

Fornham All Saints Officials

Councillors			
Don Lynch			
t Stewart			
ek Brown			
David Surman			
Richard Nicholls			
Vacancy			
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Vacancy			
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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

www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

The deadline for articles for the June - July Village Voice will be 20th May.

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

Good morning. It's not quite as sunny yet today, but I do hope that you've been enjoying the slightly warmer weather!

The Parish Council has now appointed a Chair - thank you Cllr Nicholls for taking on the baton. We also have a Vice Chair in the wings, waiting to accept office at the next meeting, so hopefully we can soon get back up to speed. It's been notably different having lost a some key Cllrs and not having anybody in the Chair or Vice Chair position, but I'm looking forward to a new chapter. If you'd like to join the team we still have spaces for new folk to get involved. You don't need experience, just enthusiasm - Cllr training is available.

The Parish Council have instructed a contractor to sort out our overgrown verges and untidy pavements. We're just waiting for the approval from SCC. Hopefully we will see some action soon. The Lark Valley Path repairs were finally scheduled in for March, and there has been signs of work, so I'm hoping that's been completed. Council also discussed having an extra cut each year to help keep the path more passable, as it does tend to get quite overgrown with nettles.

I'd like to just say that I've noticed a few residents have done a great job of tidying up the pavements outside their properties - notably Golton Cottages and Gaughton House. THANK YOU! There will be others (apologies), but these are the ones I have seen. I'm in the process of doing along the front of mine too, and it does make as difference when we take care of where we live - it is noticed. If we can all cut back overhanging bushes, trim our trees etc. and help keep our pavements clear it will make a huge difference. The sad reality is that WSC and SCC have had to reduce budget on a lot of these services and our villages are looking a little 'shabby' because of it.

The village volunteering group will be out again soon though, tidying up and tackling small projects that they can work on safely - if you'd like to get involved, please get in touch.

We've recently had City Fibre and their contractors tear through the village, sadly leaving behind a bit of a mess in places. I have just met with a representative from City Fibre to share my disappointment and he left to go and take a look around. Can I ask, if you have any concerns over works carried out near you, to send me an email and some pictures and I'll collate and pass them on. I've already noted, the village green, the new comms box on the pavement opposite the church, the bus stop area by the Pound Meadow bus stop and Chestnut Close.

In other news, its great to have the 3 Kings back open and we wish the new team all the best. Well done for the fantastic new fenced area out the front - I'm certainly looking forward to a nice summer evening drink in that spot. Sadly though the Fish & Chip van at the community centre hasn't been as well supported as hoped, despite extensive advertising. I think the plan is for them to go to once a month, so keep an eye out on their website and Facebook page for dates.

Lastly, there have been a few folk in the village looking to organise some village events. Would anybody else be willing to join the team and support them? If you have an interest in bringing the community together, please get in touch.

Right, enough of me - better get this to print!

clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Justin Hook

Justin Hook, Village Voice Editor & Parish Clerk



www.facebook.com/fornhamallsaintspc



NEXT RURAL COFFEE CARAVAN VISITS Wednesday 2nd April, 10am - 12pm Thingoe Lodge

future dates:

2nd April
7th May
4th June
2nd July
6th August
3rd September
1st October
November
3rd December

Thingoe Lodge
Village Hall
Thingoe Lodge
Village Hall
Thingoe Lodge
Village Hall
Thingoe Lodge
No Date Set
Thingoe Lodge

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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

Fornham All Saints Parish Council February Meeting

Approved Minutes from Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 18th February, 2025, 18:30, Fornham All Saints Community Centre

These draft minutes were approved at the Parish Council Meeting on 18th March, 2025.

Present:

Cllr Richard Nicholls (RN) (Acting Chair), Cllrs Don Lynch (DL), Mat Stewart (MS) and Derek Brown (DB). Clerk Justin Hook (JH), 2 representatives from All Saints Hotel (AS) and 1 member of the public.

Agenda Items

- 1. Chairman's welcome, opening remarks and to receive apologies for absence
 - The chair opened the meeting and welcomed all those in attendance. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Surman, County Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger and District Cllr Sarah Broughton.
- 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 21st January 2025
 - Council resolved to approve and adopt the minutes, the Chairman signed them.
- 4. <u>To receive County Councillor's report from Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger</u>
 - No report received. No updates received to questions raised.

- To receive Borough Councillor's reports from Cllr. Sarah Broughton and Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger
 No report received. No updates received to questions raised.
- 6. Public open session up to 15 minutes questions and issues on matters arising from the agenda and from the village
 Resident raised concern that parking outside Lucy's is getting worse.

DB confirmed that this was discussed at the last meeting, but that a decision was made to take no further action, as unless the pavement is blocked, little can be done to enforce.

ACTION: JH to liaise with RH to confirm what, if anything can be done.

Resident raised concern that the view of the golf course was significantly void of trees, following the removal of the poplar trees, the clearing of the ditch and removal of trees across the site.

AS confirmed that a schedule of works is being completed to replant trees across the site.

Council confirmed that the replanting of the poplar trees had been completed in line with the Forestry Commission felling licenses.

- 7. To receive reports from Councillors:
 - a. Traffic / Roads / VASs / Road Signs Don Lynch Nothing to report. New VAS equipment and solar units to be installed before end of March. RN requested new battery for Larks Gate unit.

ACTION: JH to investigate.

ACTION: JH to request updates on 30mph roundels from RH.

Volunteering - Derek Brown
 Volunteering scheduled to start again from April.
 JH requested the staking of the wobbly fences on Lark Valley Path be added to the schedule of works.

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

No further updates. Community Centre not going ahead with slow EV chargers.

