

VillageVoice



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Fornham All Saints Village Magazine Aug-Sep 25 | Issue No. 254

Fornham All Saints Officials

Parish Councillors

Richard Nicholls (Chair)

Derek Brown (Vice Chair)

Mat Stewart

Don Lynch

David Surman

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

www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

The deadline for articles for the October - November Village Voice will be 20th September.

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

Hello again... I can't believe we are about to be August!

Stretching my brain, trying to think what has been happening since the last time I wrote. Well, the volunteering group has been extremely active, and we ought continue to be incredibly grateful for all of their hard work and dedication. It seems it's easier to mobilise the volunteering group to get jobs done than it is navigating through all of the hoops to get contractors to help us... We are still working hard to get the village tidied up, but now it's been so long since we started getting quotes, things have changed so much that we're almost back to square one. But I'm absolutely determined by next time I write. to be able to say we have done X, Y and Z!

We have though managed to improve our stretch of the Lark Valley Path from Sheepwash Bridge to Duck Sluice Farm considerably. Having had an extra cut, we're now having the existing cuts cut wider which will make that stretch much more usable. Already, with the works to stabilise the falling fence, it feels quite different.

A few other bits to mention that you may see happening, or starting to happen in and around the village. The works on the B1106 to install the maintenance access into the golf course is well under way. This was quite contentious at the planning stage, but All Saints did get approval for this by way of appeal. So to clarify, the works on the B1106 are legitimate.

The tree work on the golf course, is also being carried out under license from the Forestry Commission, to sadly remove some of the diseased trees, but part of the approval does includes a replanting programme.

We've also been able to identify the source of the metal fencing that was placed around either side of Sheepwash Bridge. The Environment Agency put it up due to safety concerns and I've heard that the old wooden fencing is soon to be replaced, so the metal fencing will finally come down.

Also, not quite as local, but still likely to affect the Fornhams, so definitely one to be aware of... See the article from Suffolk Highways about the proposed works to improve traffic flow at the 'Tollgate

Triangle,' starting later in the year.

If you read the minutes from the Parish Council meetings you'll notice we've started reporting some top level stats from the VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign) units. Whilst our compliance rates to the 30mph in the village limit are pretty good, it's really not acceptable driving through at 50, 60 even 70+ mph as we are regularly clocking! We will continue to monitor and look for ways to regulate and take action against this dangerous behaviour by a few individuals.

There are lots of way you can get involved in village life and 'put a little bit back' if you're interested? You could write an article for the Village Voice, or consider becoming a Parish Councillor. If you're even slightly green fingered or good with a broom, you could put your name forward for the volunteering group, or maybe you have an idea for a new group in the village and need a little help getting something off the ground? Feel free to contact me for help with any of the above! Or... Maybe you can just manage the area out the front of your house, or pick up a bit of litter as you pass. It's not always the big 'seen' things that make this village great - it's often in the little, unseen things! So a big well done and thank you to all of our unseen heroes too.

Anyway, have a blessed summer!!

Any feedback, ideas or suggestions are greatly received via the Editors email **villagevoice@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk**

And any issues or problems in or around the village, contact me via the Clerks email **clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk**

Justin Hook

Justin Hook, Village Voice Editor & Parish Clerk

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

www.fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk



NEXT RURAL COFFEE CARAVAN VISITS
Wednesday 6th August, 10am - 12pm
Thingoe Lodge

future dates:

3rd September	Village Hall
1st October	Thingoe Lodge
November	No Date Set
3rd December	Thingoe Lodge

Everyone welcome for a coffee, cake and chat

www.ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk

Suffolk Highways - Advance Notice of Tollgate Triangle Works

We are writing to inform you of our plans to carry out improvement works on the 'Tollgate Triangle' gyratory, which connects Fornham Road, Thetford Road, Mildenhall Road, and Tollgate Lane in Bury St Edmunds. These proposals were subject of previous public consultation and are required to upgrade this location to accommodate recent development at Marham Park and to future proof it to accommodate future growth in Bury St Edmunds.

The project will involve reconfiguring the junction, replacing the current one-way clockwise system to enable two-way traffic in all directions. This will reduce congestion caused by growth in the area. The proposed works will also enhance walking routes, supporting Suffolk County Council's continued commitment to protecting and enhancing our environment.

Works are scheduled to begin in early autumn and are expected to complete by summer 2026, subject to the approval of road space being granted for our desired dates.

The scheme will be delivered using a variety of traffic management to enable safe access for public and workforce, this will include several traffic management phases, changes in priority and the use of temporary signals. Road closures will also be required during key phases throughout the project. Full details of traffic management arrangements will be communicated closer to the works starting.

Before the works commence, we will issue a further communication confirming the dates of the scheme. We will also provide updates regarding the works as they progress, including any major changes to the project and the traffic management entailed to deliver it.

If you have any queries on the above, please contact us at customer.services@suffolk.gov.uk or on 0345 606 6171.

The logo for Suffolk Highways, featuring the words "Suffolk Highways" in a stylized, cursive script font.

Suffolk Highways

Fornham All Saints Parish Council

June Meeting

Approved Minutes from Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 17th June, 2025, 18:30, Fornham All Saints Community Centre

These draft minutes were approved at the Parish Council Meeting on 15th July, 2025.

Present:

Cllr Richard Nicholls (RN) (Chair), Cllr Derek Brown (DB) (Vice Chair), Cllr Mat Stewart (MS), County Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger (RH).

