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## The History Book is back!



Wiveliscombe - the History of a Somerset Market Town, the all encompassing account of Wiveliscombe's fascinating story, full of facts, anecdotes and over 700 illustrations, sold out after the Christmas launch.

Copies of the second printing are now available, price £20, from the Post Office, Wiveliscombe House, Tucker's News or from members of the Book Group.

A list of addenda is available on [www.wiveliscombe.com](http://www.wiveliscombe.com) and from Tuckers, the Post Office or Wiveliscombe House.

# Good support for Wiveliscombe Community Office

THE ten parish councils of Wiveliscombe and West Deane ward and three parish councils from West Somerset have given tremendous support for Wiveliscombe Community Office.

Better known as the 10 Parishes, they have each made a precept for money to support the office, which acts as a venue for services to the whole area.

These services include the Wivey Link buses that cater for the housebound, or those with no transport or no buses, and collect door to door, the Citizens Advice Bureau, providing advice to

those with problems to be resolved, Adult Learning and Leisure, Job Centre Plus, a regeneration project known as the Market Towns Initiative, Credit Union, tourism literature, information on local walks and facilities and surgeries for District and Parish councillors. The office can also be used by any community group needing meeting space.

The office is manned by paid staff for Reception and to take bookings for Wivey Link. Volunteers drive the buses and man the office on Saturday mornings and during holiday periods.

The 10 Parishes have supported the office in the following way: Ashbrittle

£250, Bathealton £60, Chipstable £75, Fitzhead £250, Milverton £500, Stawley £100, Brompton Ralph £100, Clatworthy £50, Huish Champflower £100, Wiveliscombe £3,358. In all this is the grand sum of £4,843.

The Wiveliscombe Area Partnership (WAP) wishes to thank every parish council that has offered support to keep the office up and running during the coming financial year and Taunton Deane, without whose continued support the office could not run. This help is much appreciated.

*Cllr Mary Whitmarsh,  
Vice Chair, WAP*

## Community Beat Officer update

THE crime figures for last year, the period April 2005 to April 2006, have shown a downward trend over the preceding year.

In general, reported crimes have fallen from 233 to 174, a reduction of 59. Over this period the number of detected crimes has risen - although there are no direct figures for the Beat, figures for the Taunton sector, which includes the Beat, have shown an increase from 18.9% to 26.3%. The average for the force is now 23.2%.

It does however only take a small increase in crimes to have a dramatic increase in percentages.

As we know, statistics are wonderful things, but they are no good if you are a victim of crime and at least 174 of you were.

The Neighbourhood Watch Scheme is a great way of keeping a watch on our communities, unfortunately I can only cover so much, along with Jo, during a week. Information we have received is always useful.

For those who were victims of the numerous outbuilding break-ins, you may be pleased to know that all information has been passed to CID who are pursuing the arrest of a suspect.

The start of April 2006 heralded a large change in the way the district is being policed. The full details however were not made clear for a number of weeks.

It is to organise the beat boundaries alongside local Government wards in line with Central Governments guidelines on neighbourhood policing.

The upshot of this is that the Beat of which you form part of has changed in size. The parish of Huish Champflower has become part of a Williton beat, covered by PC Dave Masters.

The Langford Budville, Nynhead, Oake and Bradford-Tone areas will be covered by PC Kevin Challes, whose beat formerly covered most of the Blackdown Hills but has been moved further north.

I am upset that I have had lose a number of you, but I genuinely believe you have good officers replacing Jo and myself.

One last thing - due to this new system being imposed, it has put a strain on the Ringmaster system and on speaking to Lindsey Stone it will take some months for the system to catch up.

PC Mark Jones and PC Joanne Jeffrey can be contacted on 0845 456 7000.

## Housing update

WITH an intended completion date of mid June, the 16 supported bungalows on Tucker's Meadow have caused a lot of frustration and excited anticipation for the local people who are to be the tenants.

Frustration because the process of being offered and accepting a tenancy did not include any idea of which bungalow they were being offered, because the builders could not afford the risk of any accidents when potential tenants sought access to "their" bungalow.

Excitement because on May 19th they were invited to come on site and view their bungalow, at last. This will be reported in the next Messenger.

An official "Opening Date" is being planned by the Magna Housing Association when everyone else will have an opportunity to view the estate. This will be well advertised nearer the time.

The next Social Housing scheme in Wiveliscombe, strongly supported by the Parish Council, went before the Taunton Deane planners on May 17th.

This one, for 20 houses and flats opposite Allenslade Flats and entirely for local people, to rent but with some shared ownership, will also be developed by Magna Housing.

Once planning is agreed Magna anticipate an early start on site.

## Your ever-expanding library

IT may be small in size but it contains an amazing amount of knowledge and enjoyment, accessible to anyone who goes through the swing doors.

All the usual library facilities are here, including Jennifer Beresford, our Librarian, who is sometimes almost clairvoyant in knowing that something you might enjoy reading has come on to the shelves.

However, there may be times when it's inconvenient to visit in person so why not take a virtual trip to [www.foursite.somerset.gov.uk/](http://www.foursite.somerset.gov.uk/)

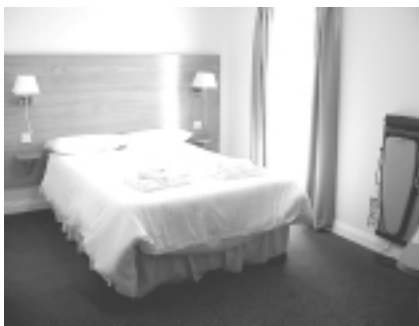
The website allows you do everything

apart from actually physically handle the books, videos, CDs or DVDs that you might wish to borrow. If you're not a member you can join online. Membership is free.

You can renew your books, and, for a small fee, make numerous reservations after searching through an enormous county-wide database. If it's a new book you're after you can order it here.

You then choose to have your books delivered to Wiveliscombe library. When they are ready for collection you will be sent an email and you can collect them within a period of two weeks. What a service and just a few clicks away!

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