



COMMUNITY SUCCESS AS WHOLE TOWN COMES TOGETHER

There was a big turnout at the King George V Playing Field for our Community Day on Saturday 16 September. It entertained and informed and brought together diverse elements of our community from chess players to dog-lovers to poets, musos and activists.

Many local groups and organisations were able to promote awareness of themselves and their causes. We successfully launched the WTC re-usable pint glass and raised £700 on the day that will be fed back into a range of projects we are undertaking.

Thanks to all the wonderful performers who gave their time and talent, and last but not least, to the Black Buoy for providing the beer and the equipment to dispense it!



CAR SHARE SCHEME AIMS TO DRIVE A HOST OF BENEFITS

Last month we launched 'Wivenhoe Car Hive': a new scheme for car-sharing within the local community. Car Hive is a project initiated by the Town Council's 'Net Zero Group'.

Car Hive is different from other car sharing schemes you may have used: we are not sharing rides with each other, but our fleet of cars, with those who have a car renting it out to others who need it. On average UK cars are parked 96% of the time! By sharing our cars, we can save money, make our streets nicer and less congested, and our communities more close-knit. Many people who join car sharing groups like this eventually realise they don't need their own car and give it up, and others decide they don't have to get a car at all. With the average cost of running a car in the UK being £220/month, there are huge possibilities of saving or making extra money by joining Car Hive.

"It can be daunting to lend out your car to someone else for the first time..."

The Wivenhoe Car Hive is a 'neighbourhood closed loop'. This means that our

cars are available only to the other people in the closed Wivenhoe group. In the future, we can make sub-loops within Wivenhoe, so that we share cars only with people in our streets. Imagine how much space we could free up for kids to play if we had a car club in every street!

"Another thing that worries people is insurance..."

We've partnered with 'Hiyacar' (a kind of 'Airbnb for cars') who verify the drivers, provide the insurance, and manage the booking system.

Insurance is automatically arranged by Hiyacar: when someone borrows a car via the app, they pay insurance for the journey on top of the rate they pay to borrow the car.

This insurance sits on top of the drivers' private insurance and if a claim is made, it is the Hiyacar insurance which pays, leaving the car's own insurance unaffected.

To join the local Wivenhoe Car Hive please sign up on the closed Hiyacar loop:



tinyurl.com/wivenhoecarhive

WIVENHOE ELECTS NEW ALDERMAN



Peter Hill has been elected as Wivenhoe's second Alderman. Peter moved to Wivenhoe in 1972 and served on Wivenhoe Town Council for 25 years carrying out the role of Mayor three times during his tenure.

He has continued to work with many groups in the town including the Scout and Guide Association, the Friendly Club, Royal British Legion, the History Group and the Wivenhoe Society. He is also a trustee of the Wivenhoe Housing Trust. On accepting the award Peter thanked all those who he has had the pleasure of working with in the town over the years and said he was honoured to have been elected to the role.

Blue Plaque Campaign Brings Home the Bacon

October saw the unveiling of a blue plaque at number 68 Queens Road, Wivenhoe to commemorate the artist Francis Bacon who lived there between 1975 and 1983.

New resident David Clarke noticed that there was no plaque on Bacon's former home and decided to see if the famous artist could be properly acknowledged. Gaining the support of homeowner Peter Chapman, David sought support from the local community and the Francis Bacon Estate which funded the plaque.

The process took a year and David said he is grateful to Jo Beighton-Emms at Wivenhoe Town Council and Jo Edwards at Colchester Civic Society for their guidance. Thanks also to James Dodds for his advice.



Reaching Out At Christmas will be serving a free Christmas lunch on Monday December 25th to any who would welcome festive company and entertainment!

The event will be held at the William Loveless Hall from 1 - 4.30pm and is open to anyone over 18 who would otherwise be on their own at Christmas. Transport is available for elderly and disabled guests, and partners or carers are welcome.

Bob Needham (ROAC Chair) will be MC. Our chef Phil Costello, will be serving a delicious three course menu or vegetarian alternative. Alcohol and soft drinks will be available. Festive fun is guaranteed for all.

Book before Wednesday 20th Dec. GUEST PLACES STILL AVAILABLE!!

ROAC is a charity which relies on the support of the wonderful Wivenhoe community and organisations for its success since 2018.

We still need more volunteers for Christmas Day (we have plenty for Christmas Eve). If you would like to attend or have any enquiries please ring Glynis on 07904 397605.

WHAT A SEASON!

Later summer through to Christmas is looking to be the busiest time in this year's Mayoral calendar...

"Each year sees invitations to University of Essex Graduation, and this year my wife Ildiko and I were delighted to attend the ceremony for LIFTS (Department of Literature, Film and Theatre Studies) and the East 15 Acting School; I studied in that department back in the 1980s and my wife worked there more recently.

CIVIC SERVICE

We attended the Colchester Civic Service at St. Peter and St. Paul Parish Church in West Mersea, the first of several such services that give thanks to those who work and volunteer in our communities, including our own.

The service attracted a large turnout and was conducted by Rev Erwin Lammens. In his sermon Rev Lammens spoke of the need for hope in what remains a world full of challenges.