Clerk Justin Hook (JH), 1 representative from All Saints Resort (ASR). No members of the public present.

Agenda Items

1. Chair's welcome, opening remarks and to receive apologies for absence
The chair welcomed those in attendance. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Lynch, Cllr Surman and Borough Cllr Broughton.
2. (i) To receive members Declarations of Interests - none received.
3. (ii) Council to consider any new written requests for dispensation and/or requests which have been received - none received.
4. To approve & adopt the minutes from the Council Meeting & AGM held on 20th May 2025

Council noted that the incorrect meeting date had been amended and resolved to adopt the minutes, the Chair signed them.

5. To receive County Councillor's report from Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger

RH reiterated points made at the Annual Parish Meeting, advising that there is a new residents survey from SCC regarding Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), open until the end of August. It's important for Parish Councils to be heard, as they form the grass roots of local government. LGR could mean more powers for parish councils.

Action: Clerk to share survey link with Cllrs and place in village newsletter.

Similar questionnaire also available from WSC.

Action: RH to find and share.

Speed roundels expected to be actioned w/c 23rd June.

ASR safety nets had been chased, now approved.

6. To receive Borough Councillor's reports from Cllr. Sarah Broughton and Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger

Nothing further to report.

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

Hannah Cuthbertson from ASR apologised for any upset that may have been caused by the burning of vegetation on site. They are in the process of removing diseased willows, to stop the spread of the airborne disease. Contractors have been advised to cease burning and are looking at other options for safe disposal.

DB raised the issue with ASR of the regrowth in the ditch along the B1106. Clerk confirmed technically it's not ASR's land or remit, and that there had been mixed feelings following the last cut. Some agreed it looked good, others were upset. ASR confirmed they were happy with the result but had received some backlash.

Council agreed to discuss further whether a collaborative approach with ASR to keep the ditch clear might be possible.

Action: Clerk to investigate and add to July agenda.

8. To receive reports from Councillors:

- a. Traffic / Roads / VASs / Road Signs - Don Lynch

Clerk advised that the two solar units had been installed on existing VAS units, the new solar VAS unit had been installed by Larks gate and the old smaller unit had been moved to the community centre location. All working as planned.

Clerk reported some top level stats:

Larks Gate (since installation 21/5/25)

Incoming: highest recorded speed: 64mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 85%

Outgoing: highest recorded speed: 67mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 72%

Pigeon Lane (2025 so far)

Incoming: highest recorded speed: 53mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 97%

Outgoing: highest recorded speed: 57mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 95%

Village Green (2025 so far)

Incoming: highest recorded speed: 65mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 94%

Outgoing: highest recorded speed: 68mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 90%

Action: Clerk to send to Community Policing Team and continue to monitor and report.

MS asked if the Tut Hill gate was opened for access during the lorry flip on Marham Park. Nobody was certain. RH advised the emergency services have keys but unaware length of time of incident, before gate opening is triggered.

- b. Volunteering - Derek Brown

Lots done - covered by report at earlier APM.

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

Not much to report. EV looking likely too expensive for community centre.

Some works to be done to review asset register and complete asset risk assessment with Clerk.

Action: Clerk to send details.

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

Difference of opinion on whether the LVP has been cut sufficiently. Clerk has contacted James Pickerin, RoW Officer to arrange extra cutting, James put him in touch with their contact to organise quotes. Ongoing.

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

Struggling with no direct contact/representative after Countrywide buy out. Seemingly little urgency for site to be adopted and issues ironed out. RH to continue to chase. Co-op have purchased site for a new convenience store. Anglian Water are under serious pressure to improve practice, little extra the PC can do.

- f. Allotments / Emergency Plan - David Surman

Clerk reports all plots let, no issues, 2 or 3 on waiting list.

g. Village Voice - Clerk

All running smoothly - apologies for lateness of June July issue, Editor was behind, distribution team was then away, then the printer had issues with machine, but out now.

9. To receive Clerks report

Double mini roundabouts - crossing safety

Direct contact sent to SCC, nothing heard back. Ongoing.

a. City Fibre - damages to village

Clerk to check Chestnut Close damage. Ongoing

b. First Responders

No First Responders in the village, but Bury group needs volunteers. Clerk to request information for piece in the VV. Item closed.

c. Speed roundels

Expected w/c 23rd June. Ongoing.

d. Marham Park trees and S106 monies

Ongoing as per item 8e.

e. Damaged bin, Pound Meadow

WSC still refusing liability, although have offered to install a new bigger bin in what they deem a more suitable place.

Council resolved to accept this proposal.

f. Policies & procedures

Documents ready to go through and adopt at July meeting.

g. Lark Valley Path entrance/Sheepwash Bridge

Covered under item 15.

Clerk gave update on the motorbike situation, with other Parish Councils joining forces to arrange a meeting with SCC, Police and local MP's to see what action can be taken to reduce speeding and noise disturbance.

Clerk also advised that he had been taken on temporarily as a Locum Clerk for Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve, and that it had come up at their recent meeting, the idea of potentially combining the three Fornham's to create one combined Parish Council, for greater impact, increase efficiency etc.

RH advised that she had begun research and that a referendum would not be required, but at least 7.5% of the combined population would need to write in support.

Action: Clerk to investigate further, and add to July agenda to discuss further.

