



## Welcome to our Kerkackers district

First a short explanation about the neighborhood. Kerkackers is located on the north and south side of the Dommelseweg and is bordered by the Tienendreef, Nieuwe Waalreseweg, Vasco da Gamastraat, Amundsenstraat, Kromstraat and the river Dommel. Within this area are about 40 streets, about 1,300 houses and about 3,000 inhabitants. In the coming years, houses and buildings will be demolished and replaced by new construction. As a new resident you do not have to become a member, you are automatically a member as a resident of the ward. There is no charge. We hope you will enjoy living here.

## Explanation of the District Committee

We have three objectives:

1. To promote the quality of life, safety and quality of living in the Kerkackers district.
2. Promoting consultation between residents and acting as an advocate and representative to the municipality and other local authorities.
3. Stimulating and supporting local initiatives aimed at improving the general quality of life in the neighbourhood. Our role is enthusing and connecting. The implementation of initiatives is a responsibility of the local residents.

## The volunteers

We are the youngest neighborhood committee in our municipality, we were founded in 2016. The pioneering phase is over. Together with you, we must now preserve what has been achieved and work on new initiatives.

The district committee runs entirely on volunteers and all help is more than welcome. There is always something to do to make the Kerkackers district a good and social neighborhood.

Think about your input and if you have time, contact the members of the board. This can be done through our secretariat or just talk to them.

As everywhere, there are several vacancies on the board and in committees. People come and work for a while and then go again. You do not need to have any managerial experience (is easy) but if you are interested in a subject that plays a role then you are very welcome.

Even if you want to put a topic on the map yourself, we cordially invite you.

Our street contacts Our street contact persons are the eyes and ears of the neighborhood, the connecting link between residents and the board of the neighborhood committee.

What do these contacts do?

Every street has a street contact person. She or he has the street under her / his care and is the direct point of contact for the residents of that street. They deliver our green newsletter every 2 months to all residents of the street.

If possible, they refer questions from street residents to the board. If it is necessary and someone asks for this, a

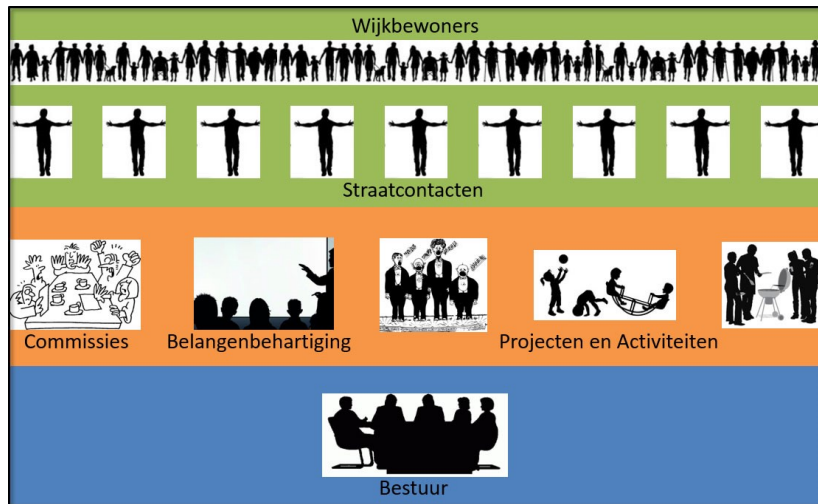
conversation is organized, which can be done in consultation with the board. If necessary, a professional organization is called in. This can be anything, e.g. home care, social work, neighbourhood mediation, social team, etc. The street contacts therefore have an important signalling function. They keep their eyes and ears open for loneliness, poverty, problems behind the front door, problems in the street, etc.

The street contacts also welcome new residents with a welcome bag. It contains a lot of information about the neighborhood committee and all kinds of organizations that are located in our municipality.



They also ask if a welcome sign can be placed in their garden so that the entire street can see that a new resident has come to live in the street.

The street contacts also deliver tickets in case of illness, death, birth, anniversaries, etc. We know from experience that the involvement is greatly appreciated. This involvement is the main quality of a street contact person. Without prejudice, with an open attitude, with discretion and a commitment of a few hours a month. Together we are strong and social!



The local residents are our number one priority.

## Advocacy

As the government withdraws more and more, the work of a neighborhood committee is becoming increasingly important.