Gospel Choir 'Gold' performed and the congregation was invited to the William Loveless after the service where we greeted guests and expressed our thanks to all for attending.

FRIENDLY CLUB

Next up was the 2nd birthday of the Friendly Club & Café at St. Mary's, an initiative of the Wivenhoe Dementia Support Group and the PCC of St Mary's Church, that is open to anybody who wants to meet people, socialise, or pop in for a brew.

VEGGING OUT

Then it was off to the William Loveless Hall (WLH) for a fruity time vegging out at the 'WAGA' Wivenhoe Show in the William Loveless Hall. I was amazed by the variety of competition winner presented there, including artistic, recycling and children's categories.

HISTORY NEXT

Some history was next up, with a visit to WTC's Wivenhoe Chapel Museum for the last day of its 2023 season, followed by a trip to the top of Colchester's 'Jumbo' water tower, in one of a program of tours aimed at raising the profile of a project to keep Jumbo in good repair.

Ildiko and I next attended a service at St Mary's marking local Methodist Preacher, Phil Bingham's 50 years of accredited preaching. Then it was a hey nonny nonny that even Edmund Blackadder would have approved of, at the Wivenhoe Open-Air Shakespeare groups annual Pop-Up show in the WLH.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Forthcoming events in the town include turning on the Christmas lights at St Mary's Christmas Market at 6pm on Thursday December 7th and the annual Christmas lunch in the WLH (booking details in this newsletter).

BEATING THE BOUNDS

I am also keen to re-introduce 'Beating The Bounds' which involves swatting local landmarks during a walking tour of Wivenhoe's boundary. If you would like to get involved in re-starting this custom, drop me a line!"

Mayor Tim Multon

Free venue bookings and small grants

As the new year approaches, we are inviting submissions from local organisations and community projects for support under our two schemes:

Community Days

If you are new on the scene and want to put on a local event in the William Loveless Hall we can waive our usual hire charge for use of the space.

Community Funding

We offer small grants up to £350 to local groups for an event or service.

How to apply...

Applications for either fund should indicate a benefit to Wivenhoe residents and meet other criteria. Full information and application forms available on our website or contact Town Clerk: townclerk@wivenhoe.gov.uk.

SPEED PETITION IS STILL OPEN!



Wivenhoe is one of 75 councils in Essex (including, Brightlingsea, Abberton, Tendring, Wrabness and Myland) which have voted for a 20mph speed limit where people live (ie built up areas) and are lobbying the County Council via the Essex Association of Local Councils for county wide implementation. Surveys, polls and consultations across England consistently show a majority support for the 20mph speed limit. Fingringhoe had 76% in favour in a recent survey and Rowhedge is one of five places in Essex that has successfully implemented the 20mph limit.

There is some resistance, just as there was to compulsory seat belts, smoking constraints and universal suffrage. However, the science and documented real world evidence show significant benefits, not least in reduced public health costs, more saved lives, reduced emissions, good engine efficiency, fuel savings and minimal (10 seconds per mile) impact on travel times.

Pedestrians have a 90% chance of survival if hit at 18.6mph but less than 50% if hit at 28mph (W.H.O. figures). A 20mph limit also reduces noise and makes walking and cycling safer, benefitting mental health, social inclusion and our local economy. Wales is already seeing many of these benefits.

The '20s Plenty' petition can be signed at the Wivenhoe Bookshop. To get actively involved with the resident led local campaign or for more information please email 20splenty.wivenhoe@gmail.com

The national '20s Plenty' campaign has good briefing papers addressing all aspects of these issue: <https://www.20splenty.org/>

WTC CONTINUES NET ZERO EFFORTS

WTC aims to reach NetZero by 2030. Our primary emissions are from the energy used in our buildings.

This was considered in the Town Hall renovations which is now highly insulated, reducing the energy needed to heat and cool the building.

With the help of professionals we are looking at all our properties to identify emissions reduction measures we could achieve with grant funding. We're also considering waste reduction eg by banning single-use food and drink plastics at events on the KGV field and William Loveless Hall. At the Community Day in September reusable pint cups were used and we'd be pleased for other event organisers to borrow these.

The environment committee works in partnership with a new community group, Wivenhoe Net Zero, to focus on emissions produced by the wider town. Wivenhoe emits the most carbon through consumption of goods and travel (both above the Essex average) so the Net Zero group are introducing schemes to support carbon reduction in our travel choices.

This includes a new car share scheme (Car Hive) and a campaign for speed reductions which also makes more cycling and walking attractive.

A 'Library of Things' project will enable sharing and re-using things we use infrequently such as DIY & gardening tools.

Wivenhoe Town Council and Wivenhoe Net Zero welcome input from local experts.

Net Zero is action-focussed and are looking for new members.

For more details or to be added to our mailing list please click the QR code or email us on:



wivenhoenetzero@gmail.com

COLCHESTER ENERGY GRANTS

A new website designed to provide energy efficiency grants for low income households has been launched by Colchester City Council, which is keen to engage with those eligible for such grants in Wivenhoe.

