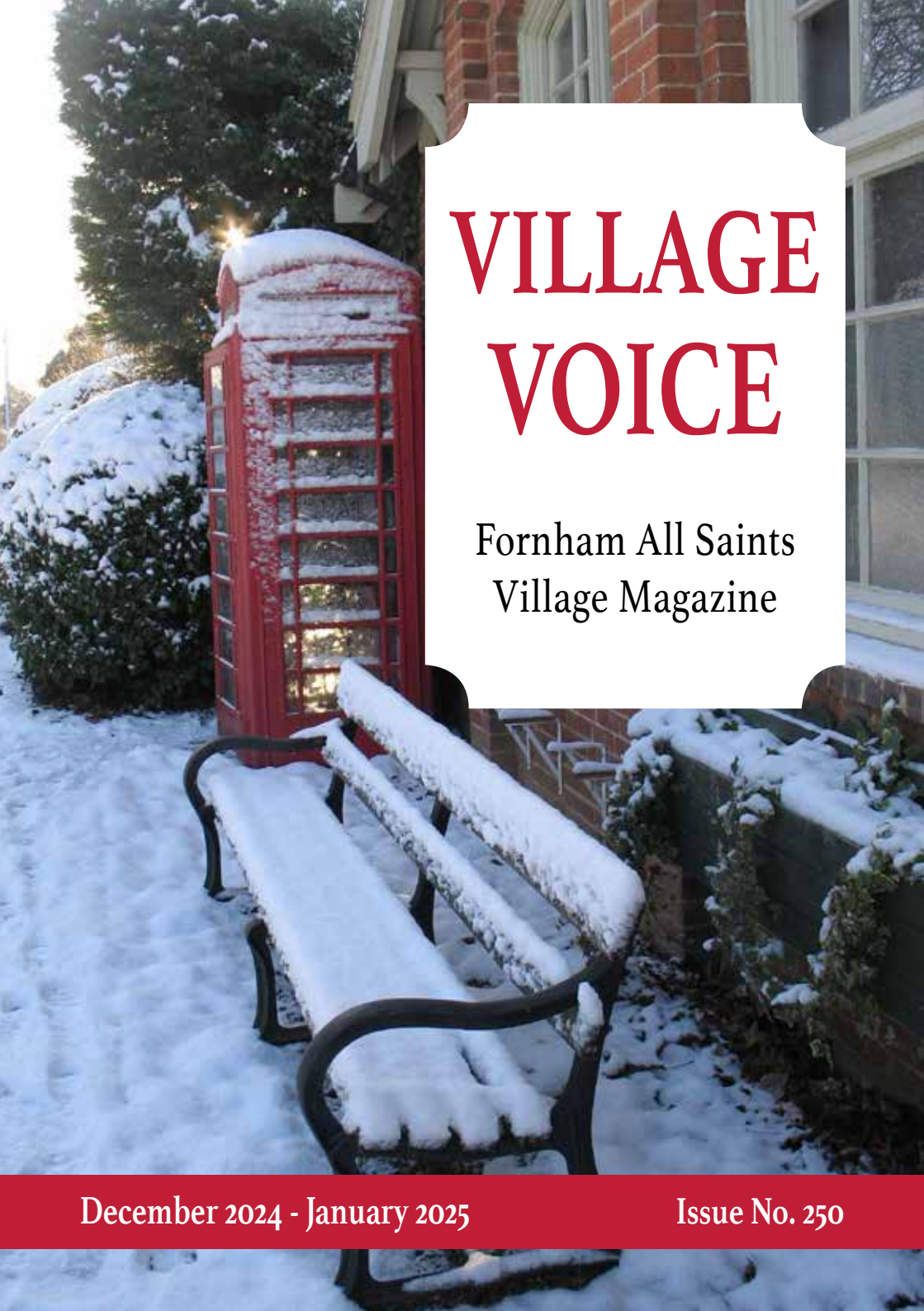


A photograph of a winter scene in a village. In the foreground, a black metal bench is covered in a thick layer of snow. Behind the bench, a red telephone box stands, also covered in snow. The background shows a brick building with a window and snow-covered bushes and trees. The scene is lit by a low sun, creating a warm glow.

VILLAGE VOICE

Fornham All Saints
Village Magazine

December 2024 - January 2025

Issue No. 250

Fornham All Saints Officials

Parish Councillors

Don Lynch

Mat Stewart

Derek Brown

David Surman

Richard Nicholls

Vacancy

Vacancy

Vacancy

Justin Hook (Parish Clerk)

clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Other Representatives

Rebecca Hopfensperger
(District & County Councillor)

07876 683516

Sarah Broughton
(District Councillor)

07929 305787

Peter Prinsley
(Labour MP)

peter.prinsley.mp@parliament.uk

Meetings

The Parish Council meets at 6:30pm in the Community Centre, on the third Tuesday of each month, except August & December. Please check the Village Hall notice board for any date changes.

Website

****new address**** www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

The deadline for articles for the February - March 2025 Village Voice, will be 20th January 2025.

The 'Village Voice' is published by the Fornham All Saints Parish Council. Views and opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily accepted as being those of the Fornham All Saints Parish Council. The 'Village Voice' accepts all articles, notices and advertisements in good faith. We cannot be responsible for the content of any submissions, nor liable for the quality of goods and services offered.

From the Editor & Parish Clerk

A warm (if not ever so frosty and cold) welcome to the 250th issue of the Village Voice!! By my maths, that means that the magazine has been running for just over 41 years?? Maybe somebody can remember, or even has a copy of the original Village Voice issue 1? I'd love to see it if you do!

So why have you got me this time and not the 'news from the Chair?' Well, there's been quite a lot of change on the Parish Council in the last few months and sadly some key people have stepped down. Cllr Emerson the Vice Chair stepped down in August, followed by Cllr Loveridge the Chair in October and lastly Cllr Mayhew handed in her resignation at the November meeting after 7 years of service almost to the day. Together I think their collective service was in the order of 13 years.

Personally I'd like to thank each of them for their friendship, support and encouragement since I started compiling the Village Voice and then later took on the role of Parish Clerk. It was a steep learning curve, but these three have a wealth of knowledge and were always on hand to help. Each had their own area of influence within the village - Cllr Emerson did a lot around travel/walking/cycling and River Lark projects, Cllr Loveridge held the fort and did a lot to get us in order, as well as starting up the volunteering group, and Cllr Mayhew had oversight of social care and the Village Voice.

As a village, and a Parish Council we will miss their input and expertise - but we thank them for all that they achieved for us and wish them all the very best!

So what's next? Well... so far we have had three new Cllrs join the team in 2024, Cllr Brown, Cllr Surman and Cllr Nicholls, all of whom have taken on different responsibilities and are doing a fantastic job. And of course our, long standing members Cllr Stewart and Cllr Lynch continue to offer a great deal of experience and wisdom, of which we are very grateful.

That said, we do have spaces for three more Cllrs to join the team and bring their own ideas, experience and enthusiasm. We generally meet once a month (not including August or December, unless required) for a couple of hours to discuss village issues, ongoing projects, planning applications etc., with a small amount of work in between, keeping up with emails, working on projects and so on.

We're looking for a wide mix of Cllrs from all ages and walks of life, so if it's something you feel you'd be interested in please contact me via my Clerks email for further information:

clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Cllr Nicholls kindly chaired the November meeting and has agreed to chair in January, but we will also looking to appoint a permanent Chair and a new Vice Chair in time.

As Editor...

I hope you enjoy this 250th issue - it's a bumper one with lots of great information around keeping warm, pension credits and other ways to help beat the cost of living crisis which is so much harder for many as it gets colder and the pressure of Christmas draws near.

Keep your updates coming - I'd love to hear news from all the village groups and organisations. If you write, and would like to share some of your work, great! Events, news, recipes, poetry - let me know and lets keep the magazine going from strength to strength. I'd also like to thank our advertisers who help to keep the Village Voice viable, as well as the amazing team at the Community Workshop Ltd in Bury for printing the magazine, and Enid and her team for their hard work distributing them.

As Parish Clerk...

I thought I'd just update you on a couple of projects the Parish Council has been working on recently;

- **New .gov.uk domain** - best practice suggests that local councils adopt a .gov.uk domain for all email and website

activities, which we have implemented. The Clerk and all Cllrs now have .gov.uk email address and the website is now sitting on our new .gov.uk domain;

www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

- **Pavement clearing** - this has been reported to SCC but budget cuts mean that the level of service to keep pavements clear of vegetation and hedges is greatly reduced. We are currently looking to appoint a contractor do some of this work ourselves, especially along the A1101 and B1106, to get the pavements back to full width
- **VAS Units** - we've ordered new solar units to fit to the existing VAS's (Vehicle Activated Sign), and a new solar VAS to replace another old unit
- **Community Orchard** - we're looking to get a community pruning workshop set up, so that we can prune the community orchard at Larks Gate
- **River Lark** - we're pleased to hear that works are planned to firm up some of the banks along the River Lark Path up to Duck Sluice Farm, and lift some of the fallen fencing which has been restricting the path in places

That's just a taster! If there are other issues in the village that are affecting you - please drop me an email to let me know, or even better, come along to a meeting and share it in the 15 minute open session, direct to the Council.

clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Next meeting, Tuesday 21st January 2025, 18:30

Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. Be blessed, stay safe and look out for each other, especially those folk in the village who are perhaps more vulnerable.