10. Planning:

i. **DC/25/0925/FUL**

Land At Mere Lane Fornham All Saints Suffolk

Planning application - change of use of agricultural land to form dog walking and exercising paddock

Council resolved to record a vote of NO COMMENT on this application.

ii. **DC/25/0942/TPO**

Heath Farm Business Centre Tut Hill Fornham All Saints Suffolk IP28 6LG

TPO 298 (2000) tree preservation order - two poplar (T1 and T2 on plan, T15 and T16 on order) reduce height by three metres and width by two metres

Council resolved to record a vote of NO COMMENT, supporting the decision of the Tree Officer on this application.

iii. **Rider training facility on Tut Hill has been rejected, but reportedly still in use**

Council resolved to alert WSC Enforcement Team.

11. Finance update

i. **Council noted the revised total figure and resolved to approve payment of the following accounts and outstanding invoices:**

Payee & details	Total
J Hook, Clerks salary, May	£847.53
Nest, Clerks pension, May	£21.27
J Hook, Clerks expenses	£97.13
Vicky Waples, Internal Audit	£274.40
ICO, data protection fee	£47.00
M Loveridge, volunteer group planting	£114.05
M Purnell, volunteer group planting	£34.00
Community Centre, leaflet distribution for VV advertiser	£30.00
Bury Water Meadows Group, S137 donation	£250
Total Payments	£1,658.38

ii. **Council noted payments received to 31st May.**

From & details	Total
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RBS, bank interest	£56.98
VV advertising	£183.00
Total Monies Received	£239.98

- iii. Council noted bank balances to 31st May.

Current	£249.31
Savings	£57,963.26
Total Bank Balance	£58,212.57

- iv. **Council resolved to approve bank reconciliation for May 2025.**

12. End of year finance & audit

- i. **Council reviewed the Internal Audit Report and Clerks report of audit, resolving to adopt both documents.**
- ii. **Council resolved to confirm the effectiveness of the Internal Audit.**
- iii. **Council resolved to appoint Vicky Waples as the Internal Auditor for 2025/26 period.**

13. Skate & play park inspections

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

DB highlighted that disappointingly, the latest report did not actually pick up on the recent improvements made.

Report shows 40% wear on the shackles and chains on the swings.

Action: DB to get quotes to have replaced.

14. Play park gate replacement

Council to discuss proposal to upgrade gate to play area, cost circa. £1,000

The gate to the play park closes too quickly. DB suggested replacing with proper hydraulic metal gate as seen in other play parks. Gate circa £1,000 without installation.

Clerk advised 3 quotes required, ideally.

Action: Clerk and DB to get quotes to present at July meeting.

15. Overgrown pavements

Contractor has been approved by SCC so works can finally begin. Clerk is to meet with contractor to recap the work and expectations after the length of time since initial quote.

SCC have confirmed that now a contractor is approved,

they don't need to approve future works if Council use same contractor.

Clerk to discuss with contractor, list of other jobs in the village, to include; clearing/cleaning road signs esp. coming into village, dropped kerb detritus, top of Pigeon Lane bushes and kerbside, Larks Gate to Sheepwash Bridge growth, Sheepwash Bridge tidy, pinch points tidy, double mini's and island tidy.

16. Bus stop improvements

Council agreed to submit request for funding to improve village bus stops, especially opposite the village green bus shelter and opposite the community centre. Ideas include improved signage, road signage and increased paving opp. community centre.

Action: Clerk to investigate and complete forms.

17. Speeding in the village

Covered earlier under item 8a.

18. Replacement of old VAS unit at the Community Centre

Council to discuss replacing the old unit with a more up to date solar powered version, cost circa. £2,500

Unit does appear to be working well, but reliant upon battery changes.

Action: Clerk to investigate solar option.

Clerk still investigating repairs to existing unit brackets vs cost of new units.

19. Correspondence

- i. Residents email to AW re: leak outside community centre
AW have responded and water has been stopped. Repair works still to be carried out.

20. Date of next meeting

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

Meeting closed 19:36



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

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?**

Why not become a Parish Councillor!!

for more info, or an informal chat, email the clerk
clerk@fornhamallsaintsparish.gov.uk

Fornham All Saints Parish Council

July Meeting & AGM

Fornham All Saints Parish Council

Draft Minutes from Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 15th July, 2025, 18:30, Fornham All Saints Community Centre

These draft minutes will be approved at the Parish Council Meeting on 16th September, 2025.

Present:

Cllr Derek Brown (DB) (Vice Chair), Cllr Don Lynch and Cllr David Surman.

Clerk Justin Hook (JH), 1 representative from All Saints Resort (ASR). 1 member of the public present.

Agenda Items

1. Chair's welcome, opening remarks and to receive apologies for absence
The chair welcomed those in attendance. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Stewart, Cllr Nicholson, County Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger and District Cllr Sarah Broughton.
2. (i) To receive members Declarations of Interests - none received.
3. (ii) Council to consider any new written requests for dispensation and/or requests which have been received - none received.
4. To approve & adopt the minutes from the Council Meeting held on 17th June 2025
Council noted that the incorrect locations for the reported VAS data had been updated and resolved to adopt the minutes, the Chair signed them.
5. To receive County Councillor's report from Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger
Nothing to report.
6. To receive District Councillor's reports from Cllr. Sarah Broughton and Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger
Nothing to report.
7. Public open session up to 15 minutes - questions and issues on matters arising from the agenda and from the village

Resident raised an issue in Pound Meadow where city Fibre had not been back to repair the damages

Clerk advised that he has reported the area in Chestnut Close, and will also add Pound Meadow to the list.