The website for Domestic Energy Efficiency Grants is now live at colchester.gov.uk/energy-grants with two main grant funds:

ECO4 Flex for properties which are heated by all fuel types.

HUG2 for properties which are not primarily heated by gas.

Grant funding may be available for improving the energy efficiency of your home using a variety of measures. These can include:

- Insulation for walls, lofts and heating systems
- Draught exclusion
- Changes to windows or doors
- Renewable energy (eg solar panels)
- Clean energy systems (eg air source heat pumps)

These grants are intended to help qualifying households improve the energy performance of their homes and reduce their energy bills. Those qualifying include low-income households (total income below £31,000), people in receipt of a qualifying benefit, and those with health conditions exacerbated by the cold. Qualifying houses must have an energy performance rating D-G.

Visit the Colchester City Council website for further details:

colchester.gov.uk/energy-grants

COLCHESTER COUNCIL PLAN A SERIES OF POPUP EVENTS INCLUDING ONE IN WIVENHOE...

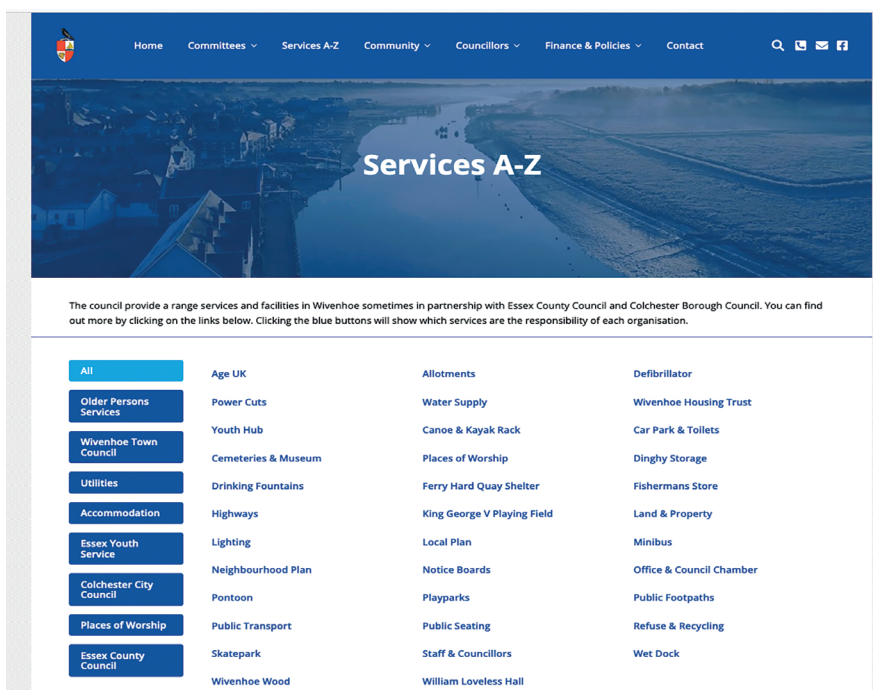
DATE SOON TO BE CONFIRMED



SERVICES MANAGED BY WIVENHOE TOWN COUNCIL, COLCHESTER CITY COUNCIL & ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

Every day we get queries about issues or services in the town ranging from potholes to parking. Whilst we are of course always happy to help, you may like to know that we provide links on our website which will help you navigate how to find the right service provider.

Our website is www.wivenhoe.gov.uk
Click **Services A-Z** at the top...
You will see this page:



The Services A-Z page provides everything you need to know about reporting a matter, and which authority has responsibility for managing it. The top queries we receive are:

Your Query	Managed by...	What to Click
Potholes and damaged street lighting	Essex County Council	Click: Essex County Council
Overgrown public rights of way	Essex County Council	Click: Public Footpaths
Refuse and Recycling	Colchester City Council	Click: Refuse & Recycling
Use of the William Loveless Hall	Wivenhoe Town Council	Click: William Loveless Hall

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Wivenhoe Council Offices Now Open!

The Wivenhoe Town Council Offices have now re-opened. We are pleased to announce that staff are now back in the redeveloped Council Offices at 77 High Street.

The new reception area is on the ground floor providing disabled access. There is also disabled parking to the rear of the building. The Council Chamber is now based on the ground floor and has been extended to allow for greater public attendance. All Council meetings are now being held here. We are hiring out the Council Chamber and for hirers as well as use of the Chamber, there are separate toilet facilities and a refreshment area. The tables in the Chamber are easily movable and chairs can be stacked to allow for various uses of the space. We have installed a hearing loop for the benefit of those with hearing impairments and there is a screen for hirers use.

If you are part of a group which is looking for a space, please come and take a look!

Other services and information

Another useful link is 'Fix my Street' which is at the bottom of the WTC website home page. Here you can report anything from broken pavements to trees causing overhead line damage.

We receive lots of queries about garden waste collection. As soon as we have more information from Colchester City Council we will share it on our website and Facebook page.

The Reception is open Monday to Friday from 9.30am to 12.30pm, if you would like to speak to a member of the team face to face.

We also have a laptop available for residents to use in our reception area and we would be happy to help you navigate the websites or perhaps order recycling.