

Deputy Clerk's Report for Full Council Meeting

11th March 2026

Markets

Saturday Market

Nothing to report other than Newbourne Farm are here every week and The Olive Man has been twice recently and The Olive Tree Suffolk, once.

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, scheduled for 28th March, has sold out of pitches. Some of the 40+ stalls are run by local organisations and charities, and several will be participating for the first time, offering shoppers a fresh selection of items. The Barley Brigg Morris Dancers will perform again, and Wooden Roots will host drumming workshops throughout the morning. Promotion for the event is ongoing, with all channels being used. Visit Wickham Market — jute bags will be handed out free of charge at the Spring Market to help reduce the use of single-use plastic bags among market traders.

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 for 2025-2026 have been collected, and all plots have been allocated thanks to the excellent work of Ray Lewis and Andy. Al Besly has organised for the community payback team to carry out clearance and tidying of some allotments. The small village orchard at Glebe allotments has been planted with apple trees funded by WMPC.

Cemetery

From 4 February to 11th March 2026, there has been:

1 Burial Interments

0 Ashes Interments

Planning Applications

From 4th February to 11th March 2026, 8 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 has been delivered. The print deadline for the May and June issue is 2nd April, and the deputy clerk is keen to receive items and high-quality photographs for inclusion.

Social Media

Posts continue to be published on the WMPC social media accounts and the Visit Wickham Market Instagram and Facebook accounts. The previous Visit Wickham Market Facebook page features a poster encouraging followers to follow the new Facebook page. VWM's Instagram now has 97 followers (up from 56 last month), and VWM Facebook has 109 followers, up from 84 last month.

Visit Wickham Market Website

New events are constantly added to the Visit Wickham Market website's events listing page. More businesses have been contacted to inform them that their details can be listed on the website's business pages. News stories have also been included, and links to various pages (e.g., Walks and News) are incorporated into 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. Recently she has dealt with a missing drain cover near a public highway and a lighting issue near Broad Road.