See you all in 2025!



Justin Hook, Village Voice Editor & Parish Clerk

Fuel Charity Payments

The Parish has revenue from the allotments which are held in a charity. This money can be given to applicants who are Fornham All Saints residents who require assistance with energy bills; these grants are means tested.

To register for a grant, please send your name, address and contact details to the Clerk:

clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Please register your interest before 1st March 2025.



Would you like an allotment?

Contact the Clerk to get your name on the waiting list for a plot

clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Image by macrovector on Freepik

connecting **Communities**

rural transport



What could it be used for?

Social, appointments, study, shopping, work (you can book multiple return journeys in advance)

What is Connecting Communities?

Connecting Communities is for people traveling around Suffolk that don't have access to a regular bus or train service.

For more information or to book a journey

01638 664304

www.suffolkonboard.com/CC

Cheap

Fares are based on what a normal bus journey would cost

Flexible

Journeys can be booked online or by phone around your schedule

Convenient

Pick-up and drop-off from your door or a convenient location

Modern

Clean, comfortable and well maintained vehicles

Volunteering

Despite a short sharp shower at the exact start time of the autumn litter pick on 26 October we had 16 stalwart volunteers turn out to carry out the task. After a short, H&S briefing - "don't get run over and don't hurt yourself" - we



spread to the 4 corners of the village with instructions to meet back at the Coffee House upon completion.

All areas were thoroughly "picked" and 5 bags of rubbish were collected. Not surprisingly, most areas were not too bad but the A1101 was, as expected, awful with a lot of rubbish clearly chucked out of cars - including 15 blue rubber gloves!! (Still looking for the other one!).

No money was found but a pair of expensive(?) ear buds and an almost new dog lead were found (see photo). If they are yours please ring me on 07784 225375 to claim.



The social at the Coffee House lasted almost as long as the litter pick and was enjoyed by all.

As winter fast approaches, volunteering will take a back seat for a while and we will look to start up in early spring.

If you would like to be added to the volunteer database and WhatsApp group please email the Clerk, Justin, your name and mobile number: clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

We hope to see you next year. In the meanwhile, please do continue to “litter pick - ad-hoc” as it makes such a difference and doesn’t take too much effort if we all do our bit! Who knows, you might even “pick” the £20 note I have hidden!

Thank you!

Martin Loveridge

Martin Loveridge



NEXT RURAL COFFEE CARAVAN VISITS

Wednesday 4th December, 10am - 12pm
Thingoe Lodge

*** January NO VISIT ***

Everyone welcome for a coffee, cake and chat

www.ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk

Fornham All Saints Parish Council

October Meeting

Approved Minutes from Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 15th October 2024, 18:30, Fornham All Saints
Community Centre

*These minutes were approved at the Parish Council Meeting on 19th
November.*

Present:

Cllr Martin Loveridge (ML) (Chair) and Cllrs Jill Mayhew (JM), Derek Brown (DB), David Surman (DS) and Richard Nicholls (RN).

Clerk Justin Hook (JH) and 1 member of the public.

Agenda Items

1. Chairman's welcome, opening remarks and to receive apologies for absence
Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Stewart, Cllr Lynch and Cllr Hopfensperger.
2. (i) To receive members Declarations of Interests - **none received.**
(ii) Council to consider any new written requests for dispensation and/or requests which have been received - **none received.**
3. To approve & adopt the minutes from the Council meeting held on the 17th September 2024
Council resolved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.
4. To receive County Councillor's report from Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger
None received.
5. To receive Borough Councillor's reports from Cllr. Sarah Broughton and Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger
None received.

6. Public open session up to 15 minutes - questions and issues on matters arising from the agenda and from the village
No matters raised.

7. Danger of golf balls to Pigeon Lane and B1106

Following advice from SALC, the concern should be considered a civil matter between residents of Pigeon Lane and All Saints Hotel, and as such the Parish Council should not have any further involvement, other than supporting in the usual way with planning applications.

8. To receive reports from Councillors:

- a. Traffic / Roads / VASs / Road Signs - Clerk

The Clerk has been liaising with Elan City over compatibility of solar panels with current equipment and poles. Current locations look good, although pole diameter slightly less than preferred. Third location requires new pole in different location. Elan City to provide clarity and Clerk to check license requirements from SCC Highways. Remote monitoring available - to consider at a future date if required.

- b. Volunteering - Martin Loveridge

ML happy to continue heading up volunteering after stepping down from Council.

Council resolved to allow ML continue to oversee volunteering group.

Litter pick planned Saturday 26th October, 10:30, village green.

- c. Facilities / Assets Management / Community Centre / EV - Derek Brown

WSC's preferred EV supplier is only planning 7kw chargers (similar to home chargers), not fast chargers. Community centre will decide if still worthwhile.

- d. Local Businesses & Residents / Lark Valley - Richard Nicholls

Meeting planned 29th October with Rights of Way officer to discuss ongoing works, and potential fence repairs to Lark Valley Path.

- e. Social Issues / Village Voice - Jill Mayhew
Nothing to report.
- f. Marham Park / Highways / Village Hall / Anglian Water (Lark)
No update.
- g. Allotments - David Surman
Plot holders asking for hedge along playing field to be trimmed to 2 metre height.

Clerk to liaise with Charlie Browne.

9. To receive Clerks report

Dairy Drive - assisted resident in ownership question.

Fly-tipping grass cuttings in Pound Meadow - MS dealt with.

.gov.uk domain & emails progressing - migration planned for 18th-21st October.

Banking move to Unity Trust has been started.

Funding is reportedly in place for repairs to Lark Valley Path between Fornham and Duck Sluice Farm, more information to follow.

10. Planning:

i. **AP/24/0034/STAND**

Access To All Saints Hotel, Land Off The Street, Fornham All Saints

Planning application - create a maintenance access into All Saints Golf and Country Club off The Street, Fornham St. Genevieve

Council resolved to resubmit previous objection document, once amended to make relevant to current appeal.

Action: Clerk to liaise with MS for document.

ii. **DC/24/1307/FUL**

Bury St Edmunds Golf Club Tut Hill Fornham All Saints Suffolk IP28 6LG

Planning application - a. extension to existing golf

driving range b. detached golf driving range building c. extension to car parking area

Council resolved to support this application.

iii. **DC/24/1419/TCA**

Fornham Hall The Street Fornham All Saints Suffolk IP28 6JJ

Trees in a conservation area notification - a. one sycamore (triangle on plan) - crown lift by four metres above ground level and overall reduction of four metres meter b. two Robinia trees (circles on plan) - overall crown reduction up to two metres

Council resolved to record a vote of no comment.

iv. **DC/24/1442/TP**

Rocrisar Tut Hill Fornham All Saints Suffolk IP28 6LD

TPO 475 (2008) tree preservation order - Betula Pendula (T1 on plan and order) reduce limb on the south west side by up to 2 metres to give clearance from the house; Acer Pseudoplatanus (T2 on plan and order) reduce upper crown by up to 1.5 metres, reduce lateral limbs on south west side by up to 2.5 metres to give clearance from building, reduce remaining crown on the west, north and eastern side by up to 2 metres where needed to create a balanced crown

Council resolved to record a vote of no comment.

v. **DC/24/1472/TCA**

Old Rectory, The Green, Fornham All Saints

Trees in a conservation area notification - one Chestnut (T1 on plan), two Sycamore (S1 and S2 on plan) and three Norwegian Maples (M1, M2 m3 on plan) overall crown reduction by up to 3 metres over property and boundary fence **Council resolved to record a vote of no comment.**

11. Finance update

vi. **Council resolved to approve payment of the following accounts and outstanding invoices:**

Payee & details	Total
J Hook, Clerks salary, September	£557.73
J Hook, Clerks expenses, September	£21.98
Nest, Clerks pension, September	£9.75
HMRC, Clerks tax & NI, Q2	£482.08
PKF Littlejohn, external audit	£252.00
L Harley, Locum Clerk support	£240.00
Community Workshop, Village Voice printing	£271.81
Gallagher, Insurance	£1677.41
SALC, training	£42.00
SALC, payroll services (6 months)	£57.60
Total Payments	£3,612.36

- vii. Council noted bank balances correct to 30th September (unless stated otherwise).

Current	£208.56
Savings	£46,564.92
Total Bank Balance	£46,773.48

- viii. **Council resolved to approve bank reconciliation for September 2024.**

12. Skate & play park inspections

Council noted from report that remedial work required, but all low to very low risk. Parts on order for repairs to see-saw and balance board - non-urgent items.

13. External Audit Review

Council reviewed and resolved to accept external audit document.

Action: Clerk to create an audit review plan.

THE FOLLOWING ITEM WAS BROUGHT FORWARD.

21. Locum Clerk

Council resolved to allocate funds for up to 16 hours Locum Clerk hours to assist the Clerk with ongoing policy documentation and post audit work.

14. Asset Register

Council resolved to approve and adopt revised asset register.