Hannah Cuthbertson from All Saints Resort brought some updates from the hotel;

- A document had been forward to Cllrs about ASR's eco credentials and their aim to become the most greenest hotel in the area.
- A transformer is being fitted for 20-25 new EV charging points along the frontage, which will be open to villagers as well as hotel users/guests.
- A meeting had taken place with 3 Birkdale Court residents regarding a plan for 25 overspill/staff parking spaces along the Birkdale Court hedge line. These will be daytime only and will require some realignment of the 10th hole.
- There is a pre-app in progress regarding creating a new golf club house on the 1st tee, and also to extend the leisure facilities underneath the new gym extension, to create a dedicated area for spa guests.
- Works continue on site to trees affected by the bacterial disease 'watermark,' by specialist consultants JS Wright & Sons. Correct licenses are in place from Forestry Commission and ASR have been liaising with Sarah Drane at WSC Planning on this. Restocking is due within 7 years, but ASR planning sooner than this.
- Pods - works to start on these potentially in the next 6 months.
- Nets - no further news.
- Maintenance entrance - works scheduled to begin w/c 21st July.

Resident questioned ASR about the licensing for the lodges, whether it was for public or commercial use, based on the fact that it was being used for commercial lets, full of workmen in vans.

HC advised it was a contract that David Harris put in place and is set to finish in a couple of months, then open to holidaymakers.

8. To receive reports from Councillors:

- a. Traffic / Roads / VASs / Road Signs - Don Lynch

Nothing to report. DL suggested time to review the Cllr responsibilities.

Action: Clerk to add to future agenda.

b. Volunteering - Derek Brown

Two recent sessions had taken place and one cancelled due to extreme heat. Flower beds tended to, pavements swept and edged and the falling fence on the Lark Valley Path fence has now been staked the full length and shrubbery cut back.

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

DB and the Clerk did a walk around to assess the assets for maintenance and valuation purposes.

The community centre rebuild costs have come back higher than anticipated at circa. £600k (PLUS Vat on a rebuild), so community council to look at other options to maximise space / storage. EV project no longer going ahead.

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

Clerk updated that the extra cut had been done at a cost of £200 and looked good. Contractor thinks that wider cuts, on the three scheduled cuts will suffice. Cost to Council, £300 per cut, which is exactly what was budgeted. Two more cuts to come this year.

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

No thing to report.

f. Allotments / Emergency Plan - David Surman

DS now semi-retired, so more time available to prepare emergency plan.

Allotments ticking over, some issues to deal with. All plots full, 2 or 3 on waiting list.

9. To receive Clerks report

a. Double mini roundabouts - crossing safety

Clerk met with SCC representative, who agreed that the island or 'refuge' between the roundabouts was small (by current standards), but not a site that SCC would be looking to change for any reason. Council could consider changing, but the likely six figure cost would be prohibitive.

- b. City Fibre - damages to village
Clerk has chased Chestnut Close site to be restored.
Action: Clerk to chase for Pound Meadow site to be restored also.
- c. Speed roundels
New roundels finally in place - thanks Beccy and SCC!
ITEM CLOSED.
- d. Marham Park trees and S106 monies
Ongoing, nothing to report.
- e. Damaged bin, Pound Meadow
WSC accept no liability for the damage, but have since replaced with a newer, larger bin, in a position where their mowers will be less likely to hit it. **ITEM CLOSED.**
This bin is not currently emptied by WSC.
Council resolved to set up weekly collections with WSC.
- f. Leak by community centre
Fixed. **ITEM CLOSED.**
- g. Devolution & LGR
Clerk attended a SCC session on LGR, outlining the proposal for One Suffolk, a single unitary council for Suffolk. Stand out points were that one council would provide the greatest savings and perhaps the simplest transition. Also that we need to NOT see it as Suffolk County Council absorbing all of the district councils - it would be an entirely new organisation from top to bottom.
- h. Other updates
 - HMRC overpayment (initially £800) is slowly being used for Tax & NI contributions, currently circa £680 and if not used by end of 25/26 tax year, council can expect to receive it back as a refund.
 - The external auditor has asked some questions on the internal audit and the figures submitted. The Clerk has actioned all of their requests.
 - The Clerk has completed the enforcement request for the rider training facility on Tut Hill, which is reportedly still being used after planning was refused.
 - Clerk received a request for ownership information form, from the gas pipeline that runs across the Fuel Charity land and will complete and return.

10. Planning:

i. **DC/25/1035/TPO **Amended Description****

**Heath Farm Business Centre Tut Hill Fornham All Saints
Suffolk IP28 6LG**

TPO 298(2000) tree preservation order - six Scots Pine
(T5, T6, T11, T12, T13, T14 on plan and order) crown lift to
seven metres above ground level

**Council resolved to record a vote of NO COMMENT,
supporting the decision
of the Tree Officer on this application.**

11. Finance update

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

Payee & details	Total
J Hook, Clerks salary, June	£847.53
Nest, Clerks pension, June	£21.27
J Hook, Clerks expenses, Jun-Jul	£147.00
Community Workshop, Village Voice printing	£306.02
SALC, allotment training x 2	£86.40
D Brown, Cllr expenses, play park repairs	£8.48
Elan City, VAS unit fixings	£121.44
Total Payments	£1,538.14

ii. Council noted payments received to 30th June.

From & details	Total
RBS, bank interest	£92.29
VV advertising	£90.00
Total Monies Received	£182.29

iii. Council noted bank balances to 30th June.