AS advised that their EV chargers were currently being installed and will be available for public use.

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

Planned works to the Lark Valley Path now scheduled fro early March - no exact dates as yet. The path will be closed whilst works carried out.

e. Social Issues / Village Voice - Clerk
ACTION: JH to make contact with Thingoe Lodge.

f. Marham Park / Highways / Village Hall / Anglian Water (AW) / River Lark - Mat Stewart

Parking becoming an issue directly outside the David Lloyd gym, where patrons are parking on the road and not using the car park. Needs double yellows to allow enforcement, but unadopted as yet.

Awaiting AW to advise next meting date.

ACTION: MS to request data from AW monitoring devices in the river.

g. Allotments / Emergency Plan - David Surman All 2025 invoices have been issues and all plot holders have been re-contracted. One vacant plot. 3 on waiting list.

8. To receive Clerks report

The banking switch to Lloyds is underway.

Following the conversation at the last meeting regarding golfers insurance, the Clerk confirmed that AS had provided evidence of signage on the course and information on the score cards regarding the requirement for player's insurance.

ACTION: JH still to investigate first responders in the village.

Introduction to CiLCA (Certificate in Local Council Administration) training session attended. First session is in April and Clerk will attend, with cost being shared with Clerks other clerking role, as agreed and budgeted for.

9. Planning:

No new planning matters to discuss Updates on ongoing applications

i. DC/24/1091/FUL

All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve Suffolk IP28 6JQ

Planning application - parking area for 15no. cars Decision still pending. Works already completed and parking area being used.

JH - Planning advised delays due to concerns over Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) metric, considering new hotel wing planting, plus awaiting response from Highways.

ii. DC/24/1123/FUL

All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve Suffolk IP28 6JQ

Planning application - reinstatement of 10 metre high golf ball safety nets to the rear of 23-29 Pigeon Lane on the golf course side of existing tree belt *Decision pending.*

JH - Planning advised further information had been requested in respect to justification for their location and design.

iii. DC/24/0538/FUL

All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve Suffolk IP28 6JQ

Planning application - two pickleball courts and two tennis courts

Decision pending.

JH - Planning advised further information had been requested in respect of BNG and planting on site.

iv. DC/24/0614/FUL

All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve Suffolk IP28 6JQ

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

Portal says decision pending. BUT it is being reported that it has been approved???

JH - Planning advised this was decided at the December meeting of Delegation Panel, but that they had to wait on an agreement for BNG monitoring. There was no issue with the portal.

v. DC/24/0586/FUL

Car Park Heath Farm Business Centre Tut Hill Fornham All Saints Suffolk

Planning application - a. use of existing car park as driver training facility b. retention of temporary storage containers as classroom and storage area, c. use of existing agricultural access and retention of access track in association with driver training facility

Application withdrawn. Clerk following up with planners re: site still in use.

JH - Planning advised a new application had since been received and that consultation details would be provided shortly.

10. Finance update

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

Payee & details	Total
J Hook, Clerks salary, January	£715.74
Nest, Clerks pension, January	£11.66
J Hook, Clerks expenses, Jan/Feb	£87.73
Community Workshop, Village Voice printing	£324.37
Elan City, 2 x solar units for VAS	£1,006.15
Elan City, new VAS unit	£2,580.00

Total Payments	£4,725.65
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ii. Council noted bank balances correct to 31st January.

Current	£319.33
Savings	£42,463.86
Total Bank Balance	£42,783.19

iii. Council resolved to approve bank reconciliation for January 2025.

11. Skate & play park inspections

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

Replacement parts to be fitted when warmer weather arrives. Some drilling of parts required. DB to obtain help with this.

Some future attention required to fencing and gate. Gate closing at 1.5 seconds, which is 2.5 seconds faster than the recommended 4 seconds.

12. Overgrown pavements

Since last meeting, a third quote has been received for this work. At £685 it is considerably cheaper, but unfortunately the contractor doesn't have the necessary licenses to complete the works so close to the highway. Clerk checked with SCC, who advised chosen contractor must have an NRSWA accreditation.

Council resolved to complete these works going with the middle quote of £3,875 +Vat, assuming they have the necessary licenses to work on the highways.

JH reported overhanging trees on B1106 near to AW entrance again vis highways reporting tool. Awaiting response.

13. Grass cutting

WSC have quoted £165.73 per cut. The Clerk has received a second quote of £125 per cut (plus £25 for the area at the top of Pigeon Lane). Awaiting a third quote.

14. Community event

Council to discuss the letter received from the Village Hall representative

Council recognised an apathy from members and residents, putting it down to a sign of the times, and busy lives and schedules.

Council resolved to propose a collaborative approach, working with the Village Hall, Community Centre and other interested parties.

ACTION: JH to reach out to interested parties with the aim of arranging a meeting before the end of April to put forward ideas and discuss a village event.

15. <u>Updated Financial Regulations</u>

The Clerk has worked with the Locum Clerk to update the Financial Regulations, but now time is required to review and confirm finer detail before Council can adopt.

Council resolved to delay the adoption of revised Financial Regulations, to allow time to recruit a Chair and Vice Chair, and giving them time to settle into their new roles.

16. Overhaul of policies and procedures

The Locum Clerk has completed works to update a large catalogue of policies and procedures. Now time is required to review and fully understand each document before Council can adopt.

Council resolved to delay the adoption of updated policies and procedures, to allow time to recruit a Chair and Vice Chair, and giving them time to settle into their new roles.

17. Correspondence

No new correspondence

18. Councillor recruitment

The Clerk had spoken to an interested party that DL had put forward, but unfortunately work commitments might make joining difficult. DL reminded Council that attendance is not required at every meeting.

