



**Stichting Wijkcommissie Kerkakkers**  
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## Welcome to our district "Kerkakkers"

First, a brief explanation about the neighborhood. Kerkakkers is located on the north and south side of the Dommelseweg, supplemented by a few streets of the center area and is bordered by the Tienendreef, Nieuwe Waalreseweg, Kerkhofstraat, Waalreseweg, Beiaardstraat, Kromstraat and the river Dommel. Within this area there are 55 streets, more than 1,500 houses with more than 3,500 inhabitants.

As a resident you do not have to become a member, you are automatically a member if you live in the neighborhood. There are no costs involved. We hope you will enjoy living here.

## Explanation about the Wijkcommissie

We have three objectives:

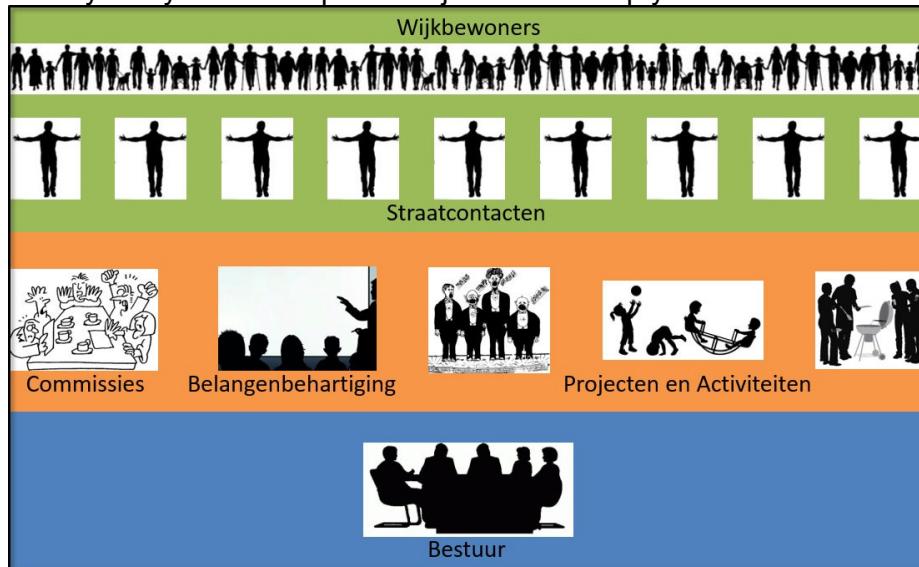
- 1 Promoting the quality of life, safety and quality of living in the Kerkakkers district.
- 2 Promoting consultation between residents and acting as an advocate and representative to the municipality and other local authorities.
- 3 Stimulating and supporting local initiatives, aimed at improving the general quality of life in the neighbourhood. Our role is to enthuse and connect. 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 committee runs entirely on volunteers and extra help is always more than welcome. There is always something to do to make the Kerkakkers district a good and social neighborhood. Think about your input and contact the members of the board if you have time. This can be done through our secretariat or just talk to them.

As everywhere, there are some vacancies in the board and in various committees/working groups.

You do not need to have administrative experience (which is easy), but if you are interested in a topic, you are very welcome. We also cordially invite you if you want to put a subject on the map yourself.



*The local residents come first for us*

## Our street contacts

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

What do these contacts do?

Each street has a street contact person for every approximately 30-40 homes. She or he is in charge of the street and is the direct point of contact for the residents of that street.

They deliver our green newsletter to all residents of the street every 2 months. Other neighbourhood information can also be disseminated in this way, in addition to online via our website and via our information boards.

They will pass on any questions from street residents to the board. If necessary and someone asks for it, a meeting will be organized, which can be done in consultation with the board.

A professional organization can also be called in. This can be anything, e.g. home care, social work, neighborhood 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 committee and all kinds of other organizations that are active in our municipality.



They also ask if a welcome sign can be placed in their garden so that the whole street can see that a new resident has moved into the street.