Current	£223.93
Savings	£56,455.55
Total Bank Balance	£56,679.48

iv. **Council resolved to approve bank reconciliation for
June 2025.**

v. Council resolved to approve the end of Q1 finance report, April-June.

12. Volunteer Group Budget

Council to discuss allocation of funds to a Volunteer Group budget to cover tools, equipment, incidentals and beverages

Council resolved to assign a budget of £125 to the Volunteer Group (coming from the £139.64 unassigned monies in the budget).

13. Internal Control Report

DB spent some time with the Clerk completing an internal Control Report. The report highlighted a few areas for further clarification.

“Whilst in most cases the procedures were adequate there were 4 (out of 27) cases where there was no procedure in place or a check had not been carried out. Some of the other points that met the control parameters needed further comment such as; how often, where they are recorded, to whom they are shown etc.

Part of the process is to ensure the councillors are sure the finances reported by a Clerk tally with Bank statements. The report also highlighted that Justin has not had his annual employment review.”

14. Asset Register & Asset Maintenance Record

Covered under item 8c.

Action: Clerk to add to September agenda to receive report on findings, once complete..

15. Policies & Procedures

Council resolved to approve & adopt the following revised policies;

- a. Model Publication Scheme
- b. Lawful Basis for Processing Data
- c. Privacy Policy
- d. Subject Access Request (SAR) Policy
- e. Freedom of Information
- f. Document & Electronic Data Retention Policy
- g. Media Policy
- h. Complaints Policy

16. Skate & play park inspections

Council noted from report that remedial work required, but all

low to very low risk.

Action: DB looking into quotes for swing shackle replacements.

17. Play park gate replacement, and fence repairs

Council to discuss quotes received to upgrade the play area gate after it was reported that it closes faster than the recommended 4 second closure time. Some fencing maintenance/repairs also required.

Clerk has met with a couple of fencing contractors to price fence repairs and gate replacement and is awaiting quotes. Online quotes have been obtained for metal mechanical close safety gates.

Council resolved to purchase a new metal mechanical close safety gate - double option for maintenance/vehicle access at a cost of £1240 +Vat, and approve a budget of up to £1500 for installation and remedial fence works.

DS advised council that he had seen a moped using the skate park, but that the rider disappeared when he saw him.

Council suggested calling the police immediately in the future.

Action: Clerk to investigate and identify if council need to update signage.

18. Overgrown pavements

Clerk had revisited the quote with the approved contractor. Because of the time that has lapsed since the first quote the grow back is excessive and now requires flail work, otherwise the contractor will have to do a lot of extra work by hand. Clerk contacted a flail operator, but it is nesting season until August, so it looks like we need to wait a little longer.

19. Other village works

Clerk also visited other site in the village with the contractor to get prices for works.

Council resolved that the original budget for works still stands and monies to be used on smaller jobs in the interim, so that at least some work can be carried out.

20. B1106 Ditch

Council to discuss contributing towards All Saints Resorts' cost of clearing the B1106 ditch and fencing, from Golton Cottages to the second bridge by Anglian Water entrance.

Council resolved that a contribution half the cost (up to £1500 per cut) is available towards the cost of clearing the ditch, and trimming back the fencing along the B1106 from Golton

Cottages to the second bridge.

It was agreed two cuts per year, most likely March and July.

Action Clerk to advise ASR in writing and ASR to confirm costs.

21. Bus stop improvements

Clerk has the forms and just needs to make time to complete them.

22. Speeding in the village & motorbikes

Clerk had a response from the Community Policing Team who are making more of a presence on event nights. The Clerk reported seeing a bike being chase by Police on the last event night.

The other villages along the A1101 the are waiting on confirmation of a date to meet with MP Nick Timothy and the police to discuss growing concerns.

Clerk reported some top level stats from the VAS units:

Larks Gate (since last meeting)

Incoming: highest speed: 70mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 84% (50+mph 0.02%)

Outgoing: highest speed: 77mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 71% (50+mph 0.06%)

Pigeon Lane (since last meeting)

Incoming: highest speed: 51mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 97% (50+mph 0.00%)

Outgoing: highest speed: 57mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 96% (50+mph 0.01%)

Village Green (since last meeting)

Incoming: highest speed: 63mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 93% (50+mph 0.01%)

Outgoing: highest speed: 53mph, compliance to 30mph limit: 91% (50+mph 0.01%)

The Clerk noted that the 63mph on The Green and 77mph at Larks Gate were both recorded on event nights.

23. Replacement of old VAS unit at the Community Centre

No solar option is available for this unit, due to the age.

Council agreed that the roundabout was a good physical deterrent to slow traffic down and therefore not to replace the unit, instead to continue to change the battery.

24. Proposal to combine the two Fornham Parish Councils to create one Parish Council covering the three Fornhams

Council to discuss and create a plan to move forward.

There was some initial hesitation to the idea, but the Clerk was able to give some solid reasoning as to what the benefits might be; increased influence in term of neighbourhood planning, shared responsibilities and costs for roads and pavements especially with devolution coming, increased pool of Cllrs etc. Clerk advised that FMSG has recently had a change of team, with new focus and drive and are keen to meet and begin to discuss.

Council agreed that a meeting would be beneficial in the first instance.