19. Update on Chair & Vice Chair positions

RN agreed that he would stand as Chair for a period of 6 months if somebody was willing to take on the role of Vice Chair. DB agreed to take on the role of Vice Chair for a period of 6 months. Both roles to be elected at the March meeting.

20. Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on March 18th 2025, commencing 18:30 at the Community Centre

Meeting closed 19:27

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

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



PUT NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK'S FUTURE IN THE HANDS OF LOCAL PEOPLE

Norfolk and Suffolk could be given new devolved powers and funding to help improve opportunities, transport, housing, skills and more.

We want to hear your views on creating a new mayoral combined county authority for Norfolk and Suffolk to bring devolution to the area. This would mean important decisions would be made by someone who understands the needs of your community and what changes will have the best and biggest impact.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU



Visit gov.uk/norfolk-and-suffolk-devolution or scan the QR code to have your say.



Fornham All Saints Parish Council March Meeting

Draft Minutes from Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 18th March, 2025, 18:30, Fornham All Saints Community Centre

These draft minutes will be approved at the Parish Council Meeting on 15th April, 2025.

Present:

Cllr Richard Nicholls (RN) (Chair), Cllrs Mat Stewart (MS) and David Surman (DS).

Clerk Justin Hook (JH), 2 representatives from All Saints Resort (AS) and 8 members of the public.

Agenda Items

1. Council to elect Chairman

Cllrs Nicholls was nominated for the role of Chairman. No other nominations received.

Council resolved to elect Cllr Nicholls as Chairman.

2. Council to elect Vice Chairman

Cllr Brown has shown an interest in being elected as Vice Chair, but in his absence Council will postpone election of Vice Chair to the April meeting.

3. <u>Signing of Declaration of Acceptance of Office and issue of Register of Interests</u>

The new Chairman and the Clerk signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

4. Chairman's welcome, opening remarks and to receive apologies for absence

The Chairman welcomed all attendees to the meeting. Apologies for absence received and accepted from Cllr Brown, Cllr Lynch, County Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger and District Cllr Sarah Broughton.

5. (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.
- 6. To approve & adopt the minutes from the Council meeting held on 18th February 2025

Council resolved to approve and adopt the minutes, the Chairman signed them.

7. <u>To receive County Councillor's report from Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger</u>

None received.

8. <u>To receive Borough Councillor's reports from Cllr. Sarah Broughton and Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger</u>

None received.

The Clerk noted his disappointment that neither Cllr Hopfensperger nor Cllr Broughton had responded to requests for updates or a report for the meeting.

ACTION: Clerk to try and arrange a meeting with both to discuss.

- 9. Public open session up to 15 minutes questions and issues on matters arising from the agenda and from the village
 - i. Resident raised the question of a VE Day 80 celebration on The Green.
 - This item is to be covered later in the agenda under item 19.
 - ii. Resident raised concerns regarding the state of grounds following on from the installation of fibre throughout the village. In particular an area in Pound Meadow and the section of The Green from the bus stop to the church. Both have had the grass dug up and not replaced satisfactorily, with stones on the surface and no grass seed. Concerns that mowers will flick up the stones and cause injury to people or damage to property.

Council also highlighted issues with uneven, poorly fitted manholes and the addition of a service box in the

pavement at the end of The Green.

ACTION: Clerk to speak to City Fibre to understand process for complaints.

ACTION: Clerk to include article in Village Voice asking residents to report any issues that they notice to the Clerk.

The area outside of the cemetery was also highlighted and parts of Chestnut Close.

iii. Stuart Turner from the Health Hub at All Saints Resort shared that following previous discussions and the PC meeting in Fornham St Martin / St Genevieve, they had resubmitted plans for the proposed pickleball and tennis courts, removing the pickleball element and taking into consideration other comments and suggestions that had been made.

This item is to be covered later in the agenda under item 12i.

10. To receive reports from Councillors:

- a. Traffic / Roads / VASs / Road Signs Don Lynch
 Plan in place to install new VAS equipment by the end of April. Nothing further to report.
- Volunteering Derek Brown
 Scheduled to start again April. Nothing further to report.
- Facilities / Assets Management / Community Centre / EV - Derek Brown Nothing to report.
- d. Local Businesses & Residents / Lark Valley Richard Nicholls
 - Repair works to the Lark Valley Path were scheduled before Christmas and now planned for March. It seems that work has begun downstream of Duck Sluice Farm and the Fornham section looking likely to begin next week.
- e. Social Issues / Village Voice Clerk

Clerk has made contact with Thingoe Lodge, introducing himself in case any issues arise, now that former Cllr Mayhew is no longer the point of contact. Village Voice advertising monies mostly collected, 3 new full page ads acquired. A suggestion was made to speak to the new pub owners as a potential advertiser.

f. Marham Park / Highways / Village Hall / Anglian Water (Lark) - Mat Stewart

Ongoing parking issues at David Lloyd, but roads still unadopted so little can be actioned. Technically Marham Park is not under the FAS remit, but there is still monies in the development pot to complete a section of path from the top of Tut Hill to the country park. Cllr Stewart still applying pressure to get that in place.

Anglian Water spillages data for 2024 appears muddled and not complete.

ACTION: MS to challenge the data.

g. Allotments / Emergency Plan - David Surman Recent issue with a plot holder having a fire, but otherwise all good.

Contact made with previous compiler of the emergency plan.

11. To receive Clerks report

Banking update: Lloyds application was refused at the last minute as completed online (as advised) and not in paper form.

ACTION: Clerk to resubmit again in the future.