The street contacts also provide a card in case of illness, death, birth, anniversaries, etc. We know from experience that this

involvement is very much appreciated. That 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!

## Advocacy

Now that the government is increasingly withdrawing, the work of a committee is becoming increasingly important. Citizen participation is of paramount importance to the municipality, the municipality expects citizens to "think along and have a say".

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

## Live

There are plans for new construction at various points in the district. Recently it is on the Amundsenstraat, the grounds of Huiskamer 't Pumpke + Siam-gym and at Kardinaal de Jongstraat 6. You can stay informed by regularly consulting our website: [www.wijkcommissiekerkakkers.nl](http://www.wijkcommissiekerkakkers.nl) or inquire at the municipality: [www.valkenswaard.nl](http://www.valkenswaard.nl)

Two supermarkets are located in the district.

The Nettorama (Sint Jansplein) and the Aldi (Goorkes).

There is also a Praxis hardware store and a shop of the Boerenbond (Van Linschotenstraat), where various other companies are also located. On the former Philips Rede site on the Kerkhofstraat, about 60 companies are located in the Place For Bizz business center.

There are three public playgrounds in the district: "Het Schaepke" on the Dr. Schaepmanstraat, "Het Mollenveldje" on the Minister Aalbersestraat and "t Pionierke" on the Columbusstraat.

Adjacent to our neighborhood there is also Speeltuin Geenhoven. This large outdoor playground can be visited during the summer months for a small fee.

## Safety

We will continue to monitor safety in the neighborhood with the committee. This includes road safety and, among other things, the speed at which cars are driven. Burglaries and vandalism also have our attention. Where necessary, we call in the local police officer and report it to the municipality.

## Well-being and care

This includes a wide range of areas of interest. Some subjects 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 neighborhood committee, we do our best with our neighborly help to match a request for help with an offer of help.

## Vrije tijd

The focus is on small-scale, low-threshold activities in the neighborhood. The starting point is always the meeting between local residents with each other.

The slogan *Hey are you in?* applies to everyone: japproximately, old, man, woman, disabled, children, integrators, expats, etc. Together we form the neighborhood, together we make the neighborhood!

We invite local residents to organise activities themselves. The 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

The committee supports the entrepreneurs in our neighborhood. They can use a short presentation in our newsletter. The best advertising remains word of mouth and we therefore invite the entrepreneurs from the neighborhood to participate in our activities.

## Advocacy

From our advocacy we have contact/cooperation with many parties in our municipality such as a.o.

- Gemeente Valkenswaard;
- Katholieke bond voor ouderen (K.B.O.);
- Kinderopvang De Horizon;
- Sociaal Belang Valkenswaard;
- Sociaal Team Valkenswaard;
- Politie;
- Bloemencorso buurtschappen 't Kompas en Kerkakkers;
- Moestuinen De Rijt;
- Seniorenbelang;
- Basisschool de Pionier;
- Lunet;
- Cordaad Welzijn;
- Woningbelang;
- Buurtvereniging De Horizon.

etc.

## The walk-in centre on Monday- Wednesday morning



Each Monday and Wednesday morning there is a free walk-in/info morning for a chat and a cup of coffee or tea. You can also ask your questions, but we are also happy to help you with questions or



problems with your phone, computer, tablet, apps or programs.

You can also play all kinds of games such as darts, cards, shuffleboard, board games, but also knitting, crochet, painting, etc.

Would you like to come but don't have transport? Send a message to our secretariat and we will try to arrange something.

Don't let anything stop you, walk in.

Admission is free, as is coffee/tea.

Come to the Lunet Wijkcentrum "in de inloop" on the Mgr.Zwijsenstraat.

## Lunch for Singles

Every last Friday of the month at noon there is a lunch especially for singles, in the walk-in house (see above).