15. Emergency Plan

DS Met with Tariq from WSC. Aim is to keep this plan as simple as possible.

Working group is compiling list of main contacts and potential key contractors. Community centre was identified as most obvious place for refuge.

Action: DB to speak to community centre.

16. Overgrown Pavements

Council is able to appoint their own contractor to carry out works in the village, providing the contractor has the correct licenses and the correct paperwork is completed for SCC approval.

Council resolved to get prices for the A1101 to be cut back and pavement skirted back and for the B1101 to be skirted back.

Action: Clerk to speak to Charlie Browne re: Pigeon Lane.

17. Community Centre Flower Bed

Council discussed community centre's request to create flower beds on the site of the old bottle banks, and request for Council to provide grant for flowers.

Council believe verge is SCC owned land.

Council resolved to revisit this idea once community centre has confirmed ownership and obtained correct license/permissions for flower bed.

18. Remembrance Day

Council resolved to appoint Andy's Jet Wash to clean the war memorial in return for free advertising in the Village Voice.

Council resolved to purchase a wreath from Royal British Legion.

JM agreed to organise laying the wreath.

19. Lithium Ion Battery Safety Campaign

Council discussed if/how to respond to latest update - *request to write to the Minister, Baroness Jones, urging her to either support Lord Redesdale's Bill or to slot it into the Government's own Bill.*

Council resolved to continue to offer support for both bills.

20. Councillor Recruitment

ML to continue to speak to potential candidates. JM suggested leafleting the village.

Council resolved to produce a quick leaflet to distribute to homes inviting residents to consider joining the Council.

21. Locum Clerk

ITEM COVERED EARLIER.

22. Correspondence

- i. Resident email: suggestion for defib training for villagers & Good Samaritan app.

CORRECTION: resident suggested CPR training.

Council resolved to revisit the idea of training once a defib had been sited at the community centre.

Action: DB to raise with community centre.

Council discussed the Good Sam app, but felt it was not something that they understood enough to publicise in the Village Voice.

- ii. Resident email: orchard pruning and harvesting.

Council in favour of receiving a pruning workshop from Greener Growth, and considered the possibility of tying in with the volunteering group. To review once costings have been provided.

23. Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 19th November 2024, commencing at 18:30 in the Community Centre.

At the end of the meeting Cllr Loveridge resigned as Chair and Councillor.

No names were put forwards to take on the role of Chair. Cllr Nicholls offered to Chair the November meeting whilst a new Chair can be agreed, or a rota to chair the meeting can be established.

Meeting closed 20:19

For all enquires or questions for the Parish Council, please in the first instance email the Parish Clerk

****please note new email address****

clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

**Do you want to make a positive difference
in your village?**

**Would you like to influence decisions
that affect your community?**

**Do you have innovative ideas, knowledge or
skills that could benefit your community?**

YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!!

to apply or for more info, email the clerk
clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Fornham All Saints Parish Council

November Meeting

Draft Minutes from Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 19th November 2024, 18:30, Fornham All Saints Community Centre

These draft minutes will be approved at the Parish Council Meeting on 21st January, 2025.

Present:

Cllr Richard Nicholls (RN) (Acting Chair) and Cllrs Jill Mayhew, Derek Brown (DB) and David Surman (DS). Clerk Justin Hook (JH), Josh Harris (All Saints Hotel) and 1 member of the public.

Agenda Items

1. Chairman's welcome, opening remarks and to receive apologies for absence
Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Stewart, Cllr Lynch, District Cllr Broughton and County Cllr Hopfensperger.
2. (i) To receive members Declarations of Interests - **none received.**
(ii) Council to consider any new written requests for dispensation and/or requests which have been received - **none received.**
3. To approve & adopt the minutes from the Council meeting held on 15th October 2024
Council resolved to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting and the Chair signed them.
4. To receive County Councillor's report from Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger
None received.
5. To receive Borough Councillor's reports from Cllr. Sarah Broughton and Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger
None received.

6. Public open session up to 15 minutes - questions and issues on matters arising from the agenda and from the village

Resident raised the road safety issue regarding the hedging between Sheepwash Bridge and the Anglian Water (AW) entrance. Hedging encroaching into carriageway, causing buses and lorries to go round the corner on the wrong side of the road - lots of near misses already and an accident waiting to happen.

Clerk advised technically this is a Fornham St Martin/ Genevieve issue, but has contacted their Clerk, as well as Cllr Broughton and Cllr Hopfensperger for assistance. Clerk also raised on highways reporting tool and item being considered by SCC for potential actions.

Action: Clerk to follow up.

Resident also raised issue of water escaping from fire hydrant opposite AW entrance, causing mud and debris on the road and pavement and potential ice hazard as winter sets in.

Clerk had already raised with AW and is marked for repair.

Action: Clerk to follow up.

Resident asked if there was any plans to change the double mini roundabouts in the village, after the closure of Tut Hill, highlighting the difficulty in crossing that junction as a pedestrian, in any direction.

Council are unaware of any plans to change that junction, but agree crossing it can be very difficult due to width of road and amount of traffic.

Action: Clerk to speak to Cllr Hopfensperger to identify any options moving forwards.

Following the 'updates' email from Sarah Drane at WSC Planning regarding All Saints Hotel, Council were able to clarify some items with Josh Harris.

Council showed concern for use of the lodges by contractors not holidaymakers and that parking was not to be at the lodge site, nor in front of individual lodges.

Mr Harris confirmed that no stays were longer than the

permitted 3 month stays and that there had been issues getting golf buggies across to the main hotel for parking and that AS were talking with WSC about what could be done regarding parking.

Council reminded Mr Harris that parking at the lodge site was not part of the approved planning application and that it was AS's responsibility to comply and police this.

Resident thanked Mr Harris for the works to the ditch on B1106, which was echoed by the Council. Council asked Mr Harris to remove the debris that had been left behind in the ditch so as to not impede drainage.

Mr Harris confirmed that a further 6,000 whips were to be ordered to complete planting across the site. Council reminded Mr Harris that the second part of the felling licence replant along the B1106 for circa 11 trees, was yet complete. Mr Harris agreed to follow this up.

Council agreed that the update email from Sarah Drane was very useful and would like to continue to receive updates.

7. To receive reports from Councillors:

a. Traffic / Roads / VASs / Road Signs - Cllr Lynch - **none received.**

b. Volunteering - Derek Brown

DB reported another successful session litter picking. Former Chair & Cllr Martin Loveridge will continue heading up the group, with no more sessions planned until spring next year. Thanks to Tony Mayhew for cleaning the Pound Meadow bus stop.

c. Facilities / Assets Management / Community Centre / EV - Derek Brown

No problems reported. EV charging idea is ongoing. Community Council meeting 26th November and will vote on whether to proceed with the slow chargers being provided by the scheme.

d. Local Businesses & Residents / Lark Valley - Richard Nicholls

RN and the Clerk met James Pickerin from SCC

Rights of Way team to walk the Lark Valley Path from Sheepwash Bridge to just past Duck Sluice Farm. Works are due to take place before Christmas to secure the bank in a number of places and to lift the fallen fencing now overgrown with brambles. The Lark Valley Path is one of only three paths in Suffolk that gets three cuts per year. The potential was discussed for Council to pay the contractor extra, to cut wider on each of the three cuts to help keep the path clearer for longer. Estimate £200-300 per cut.

Action: Clerk to add to a Spring agenda.

Question was raised over who put up the Harris fencing either side of the B1106.

Action: Josh Harris to check if AS did this.

- e. Social Issues / Village Voice - Jill Mayhew
Nothing to report. Email re: winter tool-kit to be included in magazine.
- f. Marham Park / Highways / Village Hall / Anglian Water (Lark) - Clerk - **none received.**
- g. Allotments - David Surman
Nothing to report.

8. To receive Clerks report

The Clerk advised that after attending a SALC training session on Councils acting as Sole Trustees of a Charity, more work will be required to differentiate Council business from Charity business.

DB advised that if the EV charging at the Community Centre project moves forwards, then deed documents would be required, showing ownership.

Question was raised if the land is registered?

Action: Clerk to review Charity activity in the new year.

9. Planning:

i. **DC/24/0614/FUL - RE-CONSULTATION**

All Saints Hotel, Fornham St Genevieve, IP28 6JQ

Planning application - partial change of use of golf course to site six timber pods and associated

engineering works

Council resolved to record a vote of no comment.

ii. **DC/24/1495/TPO**

Old Rectory The Green, Fornham All Saints, IP28 6JX

TPO 115 (1986) tree preservation order - two Horse Chestnut (C1 and C2 on plan within G2 on order)

overall crown reduction and lift by up to three metres

b. one Oak (H1 on plan within G2 on order) overall crown reduction by two metres and removal of branches around incoming electric cable

Council resolved to support this application.

10. Finance update

- i. Clerk advised that the October salary payment included an £850.20 tax rebate, which Council would need to reclaim from HMRC at the end of the financial year.