12. Planning:

Council to discuss the following applications;

i. DC/24/0538/FUL **RECONSULT**

All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve Suffolk IP28 6JQ

Planning application - two pickleball courts and two tennis courts

Council resolved to wait until updated plans become available.

ii. DC/25/0249/FUL **previous DC/24/0586/FUL withdrawn**

Car Park Heath Farm Business Centre Tut Hill Fornham All Saints

Planning application - a. change of use of existing parking area to driver training area b. temporary containers for use as classroom and storage area

Council resolved a vote of No Comment, on the basis that previous safety concerns seems to have been addressed. However Council to advise planners of the concerns raised by other businesses on site - noise, lighting, parking in the lay-by, unsightly portaloo, odours, cars dumped on site, potential storage of hazardous materials.

iii. DC/25/0399/TCA

Windy Ridge Aldridge Lane Fornham All Saints Suffolk

Trees in a conservation area notification - one Field maple (T1 on plan) reduce overall crown by up to 2.5 meters

Council resolved a vote of No Comment.

13. Finance update

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

Payee & details	Total
J Hook, Clerks salary, February (inc. Fuel Charity Hours Aug 24 - Feb 25) (£411.84 to be recovered from Charity)	£1107.09
Nest, Clerks pension, February	£40.48
J Hook, Clerks expenses	£21.98
Elan City, battery for VAS	£109.99
Total Payments	£1,279.54

ii. Council noted bank balances correct to 28th

February.

Current	£223.68
Savings	£38,089.09
Total Bank Balance	£38,312.77

iii. Council resolved to approve bank reconciliation for February 2025.

14. Skate & play park inspections

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

15. Overgrown pavements

Clerk updated that the contractor had been appointed and the necessary forms for Highways approval had been completed and sent to the contractor.

ACTION: Clerk to follow up.

16. Grass cutting

WSC have quoted £165.73 per cut. The Clerk has received a second quote of £125 per cut (plus £25 for the area at the top of Pigeon Lane) and a third quote from RG Landscapes (recommended by All Saints Resort) of £80 per cut.

Council resolved to appoint RG Landscapes to cut the grass in the churchyard.

The Clerk noted that some residents had taken to tidying the pavements outside their own properties, in particular Golton Cottages and Gaughton House.

It was suggested to make a comment of thanks in the Village Voice.

It was also suggested to celebrate and thank some of the other new ventures in the village; the new owners of the Three Kings for the works to improve the front garden area, making it much safer and more pleasant to sit at, and the new mobile fish & chip van at the community centre.

17. Devolution Consultation

Council to consider what is required in terms of it's involvement or response.

The Chairman and Clerk are to attend the SALC West Suffolk Forum on Devolution on the 25th March, and will report back following this.

18. Local Plan Consultation

Cllrs to individually review paperwork to determine if any changes impact Fornham All Saints and report back any findings.

19. Community event

Council originally suggested that the event be held at the community centre for health and safety reasons. The planning meeting was poorly attended and the original organiser stepped down. A new group of residents propose an event to be held on The Green with a picnic, and music, potentially a beacon, to celebrate VE Day 80 on Monday 5th May.

Council still remain concerned that The Green is not the safest place in the village to hold an event and that just because it happened many times in the past, doesn't alleviate current concerns.

Organisers stated it would be covered under the village halls insurance policy.

Council requested organisers to create a full management plan, with detailed proposal, itinerary, and risk assessments, for consideration by Council at the April meeting.

20. Donations to community groups - S137 monies

Council to discuss requests for donation from WI and St Edmundsbury Newstalk.

Clerk advised that of the £2000 budget for donations in 2024/25, only £250 had been gifted so far to the WI. Council to consider WI request in the new 2025/26 financial year.

Council opted not to donate to St Edmundsbury Newstalk, but did favour the ideas of SARS (Suffolk Accident Rescue Service) and the Air Ambulance charities.

ACTION: Clerk to investigate.

Resident asked if funding might be available or the Bury Water Meadows Group for litter picking equipment and a trolley. Resident was asked to submit a request to the Clerk for consideration by Council.

21. VAS locations in the village

Council to determine where the officially licensed VAS sites are in the village and best use of equipment

ACTION: Clerk to investigate.

Council to consider applying to make the Larks Gate VAS an officially licensed site

ACTION: Chairman and Clerk to go through paperwork and apply.

22. Correspondence

- Resident email re: VE day celebrations Covered under item 19.
- ii. Business correspondence re: rider training facility Covered under item 12ii.

23. Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on April 15th 2025, commencing 18:30 at the Community Centre

Meeting closed 19:50

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

www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Dates For Parish Council and related meetings 2025

April 15th Parish Council

May 20th Parish Council AGM

June 17th Annual Parish Meeting +Parish Council

July 15th Parish Council

August no meeting unless planning

September 16th October 21st Parish Council November 18th Parish Council

December no meeting unless planning

All meetings will be held at 18:30 an 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 been found on the Parish Council website. www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

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!)

For more information, email: clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

^{*}excludes Sundays and Bank Holidays

Mobile Library

Dates & Times for 2025:

April 22nd
May 20th
June 17th
July 15th
August 12th
September 9th
October 7th
November 4th
December 2nd
December 30th

Thingoe Lodge 12:35 – 12:55pm

Parish Church 13:00 – 13:20pm

For more information, visit the Suffolk Libraries website:

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk



Helping Suffolk Homeowners Stay Warm & Cut Energy Bills

For many homeowners, improving energy efficiency can feel out of reach due to the high upfront costs. But with support from Suffolk County Council and Lendology CIC, more people in Suffolk can now access interest-free loans to help make their homes warmer, greener, and cheaper to run.