Registration required, no later than the Monday before, by e-mail: [bestuurslidkerkakkers@gmail.com](mailto:bestuurslidkerkakkers@gmail.com) or phone 06 4224 9471

For a personal contribution of € 5.00 at a time you will receive fresh soup, bread, sandwiches, various fillings, fruit and coffee, tea, juice, etc. The focus is on meeting each other in a cozy atmosphere.

## Biodiversity in our neighbourhood

Since 2023 the biodiversity working group is active in our neighborhood. With the flower seed campaign in the spring and the flower bulb campaign in the autumn, we try to make our neighbourhood a little greener and more colourful for people and animals. Did you know that flower bulbs are often the first food for bees and bumblebees after the winter? Did you know that sowing flower seeds not only makes the environment more beautiful, but also provides the insects with food and a home? And insects attract birds again. Do you also enjoy the chirping birds? Throughout the year, we write pieces in our bi-monthly neighbourhood newsletter to inform people about biodiversity. For example, we give tips and provide information, such as how to offer a hedgehog a good home in your garden or how to help birds get through the winter. New members for the working group are always welcome! Everyone brings his/her own expertise and network. We are very happy with the cooperation with the Biezenrijt, the daytime activities for people with intellectual disabilities in our neighborhood. The clients packed about 3750 flower bulbs for our flower bulb campaign.



### Why is biodiversity important for our neighbourhood?

Animal and plant species are interdependent: predatory and prey, animals and the plants on which they live, fungi in the soil and tree roots. The more diverse an area is, the more connections there are between organisms. This makes the area richer and more resistant to changes such as climate change, diseases and pests. By protecting biodiversity, we also protect ourselves.

A green neighborhood is a pleasant neighborhood to live in. With climate change, it becomes very hot in the summers if a neighborhood has no greenery. Greenery provides a pleasant living environment, gives peace in our hectic world. A lot of greenery also prevents flooding, the water can sink into the earth better than on tiles.

Our group will help you on your way with tile flipping, tile out, plant in. In cooperation with the municipality, you can create a façade garden or plant the tree mirror of the municipal tree in front of your door. Ask us to help you on your way, we are happy to do it.

*Hey cow with us! Hey, will you plant with us?*

Join the biodiversity working group

Are you someone who wants to see the neighborhood greener? Do you like to roll up your sleeves or share your knowledge?

You are welcome to join our biodiversity team.

We can be reached via: [biodiversiteitkerkakkers@gmail.com](mailto:biodiversiteitkerkakkers@gmail.com)

## Public orchard De Rijt

We opened a public orchard in the summer of 2021. With a team of volunteers, we were able to realize this orchard on the Le Sage ten Broekstraat.

There are 17 fruit-bearing half-standard trees.

The orchard is located in the green strip adjacent to Vegetable Garden Association De Rijt. Everyone can come and reap the benefits; There are apples, pears, plums, peaches, sweet chestnut and walnut. A green strip has been created under and in front of the trees with insect-attracting plants.



Two beekeepers also keep some bee colonies. Between the trees you will also find an insect hotel. In every season, the orchard invites you to take a walk, a relaxing place in our neighborhood.

## “Door & Voor” information evenings

Every second Wednesday evening of the month a free lecture, excursion or workshop is organized "By" local residents and "For" local residents. See the Agenda on our website for the themes.

That can be anything; A special hobby, about your profession, a walk through nature around the neighborhood, in short, everything you like and to introduce others to it.

Would you like to come and tell us? Please let our secretariat know. We are happy to help you with your presentation.



Amundsenstraat 5

Start 8 pm  
in the building of  
Buurtschap  
De Rijt,  
Amundsenstraat 5,  
unless otherwise  
indicated.

Admission is free, as  
is coffee and tea.

## Newsletter

Via our 2-monthly (green) newsletter (in Dutch) keeps you informed of the ins and outs of the neighborhood. Due to the green color, you can easily find it in your newspaper bin. The newsletters are delivered door to door and can also be read and viewed on our website. On our website you can find all our newsletters in English.