25. Correspondence

- i. Residents email re: motorbikes and hedgehogs
Resident concerned about villages strong response to motorbikes. Clerk responded.
- ii. Residents email re: church gate
Resident highlighted issue with small church gate, and questioned if the church wall and gate fall under councils responsibility? Clerk confirmed it does and has requested a quote to replace the failing gate. The asset walk around also highlighted an area of church wall that needs some minor repairs and the Clerk is seeking a quote from previous contractor.
- iii. Resident request for a dog poo bin on the Pigeon Lane side of the village.

Action: Clerk to add to next agenda.

26. Date of next meeting

There will be no meeting in August unless required for planning.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on September 16th, commencing 18:30 at the Community Centre.

Meeting closed 19:58



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

www.facebook.com/fornhamallsaintspc

Dates For Parish Council and related meetings 2025

August	<i>no meeting unless planning</i>
September 16th	Parish Council
October 21st	Parish Council
November 18th	Parish Council
December	<i>no meeting unless planning</i>

All meetings will be held at 18:30 at 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.

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!)

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

Mobile Library

Dates & Times for 2025:

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



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

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 Garden Club

On 10th June, Fornham Garden Club members and guests enjoyed an evening trip to Langham Hall Walled Garden. The weather was superb and a wander around the wonderfully stocked walled gardens was thoroughly relaxing. Our hostess was very welcoming and provided refreshment on the terrace of her beautiful home, with its stunning view over the ha-ha to flocks of grazing sheep in parkland.

On 8th July the garden club hosted an old friend in Dr. Ian Bedford who gave a very interesting talk and slide show on **The Trouble Without Wasps**. He informed that it is quite difficult persuading people that wasps are very much worth looking after, as the assumption is they are merely pests; they are in fact great pollinators and help protect and sustain crops and native fruits and flowers.

Wasps have two pairs of wings, the pairs hooked together and they appeared around 200m years ago. There are 200,000 species worldwide with Britain having about 9,000 species. Wasps use their stingers as a defence or for paralysing prey which they cut up with their powerful mandibles and parts are taken back to the nest to feed the larvae. There are two main groups - some are 'solitary' and others are 'social' and live in colonies. If we are stung there is always a risk of anaphylaxis which can have many symptoms so, if need be, get medical help quickly. Bicarbonate of soda, (not 'winigar') may help ease the pain, but antihistamine may be more effective.

Social wasps living in a colony have an egg laying queen. The life cycle is between March and June and the first queens seen are survivors from the previous year. She builds a structure from chewed up wood and lays eggs in cells which turn into her workers. From then on the workers find food, water and build more cells whilst the queen lays eggs during June to October. At the end of summer, new queens emerge, the male wasps mate with them and then die. During Winter the queens with their fertile eggs hibernate and next spring the cycle starts again.

There are other types of wasp such as harmless wood wasps, mason wasps and gall wasps. The bee wolf wasp lives underground and kills honey bees. Spider wasps live on spiders; their sting paralyses the spider which they drag back to their nest. Here they lay an egg on the paralysed spider which hatches and feeds on the spider.

Hornets are a much larger species of wasp. The European wasp is relatively harmless but the Asian hornet attacks bees in the hives. They need to be reported and dealt with to avoid the species becoming endemic.

Unfortunately wasps can be a nuisance as they attack butterflies and they need sugars, so over ripe fruit can make them aggressive and bolder. Wasps caught in traps will attract other wasps but they are territorial, so false nests can deter them starting another nest nearby. They dislike the smell of lemon, clove and mint and most nests can be left alone but if removal is necessary, always use a professional pest controller with a protective suit.

One encouraging fact is that there is ongoing medical research into wasp venom to fight bacterial infection. This was a very informative and interesting evening and we will be seeing Dr. Bedford again next year.

A group of 33 members and friends enjoyed a 3 day trip in late June to visit 3 of Yorkshire's gardens, while staying at The Craiglands Hotel at Ilkley. Brodsworth Hall and Gardens near Doncaster with its wonderful trees were trying to return the gardens to their former glory when owned by the Thellusson family in early Victorian times. Royal Horticultural Society's Harlow Carr gardens near Harrogate was a showcase of horticultural excellence - a picture of colour, and Renishaw gardens near Sheffield is the seat of the Sitwell family and home to one of the most important classical Italianate gardens in Britain - wonderful topiary throughout.

Most of our meetings are from 7pm on the **second Tuesday of each month at Fornham All Saints Community Centre - come and join us!**

Fornham All Saints WI

May is the month we discuss the Annual Meeting Resolution for 2025, the subject was Bystanders Can Be Lifesavers. There are over 30,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests a year in the UK and fewer than one in ten people survive. Early cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and defibrillation can more than double the chances of survival. After discussion we all agreed to support this resolution and we instructed our delegate to use her discretion on voting on our behalf at the Annual Meeting. After all that we enjoyed tea and cake!

June Graham Higgins came in June with his very entertaining talk entitled The Hare and the Turnip, or 2085 years of history in one small part of Suffolk, the story of Denham St Mary. Based on an idea by the historian Michael Woods, for one of his TV programmes, setting a story around one small town. Graham's story covers history from Boudica to the present day. When Boudica took over the Icenii tribe, three tribes met at Denham as it was a high point in the area. After the meeting they raced off (the Hare) attacked Colchester and wiped out the Romans! A variety of nobility also had connections to Denham, including Dorothy, sister of 2nd Viscount Townshend who was known as 'Turnip Townshend'. Swedish turnips were grown at Denham to feed animals through the winter, which we now call swedes (The Turnip). In the 1930's land at Denham was sold to the Land Settlement Trust whose aim was to settle unemployed workers from depressed industrial areas and in this case, grow soft fruit. This didn't work out as there was insufficient water. A fascinating talk, who could imagine so much history had taken place in one small village!