From solar panels and battery storage to insulation, glazing, and heat pumps, these upgrades may reduce energy bills and cut carbon emissions.

The Suffolk Warm Homes Loan offers interest free loans (Representative 0.2% APR) up to £15,000 with flexible repayment terms of up to seven years.

Homeowners of all ages and financial backgrounds may be eligible, including retirees and those with a poor credit history. Local homeowners recently shared their experiences:

Excellent service, kept informed and information was updated as I went through the process.

Courteous and helpful all the way through the process. Excellent customer service.





For more details on the scheme and how to apply, visit

www.lendology.org.uk/partner/view/suffolk-council

or www.warmhomessuffolk.org

We recommend that you carry out an independent retrofit assessment to find out which works are suitable for your home and budget.



Representative Example (0% fixed interest rate, Representative 0.2% APR).

Loans are subject to status and are typically protected by a Title Restriction. Borrow £5,000 over 60 months, £83.33 monthly repayments, with the final payment of £83.53. Total amount payable = £5,020.00, including £20.00 fee for registering the Title Restriction against your property at the Land Registry. The £20.00 fee is only payable if a loan is agreed by Lendology, and you decide to proceed with a loan. We do not charge interest on the fee. A Title Restriction means that you may not be able to sell your home without our permission unless the loan is fully repaid. Missing payments could affect your credit rating and ability to obtain credit in the future. The above example is for indication purposes only. Eligibility for all loans depends on your

Fornham All Saints Church News

Church Visitors Throughout the year, there are always many and varied visitors to our lovely church. Some may come to remember a wedding from years ago, some to visit the church where a relation worshipped.

Two visitors who recently came had musical connections with the church: Anne Brewins now Anne Roberts, daughter of Leslie Brewins, the organist at FAS in the 1980s. She now lives in Guildford, Surrey and she commented how lovely the church looked in preparation for Remembrance Day. There was also a visit by Chloe Balaam, perhaps related to Muriel Balaam, a church organist in the Fornhams and a musical connection with the town.

Visitors also come from further afield: A couple came from Denmark and said how beautiful and peaceful the church is. Luke Wyatt came all the way from Albuquerque in New Mexico: he simply said how good to see the church open so he could say his morning prayers.

In the last month, I have met and enjoyed lovely chats with two visitors. The first was Robert Downing, not on his first visit as he was found in the North Transept completing a brass rubbing on the wall (photo below). He showed me some of his work and the books he is busy working on. He has one more rubbing to complete his set from FAS. A man with many talents and interests, a retired architect consultant and still with a real interest in old buildings and archaeology.



My second visitor just a few days ago was James Markwell, a young man from Market Harborough in Leicester, formerly from Ealing. He was working in the area but was on a mission to find out more about this church. For those





of you who know the churchyard may recognise the surname Markwell. James has been researching his ancestors and collects information to share with his grandfather. He knew there were graves in our churchyard, and it didn't take us long to find them. Three at the south end of the church:

John Markwell died 1815, aged 44. John Markwell died 1852, aged 59. These two graves are close to the tower and are easily visible. The third Markwell grave was Fanny Markwell married to John Smith, dates not too sure but not too far from the two Johns. James set about going though all the many interesting features of the church and was still there two hours later!

So thank you to those who keep the church open, but the band of openers is decreasing and we really could use anyone from the village who might be willing to open and close the church for a week at a time. The benefits of an open church are all there in the visitors' book. Please do get in touch with any member of the PCC for further information.

The Electoral Role Every six years the Electoral Roll is renewed, the old Roll becomes void and those already on the Roll are able to apply again by filling in an application form. This form needs to be returned by 21st April 2025, for the new list to be formed in readiness of the Annual Parochial Church Meeting to be held on 13th May 2025. The new Roll must be complete 15 days before this meeting.

If you are not already on the Electoral Roll and wish to be included on the new one, then please contact Judith Scott on

01284 760679 for a form. We welcome any new members, if you would like to enrol, then please ask for a form which is easy to fill in.

Being on the Electoral roll allows you to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.

Judith Scott is the Electoral Roll Officer for Fornham All Saints Church.

Easter Day There will be a service on Easter day at Fornham All Saints. All are welcome to this joyful and fulfilling service which will start at 10.00am. There might be some Easter eggs to find for those who are young at heart!

Do come and join us, all welcome.

John Grinham & Judith Scott

John Grinham & Judith Scott

Fornham All Saints Church 101 Club Winners

The new 101 Club year starts on 1st May 2025. I do hope that everyone will renew their subscription, which remains at £12 for the year. It would be wonderful if more people would consider joining!

	1st	2nd	3rd
February	J Wooley	A&J Childs	M Purnell J Annette
March	A Mapston	M Mewes	A Hurrell



SEND Family Open Day designed for those with anxious children

Wednesday 9th April

Arts • Bush crafts • Cooking • Gardening • Wellbeing • & More!

Explore our 20 acres of woodland and gardens.

Calm & welcoming setting.

Meet our team, experience our approach and be first to sign up for our summer holiday Wild Heart sessions.

A relaxed day to connect, play and discover!

At this special open day we will be running a morning and afternoon session: 10:00 -12:30 and 13:00 -15:30.

Places are limited so please book to secure your space.

Term time alternative Provision also available.



www.limitlessfutures.org.uk info@limitlessfutures.org.uk 07368 500749



Stirgess Woodland, Cavenham, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP28 6DB

Easter Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme in West Suffolk

What is HAF and who is it for? HAF is a national programme funded by the Department for Education and coordinated locally by West Suffolk Council on behalf of Suffolk County Council.

