

# Wickham Market Parish Council – Clerk's Report 20 January 2025

1. **Wickham Market News:** Deadline for December Issue was 17 January. To date (10 January) I have had no contributions from councillors
2. **Website**
  - 2.1. The project for a new village website has officially started and funding of £3,500 is in place towards the £6.8k build cost. Delivery is expected in late Spring 2025
3. **Allotments**
  - 3.1. Most plots have now been allocated and new tenancy agreements signed
  - 3.2. Plot 39A has been cleared and coppiced. Many thanks to Simon Harrington and the team of volunteers from the Allotment Association.
4. **Children's play area**
  - 4.1. Still awaiting skate park repair quotes
5. **Markets**
  - 5.1. The Spring market on 29 March is 75% sold and will include food and drink vendors
6. **Insurance and Volunteers**
  - 6.1. Work is ongoing to create appropriate risk assessments and records to ensure volunteers are insured while working on pre agreed council activities
7. **Bank Mandate**
  - 7.1. Electronic Access still needs to be created by Gloria and Gemma
8. **Litter Picking and Maintenance**
  - 8.1. Paperwork to engage our new litter picker is ready, unfortunately due to illness, this has not yet been completed.
  - 8.2. Litter picking is currently not planned for the cemetery as 99% of litter is derived from artificial tributes which the cemetery regulations no longer allow. A notice has been placed on the cemetery notice board requesting that artificial tributes are not laid going forward.
9. **Cemetery**
  - 9.1. Work to level graves to facilitate easier cutting will commence soon. This was been delayed slightly as the ESSL team who will complete this work are still on grass cutting work because of the extended growing season. Unfortunately the wet weather has further delayed works.
  - 9.2. Linda, our cemetery clerk, has said she would like to retire after 18 years. I would like to record my thanks to Linda for the fantastic job she has done over this time and wish her all the very best for the future.
10. **Leases**
  - 10.1. The original licenses to occupy for the Bowls Club and the Football Club expired in February 1998. Both organisations will be approached shortly to agree heads of terms for a new lease. Birketts solicitors in Ipswich expect the cost to be £1,500 providing this process goes smoothly.
11. **Grass Cutting 2025**
  - 11.1. grass cutting requirements for 2025
12. **Footpath Maintenance 2025**
  - 12.1. ESSL have been asked to quote for footpath maintenance for Little Lane and FP009 (George to Spring Lane) other quotes are also being sought from local providers