July was a social afternoon at the beautiful home of one of the members. We celebrated a Big-O birthday with fizz and a cake with an amazing candle, plus a balloon for the birthday lady. Happy Birthday Wendy!

Fornham All Saints WI meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 2.00pm in the village hall. Please call or text Elizabeth 07311 281775 for further information on meetings, as we regularly go on outings.

Update from Royal British Legion BSE

Forthcoming Events and Services in August

- Friday 15th, Civic VJ Remembrance Service St Mary's Church BSE, seated by 14:10 for 14:30 start, dress; smart, Medals, badge of office etc. may be worn.
- Saturday 16th, VJ Memorial Service Abbey Gardens Rose Garden, Veterans wanted to lay wreaths at the actual VJ Memorial 10:45 for 11:00 start, after service refreshments at St Mary's church BSE.

This year's Cathedral hosted Beer and Cider Festival 20th to 24th, is certainly worth a visit, the number of people who have always walked past 'the building,' that return after attending the festival to take time out and enjoy the history, camaraderie and thoughtful peace is surprisingly high, not necessarily converted, but wiser and happier for it.

If you are Serving military, a Veteran, dependent or carer and need help, try phoning the RBL helpline on 0808 802 8080, you will need to hand The Veterans Service number and name also the Branch of the Armed forces. (Royal Navy, Army, Royal Airforce etc.?) the RBL also have the Admiral Nurses Service specifically trained to help with Dementia, some are based in Suffolk, they help with Veterans suffering from Dementia and can also take some of the load off carers, just one phone call is always worth a try, request the Admiral Nurses Service, the lead Nurse for Suffolk is Jo Dawson. Help line Number 0808 802 8080.

Nigel Wolstenholme

Nigel Wolstenholme, Branch Chair

connecting **Communities**

rural transport



What is Connecting Communities?

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

What could it be used for?

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

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



Fancy a bigger adventure? Join Suffolk's Ride and Stride this September

SUFFOLK HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

Sponsored
Ride and Stride

EXPLORE SUFFOLK

**SATURDAY
13 SEPTEMBER**

9am to 5pm

**Join Ride and Stride and
sponsor your cycle or walk
to raise money for Suffolk's
wonderful church buildings.**

Suffolk has over 500 churches,
chapels and meeting rooms
across all denominations and
you will be amazed at the
local history you will find in
each and every one!

TOGETHER WE ARE



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
SUFFOLK

cotesuffolk.org

The 11th Rotary Classic Car Show raised over £40,000 for charity

The annual event took place on July 13th at Culford School, where fabulous weather contributed to a successful day for more than 6,000 visitors. This was the 11th Car Show organised by the Bury Abbey Rotary Club, with support from other nearby Rotary clubs, and the fifth year it has been hosted at Culford School.

Over the past 11 years, the Classic Car Show has raised more than £200,000 for various local charities, with East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) serving as this year's headline charity.



Building on the success of previous years, the Car Show featured a variety of entertainment. With more than 40 car clubs and around 600 cars on display, attendees enjoyed a spectacular selection of vehicles gleaming in the sunshine. It was delightful to witness the different car clubs and their coordinated displays. The lines of Morgans, Jensens, and Mustangs contrasted with the more eclectic assembly of individual exhibitors, whose cars were equally impressive. The sheer variety of cars was astonishing. Additionally, attendees enjoyed a wide range of food options, from Mexican cuisine to hog roasts, as well as local craft stalls. This year, the Suffolk Soul Sisters Choir added to the atmosphere by entertaining the crowd with their performances.

The headline charity supported by the Car Show, EACH, provides essential services to numerous families across East Anglia. Days like this are crucial for raising both funds and awareness to continue their vital work.

Bury Abbey Rotary President Melanie Lesser stated, "This has been our busiest show ever, with blue skies, sunshine, and a fantastic atmosphere throughout the day. We are pleased to have raised over £40,000 for EACH, along with the many other local charities supported by Bury Abbey Rotary Club. Special thanks go to Culford School and all our 160 volunteers, including those from the USAF and many organisations across the region. We would also like to express our gratitude to our 17 car show sponsors, including 7 new ones for this year."

Melanie Lesser

Melanie Lesser
Bury Abbey Rotary Club President





Smarter. Simpler. Better. ONE SUFFOLK.

Residents' Summary



onesuffolkcouncil.co.uk

Why this matters for Suffolk

- **Simpler for residents** – one council, one point of contact.
- **Clearer accountability** – no more confusion over responsibilities.
- **Greater value for money** – less bureaucracy means more money for services or keeping council tax as low as possible.
- **Stronger, safer services** – particularly for social care, with improved links to health and police.
- **Joined-up services** – one organisation means everything under one roof, making it easier to improve services.
- **Better decision-making** – one council means that decisions can be made more quickly.
- **More resident power** – more local input and stronger neighbourhood engagement.
- **Stronger voice** – one clear, strategic leadership team for Suffolk.

The savings could be used for:



lifting and
cleaning roads



waste collection
and disposal



housing



social care



planning



leisure centres



school places
and travel



parks and
open spaces



keeping council tax
as low as possible

Suffolk

Suffolk is a county of contrasts and character: sea views, golden fields, wide skies, charming villages, bustling market towns and vibrant urban centres. Each part is unique, yet all come together to form one extraordinary county.