It is primarily targeted at children or young people who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals. Activities are free and sessions include a healthy meal and snacks. Eligible families should have already received information through their school about HAF in their area.

There are also free places available to families with children or young people who don't receive benefits-related free school meals but who are struggling with the cost-of-living and suffering financial hardship.

What activities are available and where? We have 1973 places across 157 sessions taking place across many of our towns and several of our villages.

Activities include football, swimming, horse riding, roller skating, arts and crafts, film making, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) activities, family park cooking and more.

We recognise there may be a small number of pupils who are eligible and live in areas where there isn't provision. These families should have received a letter from their school or college telling them how to book onto the activities on offer in West Suffolk. If transport is an issue, Suffolk County Council may be able to help and if you receive a query relating to this, please ask them to contact **HAFenquiries@suffolk.gov.uk**

How do people book their place? Families with children in receipt of benefits related free school meals can book their

places now. Use the QR Code on the poster below. Schools are also being given information to help any parents who cannot access online to book.

Families not in receipt of free school dinners, but still in financial hardship should contact the activity provider in the first instance to find out how to apply for a place or places, or they can go to our dedicated web page at:

https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/leisure/holiday-events.cfm



Calthorpe and Edwards Educational Foundation 2025/26

The Foundation helps young people from the parishes listed below with a grant for studies in Further Education. This means University, Further Education College, Medical School and similar establishments. It excludes courses that could have been obtained at School.

The Governors limit assistance initially for a maximum of three years and to no person over 25 years of age. The period may, at the Governors' discretion, be extended a year at a time when appropriate, but not beyond the age limit. The grant is paid in three termly instalments and for the year 2024/25 it was £336 pa.

Keith Boswell is the Chairman and Rosemary Boswell is currently the Clerk. All Governors who represent villages are volunteers and attend one meeting in September when new applicants are considered and the Clerk is given details of the new year's grant. Payment will be by BACS and students will be required to provide their home address, email address and bank details.

There are 2 groups of villages, the Inner Group and the Outer Group. If funds are limited, then students from the Inner Group take precedence.

Inner Group: Ampton, Ingham, Great and Little Livermere, Timworth.

Outer Group: Culford, Fornham St Genevieve, Fornham St Martin, Great Barton, Ixworth, Troston, West Stow, Wordwell.

For more information contact Rosemary Boswell 01284 728199 or email: calanded24@gmail.com

Fornham All Saints WI

The Adventures of an International Election Officer was the title of Peter Hurrell's talk to us in February. Peter explained he had been carrying out this work on behalf of the Foreign Office for eighteen years and, as part of a team, goes overseas three or four times a year. Many countries have corrupt elections and the International Election Officers try to stop the dishonest or fraudulent conduct by those in power in order to acquire illicit benefits and encourage these countries to adopt democratic elections for a fair result.

The UK has only just adopted an identification process to enable us to vote, whereas other countries have a system that once a person has voted, their thumb is inked and the ink is indelible for twenty four hours!

Peter added that the election day starts at 5am and goes on to 2am and his role is to observe the elections and to not interfere or take part. His role is non political. Peter then described some of the ways that the voting system could be corrupted.

A fascinating talk on a difficult and delicate subject and there were many questions! We were pleased to welcome several visitors who came to enjoy Peter's talk.

Our meetings are in the village hall at 2.00pm on the second Tuesday of the month, do come, visitors will receive a very warm welcome!

Please call or text Elizabeth for further information 07311 281775

Elizabeth Gingell

Elizabeth Gingell, Fornham All Saints WI President

Fornham All Saints Computer Club A Thriving Year Ahead

It's amazing to think that nearly nine years have passed since we launched the Fornham All Saints Computer Club. First, meeting in the Three Kings and Village Hall, and later moving to the Community Centre, where we were lucky to gain access to a fast broadband connection. Back then, Windows 10 was all the buzz, and much of our focus was on mastering Microsoft's latest operating system. Now, as we bid farewell to Windows 10 with its end of support this year, we're gearing up for the transition to Windows 11. By October, we'll have guided our members through upgrades and new purchases, ensuring everyone can take full advantage of the exciting improvements Windows 11 has to offer. For those sticking with Windows 10, we'll ensure they're well-informed on their options and security measures.

Our Apple iPad and iPhone group has been equally busy exploring the latest system upgrades, with a particular focus on security. The Apple Password App has sparked great interest, especially for its seamless integration with Windows devices, making it a cross-platform tool worth mastering. The iPad group continues to thrive, offering a relaxed space where members can dive into some fantastic apps without the need to worry too much about technicalities.

As we kick off another training year, we're excited to welcome new members and offer beginner classes for both Windows and iPad users. Whether you're new to computing or looking to sharpen your skills, we've got you covered. Our first Windows session will start on April 22nd, followed by the iPad group on April 29th. No prior experience is needed, so if you're eager to improve your skills, be sure to get in touch!

Bernard Grimshaw

Bernard Grimshaw, Fornham All Saints Computer Club

Don't let the Tech get you down! Join our friendly club for tutorials and one to one help



Fornham Computer Club, Fornham All Saints, Bury St Edmunds

Find Out More

https://www.fornhamcomputerclub.com Email: fornhamcc@outlook.com or Phone: Bernard on 07860 117680 We're entering our 9th year of providing simple, jargon-free tech advice for Windows and Apple users alike. Whether you're wondering about upgrading to Windows 11, exploring the latest iPads, or learning how to use the new Apple Password Manager with Windows, we've got you covered.

Why Join?