Council resolved to approve payment of the following accounts and outstanding invoices:

Payee & details	Total
J Hook, Clerks salary, October (includes £850.20 tax rebate)	£1,539.73
J Hook, Clerks expenses, October	£30.48
Nest, Clerks pension, September	£9.75
Suffolk Cloud, emails and domain	£130.00
SALC, Clerks CiLCA training modules	£416.40
Total Payments	£2126.36

- ii. **Council noted bank balances correct to 31st October, with correction to current account balance as noted by the Clerk.**

Current	£223.61
Savings	£44,784.65
Total Bank Balance	£45,008.26

- iii. **Council resolved to approve bank reconciliation for October 2024.**

11. 2025/26 budget and precept

Council discussed the proposed 2025/26 budget and made some minor changes.

Council resolved to apply for a precept of £25k, which would equate to a £0.57 increase (0.65%) for a band D property in the parish.

12. Revised NALC pay scales & Clerks review

Council to discuss revised NALC pay scales, effective 1st April 2024. Clerk's pay scale 18 increased from £15.21 to £15.84 per hour, equating to £191.10 of back pay (5 months) and £63.00 extra to be budgeted for the remainder of the financial year (5 months)

Council resolved to approve the Clerks pay increase and back pay in line with the revised NALC pay scale.

Council noted Clerks review to be scheduled for January.

13. Skate & play park inspections

Council to note from report that remedial work required, but all low to very low risk

DB reported it would be prudent to consider a rolling plan to replace some items of equipment and budget for improvements to the fence and gate.

Action: DB to investigate potential costs.

Still waiting on previously ordered parts to make some simple repairs.

Action: Clerk to follow up.

14. Emergency Plan

Council to receive update

DS received an old 2016 emergency plan document from a previous chair, including details of how to start the gas generator. JM understood this document had been superseded. Council questioned the need and legal obligation for a plan.

Action: DS to invite contact from WSC to present to Council at a future meeting.

15. Microsoft subscription

Council to discuss renewal of subscription due January £59.99 per year for one, £79.99 per year for up to 6, personal licence or £8.60 per month +Vat for business licence (£123.84 per year)

Council resolved for Clerk to renew a one user personal license.

16. Overgrown pavements

Clerk still liaising with contractors / obtaining quotes.

17. Pruning workshop for community orchard

Clerk awaiting further details.

RN advised a number of apple trees have been lost.

18. Councillor recruitment

Council discussed draft leaflet to attract new Councillors. Council agreed it should make clear that it is open to anybody over the age of 18.

Council resolved for Clerk to print with minor changes, and for JM to organise distribution.

19. Allotment AGM

Council noted the date of Allotment AGM set for Wednesday 4th December, 18:30 in the Village Hall.

20. Upgrades to VAS equipment

Council to discuss location of new solar powered VAS. Based on Elan City's suggestion, the ideal position would be roughly between the two properties fronting Larks Gate on the opposite side. Council will need a street furniture license from SCC, circa. £100.

Council resolved to approve the location for a new VAS unit and for the Clerk to proceed with purchase of new equipment and application for a Street Furniture License.

Action: RN agreed to approach the two Larks Gate properties.

21. Village Voice advertising

Council resolved to increase Village Voice advertising costs to £90 per full page ad (from £84) and £54 per half page (from £45), effective February 2025.

22. Correspondence

- i. Resident email: A1101 roundabout
Covered in open session, Item 6.
- ii. Resident email: Hedges on B1106
Covered in open session, Item 6.
- iii. Business email [telephone call] Tut Hill driver training facility
Clerk called and email Planning, no response.

Action: Clerk to follow up.

23. Update on Chair & Vice Chair positions

Councillors to discuss options moving forwards

This item was moved to the January meeting. RN agreed to act as Chair.

24. Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 21st January 2025, commencing at 18:30 in the Community Centre.

At the end of the meeting Cllr Mayhew handed in her resignation from the Council - almost 7 years to the day since she started.

The Council thanked her for her dedication and great service.

Meeting closed 20:20

Minutes from all the Parish Council meetings
and a wealth of other information can be found
on our website

****please note new address****

www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Dates For Parish Council and related meetings 2025

Jan 21st Parish Council

All meetings will be held at 18:30 in the Community Centre unless otherwise advised on the Agenda which will be posted on the Village Hall notice board at least three full clear days* before each meeting.

Agendas can also be found on the Parish Council website.

****please note new address****

www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

**excludes Sundays and Bank Holidays*

Why not come along to our next meeting?

Got something to share or a question to ask? There is always time allocated for questions from members of the public.

Or just come to listen and see what goes on behind the scenes in your village.

Meetings usually last about an hour and a half, but you don't even have to stay til the end if you don't want to (or you get bored!)

email clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk for more information

Winter Tool Kit

Supporting Each Other: Focus on Winter

by West Suffolk Council

You may have heard **Winter Fuel Payments** being discussed in the news recently. They used to be paid to everyone over State Pension age, regardless of their income. This has now changed. Only people who get **Pension Credit** will receive the one off Winter Fuel Payment this year.

And it's not just help with heating costs - getting Pension Credit opens the door to additional benefits such as help with the cost of dental work, glasses and transport to hospital; help with rent or mortgage interest; and help paying Council Tax. Not to mention a free TV Licence for those aged 75 and over.

A lot of people think if they have savings they won't be entitled, but that is not always the case. While 1.4 million households in the UK already receive Pension Credit, an estimated 880,000 people are eligible for it, but not receiving it.

Can you help us reach these people?

If you have friends or family over State Pension age (currently 66), ask them if they have checked their eligibility. They can find out more here: www.gov.uk/pension-credit, or by calling 0800 99 1234. Applications can be made online or over the phone.

Further down you will find some useful resources. **You don't need to be an expert** on Pension Credit: just encourage people to check their eligibility themselves, or support them to do so, either over the **phone 0800 99 1234 or online: www.gov.uk/pension-credit**

The quickest way to apply for Pension Credit is to call the claim line 0800 99 1234 (a friend or family member can call for them as long as they are with the person at the time) or go online: www.gov.uk/pension-credit

What about people who are not entitled to Pension Credit?

Below you will find details of support throughout West Suffolk available to our communities who may find themselves vulnerable this winter.

The Government Funded Household Support Fund has been extended until March 2025 and is an allocation of funding given to Suffolk County Council to support people who are experiencing hardship or struggling with the rising costs. Suffolk County Council allocates Household Support Fund money to residents in a number of ways including Local Welfare Assistance Scheme (details below). For full details in relation to the Household Support Fund please visit: <https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/community-and-safety/communities/healthier/cost-of-living-support/household-support-fund>

Local Welfare Assistance Scheme

www.suffolk.gov.uk/lwas

A fund set up for those experiencing financial hardship and can help with food, heating, clothing, fuel and white goods. Full details and eligibility criteria can be found on the website. This fund is changing so it is important you keep up to date by visiting the website.

Applications are made online, or with support from a partner organisation such as Citizens Advice.

Warm Homes Suffolk

www.warmhomessuffolk.org

Grants available to help insulate and make properties more energy efficient. Eligibility can be checked online or by contacting 03456 037 686. This fund is available to homeowners, renters and landlords and is provided throughout the county.

Other benefits

www.entitledto.co.uk

Check entitlement to other benefits such as Housing Benefit, Support for Mortgage Interest, Council Tax Reduction,

Attendance Allowance, Carers Allowance and more. These could increase your income and help you better afford your bills. Use an online benefits calculator or contact an advice agency such as Age UK or Citizens Advice.

Discretionary Payments

www.angliarevenues.gov.uk/discretionary

There are two different types of discretionary payment funds available: Discretionary Housing Payment: for those in receipt of Housing Benefit or Housing Element of Universal Credit and Exceptional Hardship Payments: for those receiving council tax reduction.

Both payments are short term and one off but are aimed at helping those experiencing exception financial hardship. Individuals can apply on line and full details of funding available can be found by visiting the website (application form is through this website as well)

Help with the cost of heating oil

- “Suffolk Oil Loans” from Eastern Savings & Loans, a Credit Union. They offer an interest-free loan of up to £500 for heating oil. This is only available to residents of Suffolk. You need to become a member of Eastern Savings & Loans to apply. Membership costs £5. To find out more about the Suffolk Oil Loan, visit: **www.eslcu.co.uk/products-and-services/loan-products/suffolk-oil-loans**
- Community Oil Buying: by clubbing together with others in your community, you may be able to get a cheaper price for your oil. The Oil Club website lists the many Oil Clubs in Suffolk, and often several small rural communities in the same postcode area are included in the same ‘club’. To find your nearest oil club, visit: **www.oil-club.co.uk**
- Another scheme to consider is Community Action Suffolk’s community oil buying scheme. It offers pre-payment and Direct Debit schemes, but please note it

does not offer a 'buy now, pay later' scheme. For more information, visit: www.communityactionsuffolk.org.uk/business-support/community-oil-buying-bulk-lpg

Help to deal with debt:

There are a number of services, both West Suffolk wide and nationally that can support with financial concerns and managing your well-being. For local support please visit the council's Cost of Living support pages: www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/cost-of-living/

Debt can cause financial hardship and stress. Sometimes even well-managed debt can spiral out of control when life circumstances change. For specialist debt advice, the following organisations can help:

- **Citizens Advice West Suffolk** Free, confidential, independent advice: suffolkwestcab.org.uk Advice line: 0808 278 7868 (Monday to Friday, 9:30am to 3:30pm)
- **West Suffolk - worried about money?** Worrying about money? - West Suffolk leaflet was co-produced as a straightforward resource for people facing money worries or financial crisis, and support workers, to quickly see which local agencies are best placed to help with advice and help to access cash first options: www.worryingaboutmoney.co.uk/west-suffolk
- **National Debtline** Telephone appointments, webchat 0808 808 4000 (9am-8pm, Monday-Friday): <https://nationaldebtline.org>
- **Christians Against Poverty (CAP)** Face to face appointments, home visits 0800 328 0006: <https://capuk.org>

Age UK

www.ageuk.org.uk

Simple A5 pension credit information guide booklet: www.ageuk.org.uk/globalassets/age-uk/documents/information-guides/ageukig50_pension_credit_inf.pdf

Bury St Edmunds Festive Food Project 2024

Below are all the details of this year's Festive Food Projects generously funded by **Bury St Edmunds Town Council**.

