

## **Chairmans report 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Sorry for the length of this report but we have been busy in the past and will be a busy Parish Council for the future.

### **Boundary change**

We are still awaiting the result of the Community Governance Review which East Suffolk Council agreed to carry out at its meeting in January 2022. The petition and the signatures which we started in December are no longer required as East Suffolk Council instigated the review which should be completed within a 12-month period, it commenced when the Council published its Terms of Reference and concludes when it publishes their recommendations made in the review, which all being well, should be October 2022.

### **Hopkins Homes**

As you are all aware developers Hopkins Homes have commenced construction of Wickham Gate which at this moment in time remains in Pettistree Parish Council's jurisdiction until the Community Governance Review is completed.

### **Young Adults Group**

The Young Adults Group is not a Youth club it was set up to address anti-social behaviour issues in the Village. This is a Wickham Market Parish Council initiative being run by the Parish Council with the help of professional youth workers which takes place once a week on Wednesday evenings in the Village Hall Committee Rooms from 1800hrs for local youngsters of High school age, initially for one year for which we are funded. The first night we had 20 enthusiastic youngsters who turned up so first impressions are favourable as we go forward.

### **Youth Club**

The Parish Council are investigating the possibility of starting a new youth club, Wickham Market does not have a youth club. The Church did run one, but it was closed down due to Covid and they have no plans to reopen it.

Along with Framlingham and Wickham Market Partnership and CYDS professional youth workers we need to coordinate:

1. Venue large enough for 30 – 50 teenagers (investigating possibilities for School, Village Hall and the Bee Hive as venues)
2. Availability of professional youth workers.

3. Availability of volunteers to help support youth workers.
4. Sustainability, any youth club must be sustainable throughout the year and must be expected to continue while there is a demand.
5. Funding. There are grants available once there is a sustainable proposal.

### **King Edwards Footpath**

The footpath at King Edwards Avenue has now been widened and resurfaced to make better access for wheelchair users and parents with pushchairs, a footpath that all can enjoy safely. My thanks go to MP Dan Poulter and Wickham Market district councillor Carol Poulter in sorting out the legal responsibilities with Newtide Homes over who was responsible for the land. The maintenance of the grassed area the path goes through is still being addressed.

### **Car Park Repairs Village Hall**

After another Winter of trying not to injure oneself or damage your car, repairs to the Village Hall carpark have been scheduled to start on the 15<sup>th</sup> August. Site management and safety with a view to access will be the contractor's responsibility, the Clerk will update in his report as it becomes available.

Ivor French

Chairperson, Wickham Market Parish Council