

Deputy Clerk's Report for Full Council Meeting

4th February 2026

Markets

Saturday Market

A quiet start to 2026, Newbourne Farm attend every Saturday, Street Jesus came one Saturday.

Wednesday Market

DPC Fish visits The Hill twice a month and has returned for the usual Wednesday routines.

Invoicing

Invoices are issued monthly, and traders pay promptly.

Seasonal Markets – Spring, Summer, Harvest and Christmas

The Spring Market, planned for 28th March, is well underway, with all permissions from East Suffolk and SCC having been obtained. 35 stalls have already been booked (PLI is a prerequisite), with only 5 remaining. The Barley Brigg Morris Dancers will again perform, and Wooden Roots will hold drumming workshops throughout the morning. Marketing for the event is ongoing, with all channels engaged. Visit Wickham Market jute bags will be distributed at the Spring Market to reduce the use of single-use plastic bags by market traders. WMPC will be providing free hot drinks to visitors.

Bookings for the Summer, Harvest, and Christmas Markets are being accepted, and invoices for pitch payments are issued as bookings are taken.

Allotments

Allotment fees have been collected for 2025-2026, and all allotments have been allocated due to the sterling work of Ray Lewis and Andy. Al Besly has arranged for the clearance and tidying of some allotments to be carried out by the community payback team. The small village orchard at Glebe allotments has been planted with apple trees funded by WMPC.

Cemetery

From 7th January to 4 February 2026, there have been:

1 Burial Interments

0 Ashes Interments

Planning Applications

From 7 January to 4th February 2026, 4 planning applications were received; where appropriate, meetings were held and the minutes were uploaded to the WMPC website.

Parish Magazine

The March/April 2026 edition of the Wickham Market parish magazine is in the process of being produced and will be distributed by Royal Mail from 9th March. The deputy clerk writes and edits news stories, obtains photographs and liaises with the designer, printer and Royal Mail.

Social Media

Posts continue to be published on the WMPC social media accounts and the Visit Wickham Market Instagram and Facebook accounts, as the new Visit Wickham Market Facebook and Instagram pages have been set up. The current Visit Wickham Market Facebook page now features a poster encouraging followers to follow the new page. Since the VWM social media accounts were set up, VWM's Instagram now has 56 followers, and 20 posts have been made during the month. VWM Facebook has 84 followers.

Visit Wickham Market Website

New events are continually added to the Visit Wickham Market website's events listing page. Additional businesses have been contacted to inform them that their information can be listed on the website's business pages. News stories have also been added, and links to various pages (e.g. Walks and News) are included in some social media posts.

Emails and Enquiries

Email and face-to-face requests and enquiries are received by the deputy clerk and are dealt with promptly.