RIF (Reducing Isolation with Food) – Heat at Home Christmas Dinner

This year we are preparing 250 heat at home Christmas dinners for any individuals who will be spending Christmas Day alone and living in Bury St Edmunds (postcodes IP33 and IP32).

This is in partnership with West Suffolk College and Abbeycroft, with funding and support for Bury St Edmunds Town Council.

Referrals -

Please use the link below to make a referral, you can refer yourself, a family member, neighbour or friend.

Closer to the day our team will make contact phone calls to all the individuals for a friendly chat and to arrange delivery details and dietary requirements.

Deliveries will go out on Monday 23rd December - the meals will have a 5 day shelf life.

LINK TO REFER >> <https://us17.list-manage.com/>

Hamper Donations

Alongside the Christmas meal we also provide a small hamper or gift donated to the programme. If you know anywhere that would be able to donate anything please get in touch with us via email: community@acleisure.com

Donation drops at the Bury Leisure Centre reception please mark any donation 'RIF donation – FAO Jade'. The best donations are items that can easily be split between multiple hampers.

Previous donations include treats such as:

Chocolates | Biscuits | Cakes | Crisps | Crackers

Cheeses | Drinks (non- alcoholic) | Vouchers

Any questions, please contact us: community@acleisure.com

Family Food Box and Activity Packs

Bury St Edmunds Town Council have also funded 50 food boxes for families in financial hardship living in Bury St Edmunds (IP32/IP33).

Each family will receive all of the ingredients for a Christmas Dinner and Boxing Day lunch as well as an activity pack for the whole family.

The are booked through the following link:

<https://eequ.org/experience/5608>

Any questions please email: HAF@acleisure.com

Free Christmas Recipe Cards

Bury St Edmunds Town Council have also funded the printing of 400 packs of recipe cards, including cost effective Christmas ideas as well as other hearty family recipes.

These will be available from the following locations from the 1st December.

- Bury St Edmunds Library

- Bury St Edmunds Citizens Advice Bureau
- Bury St Edmunds Town Council Offices
- Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre
- Skyliner Leisure Centre

If you would like some recipe cards to distribute please get in touch: community@acleisure.com

Other Free Activities in Bury St Edmunds

As well as the above sessions, Abbeycroft are also able to offer extra free sessions for Children and Families entitled to Means Tested Free School Meals.

Below is a list of activities and booking information.

Session	Age	Venue	Dates
Family Park Cooking	5+	Bury Scout Hut	21st December
Christmas Food Box	5+	Bury Leisure Centre	22nd December
Free Swim + Lunch	5+	Bury Leisure Centre	21st December - 5th January

To book a session please visit www.abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF



Warm Spaces

West Suffolk Council again this year has received a grant from Suffolk County Council to allocate to our warm spaces that continue to operate this winter. Over the last few weeks the Families and Communities Team have been contacting known groups, as well as working with new projects to identify warm spaces within our communities. A full list of projects operating as a warm space this winter is available on our website:

www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/cost-of-living/warm-spaces.cfm

The website contains details of the projects, along with opening times and what support is available. They will also be visited by a member of the Families and Communities Team to offer leaflets, support and guidance in relation to financial concerns, health and well-being support and promoting other advice and support that is available across West Suffolk.

If you are aware of any other projects in your parish/town please do not hesitate to contact the team and we will continue to update our website and let our communities know of these great projects across the district.

Email: families.communities@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Families & Communities

Families and Communities
West Suffolk Council

Mobile Library

Dates & Times for 2024:

December 3rd

Thingoe Lodge
12:35 – 12:55pm

Parish Church
13:00 – 13:20pm

For more information, visit the Suffolk Libraries website:

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk



To keep up with other village news, why not like or follow our Facebook page?

www.facebook.com/fornhamallsaintspc

Fornham All Saints WI

September

For our September meeting we were enthusiastically welcomed by curator Claire Wallace to the newly restored Suffolk Regiment Museum at Gibraltar Barracks.

The Museum houses the artefacts and the collection of personal belongings and information on individuals who served in the Suffolk Regiment. The collection spans almost 300 years both in peace and war. We were invited to watch two short films on the Second World War, we saw the D-Day landings along the beaches in Operation Overlord on 6th June 1944, which was the offensive that started the invasion of occupied Western Europe by the allied forces. Also the liberation of Caen eventually achieved on 19th July 1944. These films included interviews with some of the brave members of the Suffolk Regiment who took part in these and other operations.

Following this we were taken up to the Museum, first opened in 1935, where we had the opportunity to admire the extensive displays, which tell the story of the Suffolk Regiment from its foundation in 1685 to the amalgamation with the Royal Norfolk in 1959 to form 1st East Anglian Regiment. A fascinating collection and well worth a visit.

October

The October meeting was our 106th birthday! Adrian Tindall who is the Chair of the Bury St Edmunds Tour Guides spoke on 'A Handsome Little Town' which was a virtual tour of Bury St Edmunds. BSE's name is derived from King Edmund, a Christian, who was killed by the Danes for refusing to renounce his faith and martyred as a saint. His remains were enshrined at BSE Abbey which became a famous pilgrimage destination and one of the largest and grandest monasteries in England (now the ruins in the Abbey Gardens). Computer aided designs showed the Abbey complex to be quite magnificent.

BSE played a part in Magna Carter in 1214 when a group of barons met secretly at St Edmunds Abbey to swear an oath

to compel King John to accept the Charter of Liberties. Whilst telling the story of BSE, its buildings and personalities we enjoyed wonderful images of the town.

We were enthralled. A marvellous speaker which had us all promising to look for the historical places we had just seen on the screen. As it was our birthday meeting we enjoyed tea and cake!

November

At the age of 98 Joy Tuplin amused us all by recounting some of her working life with wit and humour. Wanting to work at the age of 5, Joy's Father suggested she pick some carnations from the garden, tie them in bunches and sell them at the garden gate. Which she did, and was very thrilled to earn some money – giving half to her Mother and half to her savings tin!

She did a milk round when very young, a variety of jobs, then trained as a nurse and worked in A&E in London, went on to train as a psychiatric nurse, eventually looking after homes and animals for people all over the country. Finally retiring at the age of 84! A fascinating glimpse into the life of a most extraordinary lady. Naturally we celebrated Joy's birthday with a cake, which had the most amazing candle!!

Fornham All Saints WI meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 2.00 pm in the village hall.

Please call or text Elizabeth 07311 281775 for further information on meetings, as we regularly go on outings.

Elizabeth Gingell

Elizabeth Gingell

Fornham St Martin Ladies Club

The Fornham Ladies Group met on 16th October 2024 at the FSM village hall. Apologies were given for those not able to attend.

The speaker for this month was Mark Ellis, a police officer. He has served over 30 years and before that 2 years as a special constable. His talk was on Modern Day Policing. Policing started in the 1880s and before that there were Sheriffs. A great change has taken place because of modern technology now in existence, phones being used instead of actually going to the police station.

Most crimes are local, but possession of cars makes it easier for criminals to travel further afield. Also, domestic abuse and mental health problems are having to be dealt with. The police are scrutinised more closely now and one's job could be lost if reported for brutality.

There are lots of reasons for the police being contacted and there is more crime committed in the dark. The police have in the past been called the "Thin Blue Line" and this is still true. Community policing is carried out. Various slides of different uniforms worn over the years and also means of transport were shown.

CSI are called to crime scenes when the area concerned is immediately cordoned off.

DNA, created in 1986, can be obtained from fingerprints, which are different for each individual, apart from twins who must show at least 16 points to verify that they are twins. Ear prints are also unique.

Weaponry used to assist are tasers, PAVA (a long distance spray), single shot guns, truncheons and stingers, which he showed to us and of course dogs.