- . Friendly support for beginners and experienced users
- Monthly Apple & Windows meetings
- One-on-one help & drop-in sessions
- Online assistance for urgent tech problems
- Make new friends
- When: Twice a month (Apple & Windows sessions) on Tuesday afternoons
 - Where: Fornham All Saints Community Centre, near Bury St Edmunds
- Who: Open to all skill levels—especially beginners!

 Don't let the tech get you down—join our friendly club and get all the help you need!

 Membership costs £20 per year

Beginners Group - Commences Mid-April Don't delay Enrol Now!

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

Fornham Garden Club

In January, Fornham Garden Club members and guests enjoyed the club's annual dinner. A lovely evening with good food and an interesting quiz.

The February meeting welcomed Liz Long from Jubilee Farm, Great Barton to speak about how she and her husband Mike had journeyed into regenerative farming.

It was during lock down that they had researched soil health and what it would be like to eat only organically. They rent 16 acres and are 1 of only 2 of the 127 tenants of Suffolk County farms who farm organically.

Their aim is to produce local food for local people and are aiming to open a farm shop. They use regenerative methods which are - diversity, livestock integration, protection of soil surface minimising disturbance and maintaining living roots. This includes broad rotation, cover crops, no-till agriculture, all of which maintain soil integrity. The idea is that with healthy soil, there are healthy plants and animals, so therefore healthy people.

To date, the farm has hosted tree planting days, farm tours and launched a 'Veg Box' scheme. Two beekeepers have space also which helps with pollination, and there are also volunteers helping with the work.

Altogether an interesting and informative talk.

Fornham Garden Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month in Fornham All Saints Community Centre at 7pm for refreshments, the meeting starting at 7.30pm.

For further information please contact Chairman, lan Robertson on 07876 644611 or ijfrob@gmail.com

Village Hall

The refurbishment work to the Hall toilets is now complete and fully operational, both cubicles are arranged for disabled use. What was the Gents toilet is now a store room.

Bookings are coming in, the Friends have made all their bookings for the year, a theatre company that had extensive bookings a couple of years ago have come back and booked a number of dates in May. I have had an enquiry for a wedding reception in June.

The path round the back of the Hall requires some work to infill a gap caused by the new drainage, this will be undertaken shortly.

The Committee has agreed to go ahead with external insulated cladding to the back of the building, this should help in keeping heat in and the cold out during winter.

Enquiries have been made to repair the parquet floor, sand and seal it, subject to cost this may well go ahead soon.

There are many available dates, including weekends, for children's birthday parties, anniversaries and similar functions. Please call me on 01284 763701 to inquire about your event.

Paul Purnell

Paul Purnell, Friends of the Village Hall

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We'd love to hear from you!

Would you like to publish a piece in the Village Voice? A poem, a short story, an article on something you find interesting or a hobby you enjoy doing, a community event or project, a recipe?

Please contact the Editor:

villagevoice@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk



Friends of Fornham All Saints Village Hall

Are proud to present

CHARLIE HAYLOCK

"Eccentric Look at Suffolk"

TUESDAY 9th DECEMBER Fornham All Saints Village Hall 7pm for 7.30pm

£7 members / £10 non-members Includes a glass of wine or fruit juice



Charlie Haylock is an historian of spoken English, a dialect specialist, an authority on his native Suffolk and a best-selling author. He has a regular spot on BBC Radio Suffolk, is the creator of weekly cartoons in the 'East Anglian Daily Times', and is a popular speaker on the history of spoken English

This is one of the last talks Charlie will be giving before he retires from speaking at the end of 2025

Book now! Last few tickets are available

Contact Lynne Quayle on 01284 766909 or lynne.quayle99@btinternet.com to reserve your place

Friends Of The Village Hall News

Fornham Footers February, we didn't finish our very muddy, cold walk at Wicken Fen. instead took a short cut back to the café and enioved a hot drink. After that walk. we decided to walk on firmer ground in March and drove to Ipswich. We split into two groups one doing the whole walk of 3.5 miles and another group visiting Christchurch Park and Mansion which is recommended. The Fonnereau Way walk included a trip along the riverbank and waterfront to the Custom's House, through the town and Christchurch Park and onward to Westerfield. An enjoyable lunch was taken by all at the Railway Inn, then two buses back to Ipswich Park & Ride and a drive home.





Next walks Fridays 4th April. and 2nd May

Mahjong We meet twice a month at 9.30am on a Monday morning, there is always plenty of chat and laughter. Imperial Jade, Flying Angels, Windy Chow and now Robbing the Kong, a new special hand for us. If you would like to know what all these special hands are, come along to one of our sessions and learn how to play.

£2 table money inc. refreshments.

Next games Mondays at 9.30am on 14th & 28th Apr. and 12th & 19th May

Please contact either Lynne 766909 or Mary 763701

Film Club WE NEED MORE FILM CLUB MEMBERS! February we watched "The Dead Poet's Society" and March was "Erin Brockovich" which has recently been on at the Abbeygate

Cinema, but on our list for 10 months! Join our club in April (£10 to join the friends + £10 for film club) and get 13 months for the price of 12, or 11 films for the price of 10, this equates to less than £2 a film! 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. Contact Lynne to find out what the next film will be. Next film nights are at 7.30pm, Tues. 22nd Apr. & 27th May.

Traveller's Tales For our March meeting we travelled to Uzbekistan, now classed as an up-and-coming destination. Madrassas, Minarets and blue tiles dominated in the pictures of Tashkent, Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva all featured in the

presentation by Howard and Lynne.

Our next meeting Thurs. 15th May. at 7.30pm, when we will be travelling to see Rhodesia before it became Zimbabwe. Refreshments £2.50.

Do you have any interesting holidays which you would like to share with the group?

