**GREAT WAKERING PARISH COUNCIL**

**From the Clerk**

**Outdoor Christmas Lights Competition**

The Parish Council held its second outdoor Christmas lights competition and we are pleased to announce the winner as being 153 New Road. The judge stated that all the entries were decorated beautifully but that this entry went the extra mile and was also full of fun. The Parish Council will make a donation to the winner’s charity of choice which is the Hopefield Animal Sanctuary, Essex which is a charity close to the winner’s hearts.

**Remembrance Sunday**

The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Parish Council attended the outdoor Remembrance Day service at St Nicholas church and laid our poppy wreath at the war memorial on behalf of the Parish Council in memory of all of those that have given their lives.

**Parish Council Burial Ground**

There is a big increase in waste being left in the burial ground. If possible would users please take their wilted flowers and wreaths home with them to place in their green bins for composting to reduce the increasing disposal costs. Please remember not to place glass or alcohol on the graves as this will be removed for safety reasons. Please remember that by entering the burial ground you agree to be bound by the burial ground rules posted on the noticeboard at the entrance.

**Fly-tipping** is a criminal offence punishable by a fine of up to £50,000 - or 12 months imprisonment ifconvicted in a Magistrates' Court. The offence can attract an unlimited fine and up to 5 years imprisonment if convicted in a Crown Court.

**Allotments**

Please continue to take care on the allotments during the current restrictions and high case numbers, remember to sanitise hands and equipment frequently especially before and after touching shared resources.

There is a long waiting list for allotments but if you would like to rent an allotment plot please contact the Parish Council Office to be added to the waiting list. Parishioners of Great Wakering have priority on the list over non-Parishioners.

**Great Wakering Household Recycling Point**

The confirmed upcoming collection date for the recreation ground is as follows:

Saturday 19th March

What can be taken:

* Non-recyclable waste (sacks only)
* Bulky items such as mattresses and small furniture
* Electrical appliances (items that can be fitted into a standard sized carrier bag)

**What cannot be taken:**

* Garden waste
* Gas bottles
* Asbestos
* Any hazardous waste including chemicals and paint
* Hard core/building rubble/plasterboard
* Commercial/business waste

The vehicles will leave the site once they are full. Any waste left here by residents after the vehicles have left is classed as**fly tipping.**

Kind regards

Sharon Hyatt – CEO/Clerk to the Council/Responsible Financial Officer