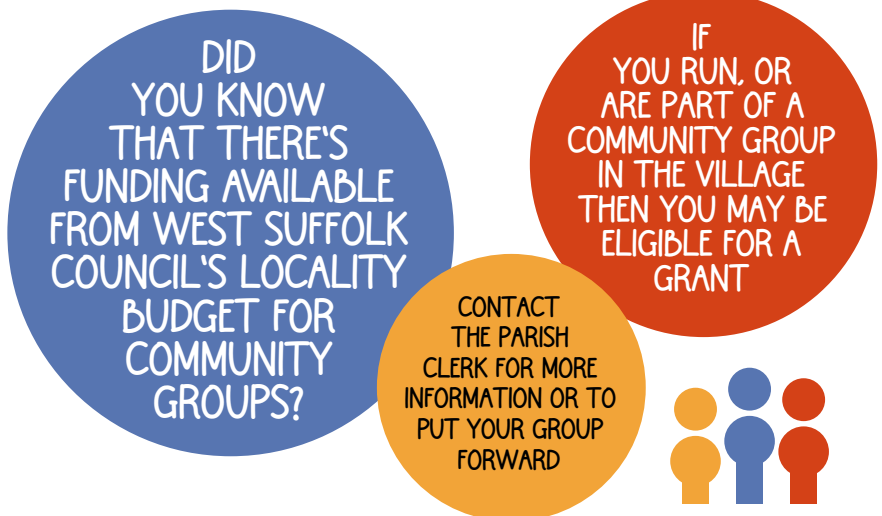
There were lots of statistics given. There is now a custody suite in BSE. Suffolk has a low crime rate.

It was a very interesting talk with several funny anecdotes included.

Mark was thanked and very kindly donated his fee to the Motor Neurone group.

Janet Petch

Janet Petch



Fornham All Saints Church News

Educational Visit

A group of school children visited the Church on Tuesday 5th November from The Creative Education Centre. Aged between 5 to 11 years of age, the children were keen to learn about various aspects of our church. This term, they are studying Medieval Britain.

Accompanied by three of their teachers, they began their tour in the churchyard where they stayed for a short while, then proceeded into the building stopping in the porch to look at the medieval timbers and the carving of the Green Man, symbolising the renewal of new life in the spring. In the main part of the church they investigated the stained glass window trying to decipher the story being told. The animals and the poppy heads on the pew ends were pointed out to them and the tapestry showed them life in the village over the years. After a general look round they had a tour of the tower. They concluded their visit with a quick look at the Medieval flushings on the outside.

They walked back to their base having gained more information from the church for their future studies. I enjoyed their visit, I hope they did too.



Remembrance Service at the War Memorial

Nearly 40 people gathered at the War Memorial to join Reverend Miller, Rev Sarah Gull and Scarlett Blacker in remembering the fallen from the village. As usual Grenfell Scoulding laid a wreath remembering his grandfather Samuel Scoulding who died in the first world war fighting for

his country. Further wreaths were laid by The Women's Institute and The Parish Council.

Returning to the Church, we heard the Last Post being played recorded from the Cenotaph Remembrance Service in London in 1962 when villager Tony Mayhew was selected to play the Last Post. His father was also involved in the service as Drum Major. There followed much chat and discussion over with coffee and delicious refreshments.

The Funeral of Peter Adams

The Church was packed with over 200 in the congregation many of whom had travelled from across Europe as well from around the UK. The service was led by Peter's son, the Reverend John Adams, assisted by Peter's daughter, Josephine Pearce. The music was provided by the organist from St Mary's, Bury and a trumpeter from Epsom, Surrey. The singing throughout was hearty, beginning with 'Guide me O thou great Redeemer.' The duet of trumpet and organ playing the Rutter blessing was particularly memorable.

Josephine read the moving eulogy showing Peter's amazing experiences in his very full life. The eulogy was completed with a sentence from each of the six grandchildren.

Afterwards everyone returned to the barns at Church Farm. More entertainment followed with the family song first sung at Peter's 70th birthday, namely The Peter Jameson Song, or simply P.J.P. Jameson A. This was a wonderful way to complete the most amazing funeral and celebration of a special man and good friend to so many.

Peter Adam's Eulogy

Hello, for those that don't know me, I am Peter's daughter Josephine. Thank you all so much for the efforts you have made to join us here today, to honour his life and grieve his death. It means so much to Isa, John and I to feel how loved he was, by so many. Aided by Peter's generous memoirs, I will do my best to paint a picture of who he was.

The first point about Peter is that he was a man of colossal courage, with

an insatiable appetite for adventure. His earliest memory was on the Empire Windrush on his way to India, when aged two he was spurred by his mother to go up to deck to view the rock of Gibraltar. By the time he had summoned up the courage to go it alone, the famous Rock was a mere speck in the distance, but by contrast his internal flame of courage had begun a lifetime of growth.

This set the scene for a series of adventures which even he, as a 77 year old man, described as 'pretty extreme': Adventures such as jumping out of planes in a parachute; helping out in two wars as a medical volunteer, galloping over enormous hedges on horseback with his two children in tow, taking those same children aged eight and six on an exploration of Malaysia in 1991, flying on Aeroflot via Moscow, which was still distinctly Soviet in spirit.

Even in his latter years of illness, he was fearless in his attempts to keep going, undertaking trips to the Scilly Isles, Devon and London whilst the rest of us looked on with anxiety. But he was always buoyed by his adventures, and always made it home in one piece, claiming until his last days to be in 'peak condition.'

When he was a child, his parents lived across an array of exotic locations, including Quetta, Dortmund, Berlin, Penang and Lympne, all before the age of 14.

His core memories of his family included his courageous mother in a dress with cartwheels on, waving him off on a tropical airstrip in Penang before a year of separation. He was only ten. And then his kind, humorous father disembarking in the jungle thirty minutes later, again beginning a year of separation. His dear brother Tim, his wingman in the early days of sleeper trains, coal trucks and ponies, and a fantastic support in his last chapters of illness.

His childhood on the move instilled in him a lifelong pull to travel, to be on the move, to go "Off Again", as his first book was entitled. He associated distant lands with colour, excitement, humour, variety and ultimately a feeling of coming home. He learnt numerous languages flawlessly, to bring himself one step closer to foreign worlds.

His wanderlust led him to begin a glamorous and contented first career as a relief station officer across Asia for BOAC. He learnt to laugh with his local colleagues about the various banana skins they slipped on, and found satisfaction in the sight of big planes taking off to the glow of tropical runways.

However, he had also learnt that there is more joy to be found in giving than receiving, and so took the courageous decision in his late twenties to pursue a calling of greater purpose, and to retrain as a doctor. The process began with a return to science O levels, and ended with a community of satisfied and grateful patients, whom he always gave the time of day.

Peter has always had a particular gift of striking up unlikely friendships

in unlikely places, driven by his lifelong practice of getting into deep conversation with strangers at any moment. You only had to turn your back for a minute, and he had found a conversation partner, built rapport, and unearthed the most personal parts of their life story in record speed.

The peak example of this happened in a seedy laundrette in southeast London in 1973, where he got talking to a beautiful young German medical student, who had dyed her doctor's coat pink with her red flares. Whilst I'm not sure he knew how to sort out the coat, he did find himself a wife that day. From that encounter in the laundrette followed a string of romantic gestures, and a long and fulfilling marriage of 48 years. Isa was his 'bestest', a great companion and comfort to him until he drew his last breath by her side, in his bed at home, overlooking the church where we are gathered today.

He was gifted not only at hitting it off with strangers, but also at cultivating lifelong friendships. Many of you here are wonderful old pals of his, your friendship dating back way beyond my birth. Thank you, your friendship meant the world to him. Henry was his best friend from the age of six to the age of eighty, despite the geographical distance between Fornham All Saints and the Genting Highlands in Malaysia. It was after golden visits from Henry and his brother Tim, a few days before his death, that dad turned to mum and said 'thank you for bringing all these wonderful people to see me,' and seemed finally ready to slip away.

When John and I flew the nest, he addressed a speech to us based on Khalil Gibran's 'On Children'. Just as the poem dictates, as a parent he was a steady bow that allowed his children to fly. Loving us always, but propelling us on our own adventures, armed with a map of the world and his lessons on courage.

His sartorial elegance was unrivalled. He had a beautiful wardrobe consisting of only the finest garments, most of which were older than his own children, and had been lovingly restored over the years, making him an unwitting icon of contemporary sustainability ideals.

He was a true gent, who always stood up when people came into the room, always walked people who helped at home to the gate when they left, and always queued up behind the prisoners to go through high security doors when he was a prison volunteer in retirement. Much to the surprise of the prison guards who bemusedly asked themselves "who's that guy in brogues in the queue?"

He was a romantic, who whisked Isa off her feet, armed with punnets of strawberries and a promise of adventure in far off lands. The first time he met my husband Jo, at Henley Regatta, he picked us up in a rowing boat, only narrowly missing the MS Windsor castle with 200 revellers on board. At our wedding in 2015, he delivered a speech inspired by Pushkin's Captain's Daughter, where I was the daughter, and he was my captain, delighted about my marriage but heartbroken to let me go.

No eulogy of Peter's would be complete without mentioning his love of

words. From the moment his father gave him an Italian leather diary at the age of 10, he learnt that “the process of writing down my recollections has emphasised to me what a wonderful life I enjoyed.” He self-published his first book, “Off Again”, bringing to life trips, types and talks from his life, exuberantly announcing that every man has a book within himself. As it turns out, Peter had four more books within himself, and published his swansong, the aptly titled “Blowing for Home”, just months before his death.