Board & Card Games Everybody who comes enjoys these afternoons so much so that we now meet twice a month but only once during the summer months. We have been learning how to play Canasta and continue to enjoy playing "sevens". Each meeting the players decide which game, new or old that they would like to play. £2.50 table money inc. refreshments.

Our next Wed. afternoons from 2pm to 4pm will be on 2nd & 16th Apr. and 21st May.



Registan at samarkand



7532 Kalta Minor at Khiva



Evening view in Bukara

Bus Pass Challenge The winner of the challenge will be unveiled at our AGM at the end of April. The challenge was to find the longest distance that you could travel from FAS and back in a day on the bus, spending no money and the only transport allowed was buses and walking!

Fornham Hackers! Hopefully the Spring Challenge at Bury 9 hole course will take place in the next two months. The stableford score will be added to the Autumn 2025 Challenge score to find the cup winner for 2025.

Club AGM on Tues 22nd April at 7.30pm The AGM will be held before the film. Afterwards a glass of wine or fruit juice will be served. All members are invited to the AGM and film.

Charlie Haylock See the advert elsewhere in the Village Voice. Half the tickets are sold already.

I always welcome ideas for new groups connected to the "Friends", Darts, Debating or History Society, Tai Chi, Line or Country Dancing, Craft afternoon during the winter months have all been suggested, would you be interested......... let me know.

Please contact Lynne 766909 or lynne.quayle99@btinternet.com

Our new subscription year is £10 a year from May to belong to the "friends" + other club subs.

Visit our web page to find out what we've seen and where we've been.

https://fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk/organisations/ friends-of-the-village-hall/

Lynne Quayle

Lynne Quayle, Friends of the Village Hall

Fornham All Saints Community Council March 2025

This year's Car Boot Sales at the Community Centre:

Gates will open at 8am (instead of the traditional 7am)

Sunday 27th April Sunday 29th June Sunday 31th August Sunday 25th May
Sunday 27th July
Sunday 28th September

If anyone is able to help out on these days with the car parking or in the kitchen, all help would be gratefully received – even if just for an hour!

The refurbishment of the Community Centre is ongoing. Drawings are being amended after a visit to the structural engineers. Once these are completed then planning permission can be applied for, a quantity surveyor can provide questimates, then grants can then be obtained.

The Community Council is in need of new members, so if anyone would be interested in joining please contact Enid Gathercole on 01284 767688 to discuss. We meet once every two months at the Community Centre.

Is your group represented in the Village Voice?

We want to know what's happening in the village, so if you want your group or organisation to be featured in this magazine, then please get in touch with the Editor for more information:

villagevoice@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

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 lan: 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		



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

WOULD YOU, OR SOMEBODY YOU KNOW LIKE TO PLACE AN ADVERT IN THE VILLAGE VOICE?

The Village Voice magazine is delivered to over 350 properties in the village every two months.

The cost of advertising for 2025/26 year will be;

Full A5 page - £90

Half page - £54

To discuss you advertising requirements, please contact villagevoice@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk



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The ethos of The Courtyard revolves around creating a warm, homely atmosphere where residents are truly embraced. This commitment is shown through a variety of meticulously organised activities, from entertaining singers and bands to spirited quiz nights and bingo sessions.

Additionally, residents benefit from a range of amenities including a well appointed restaurant, enchanting gardens,

and onsite hairdressing, barber, and beauty therapy services. CoVista Living truly encompasses a holistic approach to senior living, ensuring residents can thrive in a supportive and nurturing environment.

Residents also have access to a range of onsite facilities aimed at promoting mental, emotional, and social wellness. From activities that encourage socialisation and community engagement to alternative therapy options for those seeking holistic healing, every aspect of life at CoVista Living is designed to foster a sense of belonging and fulfilment.

Join us for open coffee mornings every Monday at 10.30am to meet everyone.

To book a room for full-time or recovery purposes, contact Ann to secure your space.

01359 231188 / 07932 920758

The Courtyard Extra Care Peddars Close, Ixworth, IP31 2HD



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Alternatively call us on 01284 724603 or email us at julie@timeoutsupportservices.com



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THE B.I.G BURGER & CHIPS

Crispy panko cod with wasabi tartare, spicy roquitto peppers, iceberg and candied lemon on a toasted brioche. Served with our twice cooked chips.

VEGGIE DEL TOROBURRITO & CHIPS*

Panko halloumi with Asian Slaw, sriracha mayo, mango chutney and Saturday night curry sauce. Served with our twice cooked chips.

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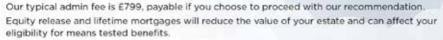
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Local Services & Useful Contacts

Organisation	Details	Phone No.	Comments
Church	All Saints Parish Church www.northburychurches.org.uk	07990 834078 01284 760679	John Grinham Judith Scott
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
Electricity	UK Power Networks www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk	0800 3163 105	Report Outages
EMERGENCY	Ambulance / Fire / Police	999	
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	
Medical	West Suffolk Hospital www.wsh.nhs.uk	01284 713000	
	NHS Non-Emergency	111	
Police	Non-Emergency www.suffolk.police.uk	101	
	Crime Stoppers www.crimestoppers-uk.org	0800 555 111	
Samaritans	Bury St Edmunds Samaritans www.samaritans.org	01284 750000 116 123	Local Rate Free
Transport	National Rail www.nationalrail.co.uk	03457 484950	
	Travel Line www.suffolkonboard.com/buses	0871 200 2233	
Village Voice	villagevoice@ fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk		Justin Hook
Water	Anglian Water www.anglianwater.co.uk	0800 771881	Report Leaks