## Neighborly Help

Now that the government is increasingly withdrawing and everyone has to live at home for as long as possible, major changes are coming our way. It will be very important that you are there for each other as neighbors. As neighbours, you can mean a lot to each other.

Caring for each other can be about small things such as putting the wheelie bin out and bringing it in. Running an errand for someone who is not good at getting around or doing a job. Just look after the children or the dog, etc. It is about small hand and span services and you can also see if other help is needed at these times and pass it on to the board. The board will always work discreetly. We are thinking, for example, of early dementia, an increasingly common disease. Every hour, 5 people in the Netherlands are diagnosed with this diagnosis. If you see behavior of a fellow street that fits this disease, investigate whether you can do something. Of course you can inform our board. The board of the wijkcommissie has a short line of communication with the professional assistance and they will work discreetly.

## Website

Surf around our website. There you will find all information about the wijkcommissie such as the objectives and the board, the advocacy, also the activity agenda and the latest news from the neighborhood. But also the Supply and Demand section, and all Newsletters. Of course also our contact details.

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



Follow us on Facebook (in Dutch):  
Search for: wijkcommissie kerkakkers

## Notice boards



Our notice boards with announcements of our activities are located at the parking lot near the Nettorama, at Kardinaal de Jongstraat 6, at Buurthuis De Horizon, at De Biezenrijt, at the playground at the Abel Tasmanstraat, corner Columbusstraat.



## Neighborhood library

You can borrow, exchange or simply take the books and toys in these cabinets. If you have books and/or toys left over, you can also donate them in the cupboard.

No clothing or crockery.

The management of this neighborhood library is in the hands of all of us. Together we take care of this.

You can find them in the parking lot at the Nettorama and at the playground at the Abel Tasmanstraat, corner Columbusstraat.

These cabinets are also a

**KINDERZWERFBOEK** station.  
See:  
[www.kinderzwerfboek.nl](http://www.kinderzwerfboek.nl)

Fans of the game Geocaching can also go to one of the cabinets.

For more explanation see:  
[www.geocaching.com](http://www.geocaching.com)



## Kerkakkers kidz

A group of local residents is committed to the children and families in our neighborhood. For example, every year they organize the family Easter scavenger hunt with various games for the youth, Halloween in various streets in the neighborhood and the lantern hunt for all neighborhood residents.

New activities are under development, for which we can certainly use your help.



Not all children from Kerkakkers attend De Pionier primary school or the childcare in our neighborhood. Kerkakkers Kidz meets a need; How nice is it for the children to have friends around.



With its activities, Kerkakkers Kidz facilitates the opportunity to meet each other, get to know each other and build relationships. Think of the expat families and families of a different culture in our neighborhood.



## Neighborly Help

The wijkcommissie would like to map out what you would like to do, to help someone else in the neighborhood.

We want to make a good match between the request for help and the offer of help, so that local residents know that they are not alone. Remember that you can also call on neighbourly help if necessary. We ask you to fill in the list below.

You can tick what you would like to do and fill in what you are already doing. Of course we match in your area.

You can put this list in the mailbox of our secretariat (see front or back page).

You can also send an e-mail to: [bestuurslidkerkakkers@gmail.com](mailto:bestuurslidkerkakkers@gmail.com)

Thank you very much.

Jobs I want to do:

- Administrative things
- shop
- Keeping Company
- Dog walking
- cooking and/or eating (together)
- Helping children with homework or anything else
- Putting out the wheelie bin
- household chores
- fix something
- garden maintenance
- transport
- Walking or exercising together
- something else, namely .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....
- I already help in the neighborhood with: .....
- .....
- .....

Name: .....

adres: .....

Phone number: .....

Email: .....

Date of birth: .....

Marital status: .....

your data will be processed in accordance with the Dutch AVG.



Wijkcommissie Kerkakkers,  
your compass in the neighbourhood



**Stichting Wijkcommissie Kerkakkers**

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