For decades he devotedly penned weekly letters to John and me, in his signature turquoise ink and almost illegible handwriting. He raised us bilingually, committed to keeping up the German, even as his hearing failed him, and took great joy in playing with words from different languages to humorous effect. “Heidenreihe”, his word for Heathrow which back translates as “heathen row”, “Leberteichstrasse” for Liverpool Street, which back translates as liver-pond-street, the Bejeezelwanger, the Doggerbank, the list goes on.

We’ve talked about his acts of service, but I’d be remiss to omit his love for good times, his understanding of the importance of ‘getting one’s nose in the trough of life’. He loved the exuberance of his days at Cambridge, always ensured we had enough ‘jam’ (aka enjoyment) in our lives, pulled out all the stops for a glorious wedding for Jo and me in Germany. He could laugh for days, about things that really weren’t that funny.

We will always remember Peter’s idiosyncrasies. The man with the horn-rimmed glasses, the sartorial elegance, the Greenflash running shoes, the brick phone, the gentle heart and the beautiful words. When I asked him how he would like his grandchildren to remember Oppa, he said “I actually don’t need them to remember my successes or that I was a doctor or a soldier. It may sound terribly wet but I’d like them to know that Oppa loved them.” Today is a sad day, but I know he would have wanted us all to take comfort in the fact that he loved us, each and every one of us.

I’d like to close with some of his own words from the epilogue of his final book. Words which he penned with so many of the people in this room in mind. They hit the emotional high notes, but let’s give it a go.

“It has been a good life, in which I have met many interesting, generous and amusing people. I was in full time education for 26 years. I have had the good fortune to be able to travel extensively in Europe and Asia. I have married the right girl, who has given me two wonderful children. I have sustained, not without difficulty, a useful professional career. God has watched over me, and, when the call comes, I am ready to go. I thank my readers for their interest, friendship and love.”

Josephine Pearce

Christmas Services at FAS Parish Church

December 1st: Family Christingle Service at 10.00

The collection from this service will go to the Children's Society.

December 15th: Holy Communion at 10.00

December 17th: The Fornhams' Carol Service at 7.00pm

With carols and readings, to be followed by seasonal refreshments.

December 24th: The "Bethlehem"

Midnight Communion at 9.30pm

We hope we might see many of you at one of our services in December. We wish you all a very happy and peaceful Advent and Christmas.

Judith Scott & John Grinham

Judith Scott & John Grinham, Acting Church Wardens

Fornham All Saints Church 101 Club Winners

	1st	2nd	3rd
October	R Chenery	M Johnson	M Wheeldon
November	V Marsh	P Elmes	G Davis L Quayle

FORNHAM ALL SAINTS TABLE TENNIS CLUB

We play on Monday nights, 7-9pm in the community centre.

We are always looking to grow our membership. The club is run on a “for fun” basis and welcomes all levels of play.

For more information please contact either:

Martin 07784 225375 or Derek 07505 762267

West Suffolk Planning Policy Consultations

West Suffolk Local Plan (Regulation 24) 2024 - Examination in public

We are invited to participate in the West Suffolk Local Plan (Regulation 24) 2024 - Examination in public consultation by the consultation manager, West Suffolk Planning Policy (West Suffolk Council).

This consultation is open from 24th May 2024 at 11:00 to 3rd March 2025 at 23:59.

**For further information, or to participate and have your day
in this consultation, visit the website below**

www.westsuffolk.inconsult.uk/WSLPexamination

Suffolk Highways Online Reporting Tool:

<https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk>

The Highways Reporting Tool allows you to report a new defect and monitor the status of existing reports, such as;

- blocked drains
- cycle lane / tracks & public right of way issues
- damaged drain/manhole cover
- vegetation and mud on the road
- flooding on a road or pavement
- missing/damaged barriers or guardrails
- missing/damaged or obscured signs
- missing/ faded road markings
- **potholes & pavement defects**
- trees/hedges affecting the highways or footways

Do not report a highways problem online if:

- it poses an immediate danger to public safety
instead **call 0345 606 6171**
- it's on a trunk road in Suffolk
instead **call the National Highways Information Line on 0300 123 5000**

Quiet Lanes

Have you heard of Quiet Lanes?

Did you know we have one in our village?

Quiet Lanes in the UK are minor rural roads that are designated to prioritise the needs of vulnerable road users such as walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

The Highway Code instructs drivers to use Quiet Lanes slowly and carefully and be prepared to stop to allow people extra time to pass them in safety.

We have one commencing on Mere Lane, just beyond the 3 Kings pub.

It is a lovely walk, with views of the country side at the top of the hill.

Visit www.cpre.org.uk and visit their guide to quiet lanes.

ENJOY!

Jill Mayhew

Jill Mayhew





Friends Of The Village Hall News

Christmas Meal

Just a few places left for our four course Christmas meal on Friday 13th December at 7pm.

£6 for members and £12 for non-members. Put your name down now!

Fornham Footers

In October, we had a walk which we have done many times before, taking two buses to the West Suffolk Hospital (thankfully no-one needed to go in!) and walking back to the hall. Some walkers took the bus back to the village from town, but we all had a stop for coffee and cake at the Cathedral refectory. After the walk we picnicked in the hall and enjoyed a glass of prosecco and slice of cake to celebrate our 10 years of walking. All past and present walkers were invited. November

was another local walk for Children in Need and a shared lunch in the hall. Everyone was invited to come and share their lunch and give a donation to Children in Need.

**Next walks Fridays
6th December and 3rd
January.**



Mahjong

We meet twice a month at 9.30am on a Monday morning, there is always plenty of chat and laughter. Imperial Jade – 1000 points; Flying Angels – 500 points; Mixed Pairs – 250 points. Pongs, Kongs and Chows, all mahjong terms, come and find out how to play.

£2 table money inc. refreshments. (£2.50 from January)

Next games Mondays at 9.30am on 9th Dec. and 13th & 27th Jan.

Please contact either Lynne 766909 or Mary 763701

Film Club

WE NEED MORE FILM CLUB MEMBERS! Please contact Lynne for details, Only £20 for 10 films from May, now half a year's subs (£8) for the last 4 films this subs year. The chance to see your choice if it's voted on by the members in the next voting in April. The films are shown on a large screen with stereo sound. The licence we hold means that we cannot advertise future films or charge per film, you must be a club member. Our October film was "Hidden Figures" and in November the whole club was invited to watch "The Thomas Crown Affair" starring Steve McQueen & Faye Dunaway and enjoy a glass of wine or fruit juice afterwards. Everyone is encouraged to give a donation and have refreshments at £2.50 to help pay for the hall hire.

No film will be shown in December.

Next film night is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 28th Jan.

Traveller's Tales

Howard and I gave an illustrated talk on their trip to Peru with Cox & Kings in 2012. Starting in Lima and onto the following places Arequipa, Colca Canyon to watch condors, Puno for Lake Titicaca and the floating Uros Islands, to Cusco by train, Aqua Calientis and up to Machu Picchu, back to Cusco and onto Lima. Here the organised trip ended, but we carried on by train to





Huancayo on the then highest railway in the world, which is now the train to Tibet, which we will feature on another evening in the future.

On Thursday 16th Jan at 7.30pm, Claire, Peter and friends will be “Cycling from Calais to Annecy.”

Non-members £5 inc. refreshments. £2.50 for members.
Do you have any interesting holidays which you would like to share with the group?

Board & Card Games

In August and September, we had two very enjoyable afternoons, when Adrian and Jude taught us how to play “7’s” or “6’s” (when there were more players). It was a new card game which we all enjoyed. October was cancelled due to members being busy elsewhere.
£2.50 table money inc. refreshments.

Our next Wednesday afternoons at 2pm will be on 11th Dec & 15th Jan.

Fornham Hackers!

Everyone practising for a repeat match in the Spring?

Beetle Drive

A fun evening in the Village Hall playing Beetle. Delicious refreshments and raffle prizes were provided by the “friends” and the club bought the prizes.

The overall winner was Louise and card side winners were Edna and Elaine. The people with the least scores were Christine, Lynne (that’s me!) and Dee.

The total for Children in Need raised at the evening was £233, with more to come later from different activities

Children in Need

Grand Total raised £403.



I always welcome new ideas for groups connected to the “Friends.” Please contact;

Lynne Quayle

01284 766909

lynne.quayle99@btinternet.com

The joining fee is £5 for a half year up to May to belong to the “Friends” + other club subs.



Quiz Night

Friday 6th December

Tables of 4 to a team

Cost per Table £10

There will be a raffle

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Community Council Committee

Minutes for Community Council Committee Meeting – Tuesday 1st October 2024 at 6pm

Attendees:

Enid Gathercole (EG) (Chair), Virginia Comely (VC) (Secretary),
Alwyn Evans (AE) (Treasurer)

Paul Purnell (PP), Daphne Wilding (Committee Member)

Derek Brown (DB) Parish Council Representative

1. Apologies for Absence
Kyra Turner (KT) (Committee Member)
2. Review Minutes of last Meeting – 30 July 2024
 - a. Minutes reviewed. All agreed.
 - b. Bottle banks – It was discussed that all houses are going to have 2 more waste bins provided, one for food and one for glass in 2026. This also includes commercial buildings, but these are from May 2025. Information received from West Suffolk council to register.
 - c. Regarding the green area where the bottle banks used to be and purchasing of plants, this will be added to the agenda for next Parish Council meeting on 15 October 24.
 - d. DB will come with plates to repair the door (see 5 (e) below)
3. Hall Booking Update – EG updated on hall bookings.
 - a. Bookings – The wedding booking for whole weekend was cancelled. All weekends in October booked, November bookings are quieter at the moment.
4. Treasurer Update – AE
 - a. Total in account £51,652.87 compared to £62,113.29 this time last year.
 - b. Profit and Loss – Total Income £21,804.70 Total expenses £32,251.13. This is due to expenditure of car

park upgrade.

