

The Parish Council ended the financial year with a healthy balance; since then the final payments for the refurbishments of the village hall have been made but through good planning and success in securing funds for projects from external agencies the financial position of the Parish Council remains strong. The Precept for the following financial year is considered and agreed at the November meeting each year; this has been reduced in recent years. If you think there is some facility or service within the village that you would like to see introduced or improved please inform the Clerk, preferably by the middle of October, for consideration at the finance meeting in November.

The Clerks contact details: [wicklewoodpc@aol.com](mailto:wicklewoodpc@aol.com). Tel: 01508 4943254  
2 Five Acres, Stoke Holy Cross, Norwich NR14 8UF.

## ALLOTMENTS

The Allotments were re-configured earlier this year, creating four additional plots, to cater for the demand from residents. From April 2013 all those who requested a plot have been provided with one and the waiting list is no more! There are still plots available for those who are interested in trying their hand at growing their own fruit and veg; the plots are 20 metres by 6 metres and the annual rental is only £20 – fantastic value for money - payable each October. If you are interested in having an allotment – or if perhaps two people would like to share one – then please contact the Clerk.

## VILLAGE HALL REFURBISHMENTS

The Parish Council was successful in securing over half the funds required for this large project; £10,000 from the Lottery Fund and £3,000 from the Norfolk Community Foundation. When allocating the contracts for this work the Parish Council was clear that they wished to support local business and this was achieved; I hope you will join the councillors in congratulating the contractors for completing all the work to a high standard, within a tight budget and even tighter deadline so as to minimise inconvenience to the numerous Hall users. The final piece of work was recently completed with the re-installment of the spotlights over the stage.

## WICKLEWOOD MILL

Wicklewood Mill has had five open afternoons this year, with nearly 1000 visitors in total. The final opening this year is on the 15<sup>th</sup> September. We will be open again next year on the third Sunday of the month starting in May. If you have not visited us yet make a note in your diary to come along & learn something of the history of the village.

## HIRING THE VILLAGE HALL

The Parish Council is also pleased to announce that the charges for the use of the Hall will remain unchanged for a further year.

## MEETING DATES

All meets are held in the Village hall & commence at 7.45pm.

Members of the public are welcome, & parishioners have the first 15 minutes of the meeting to address the Parish Council.

The following dates have been set for 2013 & 2014

Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> October '13  
Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> November '13  
Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December '13  
Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2014  
Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February '14  
Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2014  
Monday, 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014  
Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014  
Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014

## WICKLEWOOD VILLAGE HALL AVAILABLE FOR HIRE FOR ALL OCCASIONS

BEFORE 6PM (NO BAR)	£4.63 per hour.
AFTER 6PM (NO BAR)	£7.00 per hour.
KITCHEN SUPPLEMENT	£10.00
WEEKEND ANYTIME (NO BAR)	£7.00 per hour.
EVENING FUNCTION with licensed (6.00pm to midnight)	£92.70 plus £100.00 refundable damage deposit.
ALL DAY FUNCTION with licensed (8.00am to midnight)	£184.40 plus £100.00 refundable damage deposit.

For further information and booking please contact **Mrs Karen Bush** (Booking Clerk) on Tel: 01953 603395 or Mob: 07887 772207