Citizen participation is of paramount importance to the municipality, the municipality expects citizens to "think along and talk along". The

district committee can mediate between the local resident and the municipality.

## Living

If we put the quality of life, safety and quality first, it goes without saying that the eyes and ears of the neighborhood are the residents themselves.

In the future, construction will take place again in the district. In the Dr. Schaepmanstraat, new homes have now been realized. At various points in the district there are plans for new houses. You can stay informed by regularly consulting our website: [www.wijkcommissiekerkackers.nl](http://www.wijkcommissiekerkackers.nl) Or ask our board.

Two supermarkets are located in the district. The Nettorama and the Aldi.

Furthermore, the district committee has two neighborhood Library cabinets, in which you can take / exchange books for free. In November we also ask if you want to put toys in it. You will find a neighbourhood library cabinets at Nettorama-parking and one at the playground in the Columbusstraat.

We also have two information boards, so we keep you informed of activities and what is going on in the neighborhood. You can also consult our website [www.wijkcommissiekerkackers.nl](http://www.wijkcommissiekerkackers.nl), our green newsletter or the neighborhood app Nextdoor.

You can find the information boards next to the neighbourhood Libraries at Nettorama-parking and in the Columbusstraat/Abel Tasmanstraat.

There are three public playgrounds in the district: In the Dr. Schaepmanstraat, in the Min. Aalbersestraat and in the Columbusstraat.

## Biodiversity

To make our neighborhood greener, we have started various activities in the field of biodiversity. A neighborhood where there is a lot of greenery ensures coolness in the future warmer summers. People also feel more comfortable in a green environment.

We encourage people to strip their gardens of tiles and plant green again. This is to create a better climate for both the people and the insects which have decreased in numbers. Green is also recommended for water management. It relieves our sewers during the expected heavy rain showers that will increasingly take place due to climate change.

We opened a public orchard in the summer of 2021. With a team of volunteers we were able to realize the orchard. There are 16 fruit-bearing half-stem trees in the Le Sage ten Broekstraat. The orchard is located in the green strip adjacent to Vegetable Garden Association De Rijt. Everyone can come and pick fruits, there are apples, pears, plums, peaches, sweet chestnut and walnut. Under and in front of the trees, a green strip has been created with insect-attracting plants. Between the trees you will also find an insect hotel. At any time of the year, the orchard invites you to take a walk, a relaxing place in our neighborhood.

## Safety

We will continue to monitor safety in the neighborhood with the neighborhood committee. This includes road safety and, among other things, the speed at which cars are driven.

Through our neighborhood app Nextdoor, we warn each other about vandalism, burglaries, vandalism, etc. Where necessary, we call in the local police officer and report it to the municipality. Look for the installation of our neighborhood app Nextdoor on our website.

## Welfare and care

This includes a wide range of areas of interest. Some topics require a lot of effort and or manpower and special expertise where we can always fall back on the professionals in the municipality. In various ways we try to map out what local residents are already doing for each other and what they want to do in the future. As a district committee, we do our best to match a request for help with an offer of help. We have a walk-in for coffee, twice a month. There, connections between local residents take place in a pleasant way. Local residents often find answers to their questions there. Together we think about promoting well-being in the neighborhood.

Every month we also have a "Door en Voor" evening. A neighborhood resident then provides an informative meeting on a topic for the entire neighborhood. These evenings are often very interesting and cozy. We also invite local residents to organize activities.

The district committee supports every nice initiative. This can be an excursion, a walk, a children's activity, a garage sale, an exchange market for cuttings and plants, a Christmas market, etc, etc.

## Work

For people who work in paid employment, working from home has become important with Corona. This requires understanding from fellow residents regarding including noise pollution. For example, working has a direct impact on living in the neighborhood.

The district committee supports the entrepreneurs in our district. They can use a presentation in our newsletter and on our website. The best advertising, of course, remains word of mouth. All the more reason to visit our meetings.

## Leisure

The focus is on small-scale, low-threshold activities in the district. The starting point is always the meeting between local residents with each other, the title "Door en Voor" has been given to it.

The slogan "**Hee doe de mee?**" applies to everyone: young, old, man, woman, disabled, children, integraters, etc.

Together we form the neighborhood, together we make the neighborhood!

We have a group of volunteers who want to work for the children in our neighborhood.