- c. Next meeting will be the AGM and the Treasurer will go through the final annual accounts at that meeting.

5. Hall & Ground Maintenance/Future Facilities

- a. Painting – not completed by previous painter who has now left the area. VC to put a request on NextDoor for decorator. ONGOING
- b. Gatepost – big split in one of the gateposts. PP has contacted contractor who supplied the gatepost. Gate is now sagging. Contractor adjusted the gate but not sorted the split post. A new post has been requested. Contractor will come and assess. ACTION: PP
- c. Sewerage – complaint regarding drain overflowing. DrainDoctor came and sorted. Septic tank still needs to be emptied. Need a cover for drain – PP will action. EG will arrange for tank to be emptied. ONGOING
- d. Corner covers for walls need to be repaired. EG will try and fix first. ACTION: EG
- e. Main Door – PP and DB will repair the cracked door. DB will bring plates to repair the door. ACTION: PP & DB

6. Refurbished building – still ongoing. MJ has updated drawings and these are now ready. Discussion regarding the next phase. These will be given to the structural engineers (Andrew Firebrace Partnership) so they can prepare the final design. There will be a cost for this. £5000 was allocated last year for this purpose. After which a Quantity Surveyor needs to approve the final proposals. Any grants that are available will be applied for. ACTION: PP and EG will visit Andrew Firebrace Partnership.

7. Plug in Suffolk (Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Points) - Site visit happening 2 October 24. Previous meetings had been held via Teams (on line meetings) – EV chargers to fully charge a completely flat battery could take 7hrs and works 24/7. This would mean only 4 car charges a day. Cheap rate between midnight and 6am – would

mean a whole parking space tied up during this time. If we had three phase electricity, we could have the higher chargers rather than the slower 7w. AE advised that the paperwork said if supply was there they could provide higher chargers. £200 per year guaranteed and £1 per 100kw (approx. 65p per car that charges). This whole facility in the village is more about providing the service than making a profit.

8. Christmas Quiz – Friday 6 December 24 - £10 a team (max of 4 people). Money raised to go towards the rebuild of the community centre. Posters and leaflet drops will be done. Also advertise on Facebook page and NextDoor. ACTION: EG & VC
9. Any Other Business – DB – discussion held regarding the community centre waste bin and responsibility for putting out weekly and bringing back in. State of cupboard due to table tennis tables, tables and chairs not being stacked back tidily. EG will mention to all who hire the hall.
10. EG has asked for raffle prizes for quiz.
11. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 26 November 2024 at 6.00pm at the Community Centre. The Annual General Meeting will also be held on this date.

Community Centre Diary

Activity	Date	Times
Upholstery Cindy: 07969 863616	Every Monday	9:00am to 3:00pm
Table Tennis Club Martin - 07784 225375	Monday nights	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Pilates Sarah: 07791 330924	Every Tuesday	10:00am to 11:00am
Art Club 01284 767339	Every 2nd Tuesday in month Every 4th Saturday in month	1:45pm to 4:45pm 10:00am to 4:00pm
Garden Club Ian: 07876 644611	Every 2nd Tuesday in month	7:00pm for 7:30pm start
Computer Club	Every 3rd Tuesday in month	2:00pm to 4:00pm
iPad Club	Every 4th Tuesday in month	2:00pm to 4:00pm
Bowls Chris: 01284 703024	Every Wednesday	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Exercise Caroline: 07528 927572	Every Thursday	9:30am to 11:00am
Stars Stitch & Textile Teresa: 07946 523282	Every 1st and 3rd Thursday in month	10:00am to 4:00pm
Drumming Moira: 07949 253917	Thursday nights	7:00pm to 8:30pm
Out of the Fold (Textiles) Tereasa: 07968 312680	Every 2nd and 4th Friday in month	contact for times

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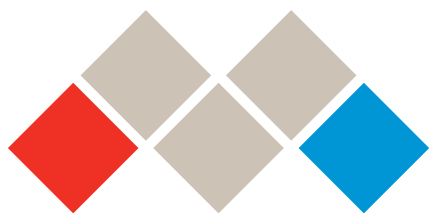
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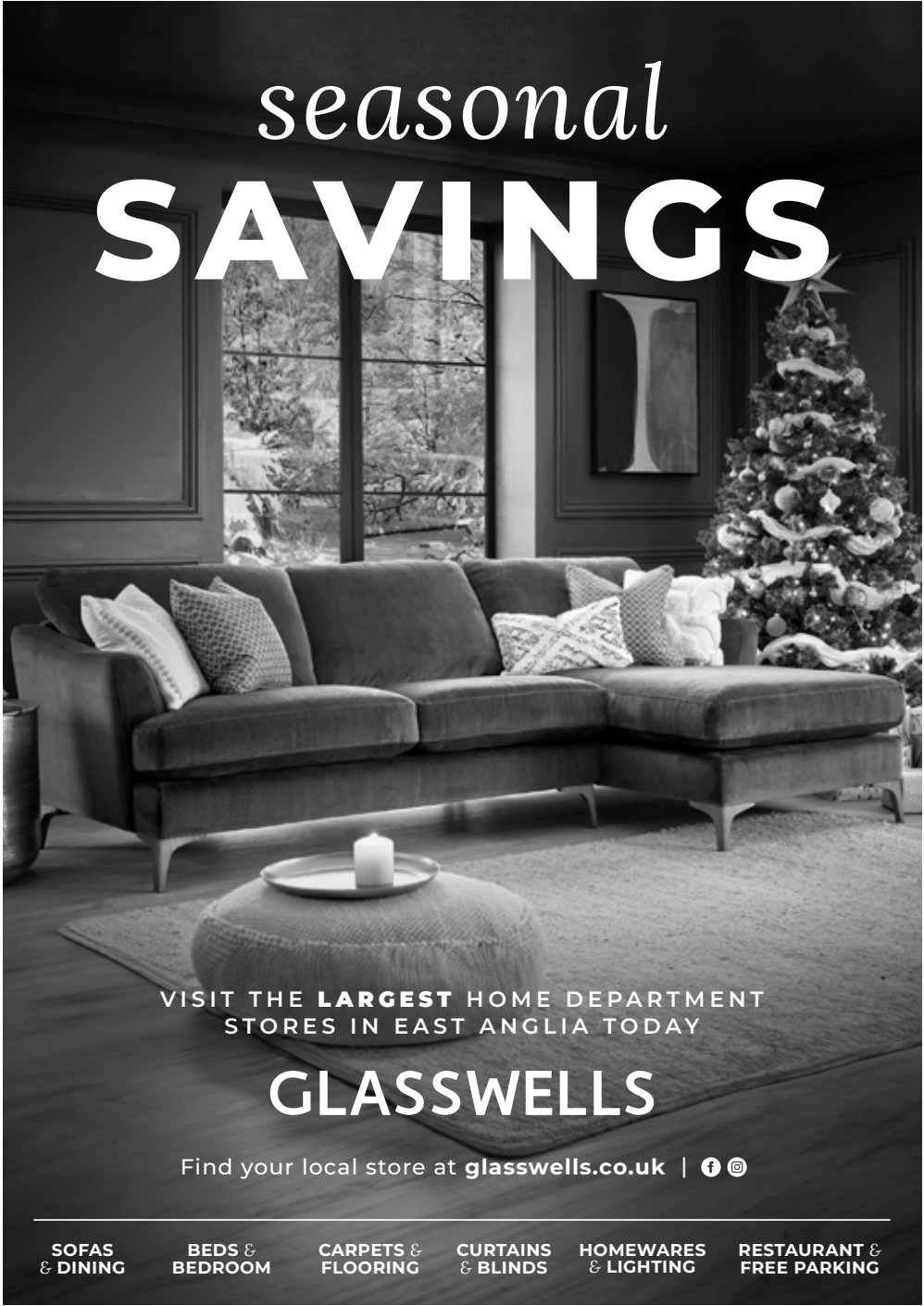
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Organisation	Details	Phone No.	Comments
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Cemetery	FAS Cemetery Trustees	01284 705029	P Elmes
Councils	West Suffolk Council www.westsuffolk.gov.uk	01284 763233	
	Suffolk County Council www.suffolk.gov.uk	0345 606 6067	
	Parish Council www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk		Justin Hook
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Gas	British Gas www.britishgas.co.uk	0800 111 999	Report Leaks
Halls	FAS Community Centre www.yourhall.co.uk/hall/fornham	01284 767688	
	FAS Village Hall paulpurnell44@talktalk.net	01284 763701	
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