With the Kerkackers Kidsclub they organize activities for the children. Take a look at our website and newsletter.

## Advocacy

From our representation of interests, we have contact / cooperation with many parties in the municipality such as:

- Gemeente Valkenswaard;
- Katholieke bond voor ouderen (K.B.O.);
- Seniorenbelang Valkenswaard (S.B.V.);
- St. Sociëteiten Ouderen Valkenswaard (S.S.O.V.);
- Sociaal Team Valkenswaard;
- Politie;
- Bloemencorso 't Kompas en Kerkackers;
- Kinderopvang De Horizon;
- Basisschool de Pionier;
- Lunet Zorg;
- Cordaad Welzijn;
- Buurtvereniging De Horizon;
- Woningbelang;
- Franciscaner Convent.

## coffee walk-in “inloophuis”

Every first and third Monday of the month there is a walk-in / info morning for a chat and a cup of coffee or tea. You can ask your questions, read a newspaper or view some magazines. We are happy to help you with questions or problems with your phone, computer, tablet, apps or programs. There is a separate consultation room for help with personal questions or with letters and correspondence to all kinds of agencies.

On the third Monday of the month we try to have a guest speaker deal with a theme. Would you like to come but don't have transport? A message to our secretariat is enough to arrange something. Don't let anything stop you, walk in. Admission is free, coffee and tea too.

Adress: Kardinaal de Jongstraat 6.



## “Door & Voor” information evening

Every second Wednesday evening of the month a lecture, excursion or workshop is organized by neighborhood residents and for neighborhood residents. That could be anything; a walk through nature around the neighborhood, a special hobby, about your profession, in short, everything you like and to let others get acquainted with it.

Start 8:00 pm in the building of Buurtvereniging De Horizon, Amundsenstraat 5, unless otherwise indicated. Admission is free, coffee and tea too.



Amundsenstraat 5

## Neighbor help

Now that the government is withdrawing more and more, everyone has to live at home as long as possible, major changes are coming our way.

It becomes very important that you are there for each other as neighbors. As neighbors, you can do a lot for each other.

It's about little things like, putting the dustbin outside and bringing it in. Do an errand for someone who can't handle it well or do a job. Just take care of the children or the dog, etc.

It concerns small hand and span services but, at these times, you can also see if other help is needed and pass that on to our board. The board will always work discreetly.

We are therefore thinking mainly of early dementia, an increasingly common disease. Every hour 5 people in the Netherlands come with this diagnosis.

If you see behavior of a street companion that fits this disease, investigate whether you can mean something. Of course you can inform our board. The board of the district committee has a short line with the professional assistance and they will work discreetly.

We don't want big city problems in our neighborhood, that someone can be sick for weeks or worse without anyone noticing.

## Newsletter

Our 2-monthly (green) newsletter keeps you informed of the ins and outs of the district. Because of the green color, you can easily find it in your newspaper box. The newsletters are delivered door to door and can also be read and viewed on our website. If you want it in English, please let us know.

## Website

Take a look around on our website. You will find all information (in Dutch) about the district committee, the advocacy, the activity agenda and the latest news from the neighborhood. And also the section Supply and Demand, and all Newsletters. Also explanation about the Nextdoor app and how to contact us.

[www.wijkcommissiekerkakkers.nl](http://www.wijkcommissiekerkakkers.nl)

## Nextdoor

Nextdoor is a free neighborhood app for a safe neighborhood.

You can easily get in touch with the neighbors around you. Nextdoor is for you and your neighbors, actually for all of us. For further explanation and instructions for use check our website (in Dutch).

During our coffee walk-in "Inloophuis", we can help you with the installation of the app on your phone.

## Publication boards

Our publication boards with announcements of our activities can be found at the Nettorama-parking, at the Horizon-building Amundsenstraat 5, and at the playground on the Abel Tasmanstraat, corner Columbusstraat.

There are also two smaller publication boards in the district at our walk-in house and De Biezenrijt.



## Neighborhood Library cabinets

The books and toys in these cabinets can be borrowed, exchanged or simply taken with you.

If you have books and or toys left over, you can also donate them in the cabinets.

The management of this neighbourhood library cabinets is in the hands of all of us.

Together we are careful with this.

You can find them next to our publication boards.



Wijkcommissie Kerkakkers,  
your compass in the neighbourhood

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