We're proud of Ipswich, our historic county town. But our pride extends to every community, large or small, that gives Suffolk its rich identity.

Our county boasts world-class food and drink, a thriving visitor economy, cherished heritage sites, National Landscapes, the heart of British horse-racing, cutting-edge clean energy and logistics industries and strong connections to London.

Suffolk is proof that the whole really can be greater than the sum of its parts.

What truly unites us is not just our landscape or economy, but a deep sense of identity and pride. Whether it's Suffolk Day, the Suffolk Show, our university, local media, or even our dialect, there is something that binds us together.

It's more than community spirit, it's a shared belief in Suffolk.

Local Government reorganisation in Suffolk

The Government is planning to simplify how councils operate in Suffolk – a process known as Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).

Currently, there are six councils: a county council and five district and borough councils. Each is responsible for different services and different area, a structure that has been in place for more than 50 years.

Suffolk County Council is proposing a bold and positive change: to bring all six councils together into a single new council, delivering all local and county-wide services.

This would mean replacing the existing councils with one new organisation, complete with a fresh structure, fewer layers of bureaucracy and better ways of working.

Better use of public money

Analysis by PwC shows that one single new council would deliver:



£26m

annual savings each
year after 5 years



£104m

of savings in
the first 5 years



Up to £13m

saved in start-up costs compared
to three separate councils

More than one council will cost more

There's been talk of dividing Suffolk into two or even three councils, including a 'Greater Ipswich'. This would mean redrawing boundaries to bring in areas like Felixstowe, Woodbridge, Needham Market and surrounding villages.

But more councils means more cost. Splitting services like social care would be not only expensive, over £150 million according to national research, but would also put vulnerable residents at risk.

	1 COUNCIL	2 COUNCILS	3 COUNCILS
break up costs over 5 years	£0	£92m	£155m
annual savings after 5 years	£26m	£9m	-£3m
savings in first 5 years	£104m	£12m	-£52m
one off set up costs	£19m	£26m	£32m

Your voice matters

We're inviting residents, town and parish councils, businesses and community organisations to help shape the future. Change can feel uncertain, but it's also a moment of great opportunity.

Over the next six months, we'll be out in communities asking for your view, from how you want to access services to how decisions should be made and how many councillors you think we need.

This is your county and your voice will help shape its future.

Have your say

We're working with residents, businesses, community and voluntary groups and local councils to choose the best future for Suffolk. This decision will affect you and your community. Please find out more today.

onesuffolkcouncil.co.uk

Learn more



Free Summer Holiday Activities 2025

Does your child receive free school meals?

If your child get means tested free school dinners, then you can apply for a range of free activities for your family and children.

- **Family Park Cooking (Families)** - Each family will take home a weeks' worth of food as well as having a great day out
- **Adventure Days (8-14 yrs)** - An action-packed day of activity from 8:30am-4:30pm
- **Wild Kitchen Adventure Days (8-14 yrs)** - Learn to build a campfire, cook their own meal and take part in a range of great outdoor activities. 10am-3pm
- **Swim and Lunch (5-16 years + parents)** - Free swim and lunch provision at all our leisure centres
- **Duke of Edinburgh Award (13-16 years)** - Take part in Bronze DofE award, hiking, camping, away days. (must be in school year 9 in September 2025)
- **National Pool Life Guard Award (16-18 years)** - Fully funded places on the NPLQ Lifeguard Course at Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre

Free sessions are primarily for children entitled to Means Tested Free School Meals – approval will also be considered for young people in the following categories;

- Eligible for means tested free school meals - Pupil Premium (Not KS1 universal free school meals)
- Looked after child (LAC)
- Child protection plan in place
- Refugees

To book visit: **www.abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF**

Any questions or queries please get in touch.

Email: **HAF@acleisure.com** providing the session they want to book and the town they live in.

Call: **01284 757495** leave their name, number, town and session they want to book.

EXPLORE OUTDOOR

FAMILY PARK COOKING

22nd July- 30th August
Subject to availability
10:00-15:00

Parents and children take part in an amazing family day out with a wide range of activities including an outdoor cooking master class where you will cook a delicious lunch together.

Every family that attend will take home all of the ingredients and recipe cards for a week's worth of meals.

*Free for those eligible for free school meals or most Suffolk County Council eligible schools

abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF

FREE*
BOOK NOW




DE THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN YEAR 9, 10 & 11

EXPLORE OUTDOOR

YOUTH WITHOUT LIMITS

FREE*

Fully Funded - Bronze Award

- Kit and equipment provided
- Camping and expedition fees covered
- Food for training and expeditions paid for
- Funding for boots available
- Weekends Away
- Learn New Skills
- Online support

Follow the QR code to register your interest or send us an email: DofE@ocleisure.com



*For those entitled to free school meals

abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF

Holiday Activity



EXPLORE OUTDOOR

WILD KITCHEN ADVENTURE DAYS

AGES 8-14 YEARS

22nd July- 30th August
Subject to availability
10:00-15:00

FREE



Calling all young chefs and outdoor explorers! Join us for a fantastic day of wild cooking where kids learn to build and light their own fire, then cook a tasty lunch from scratch in the great outdoors. It's a delicious adventure packed with fun, food, and fresh air, plus plenty of exciting outdoor games and nature activities.

*Free for those eligible for free school meals or most Suffolk County Council eligible schools

abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF



SPLASH YOUR WAY TO HAPPINESS

This Summer

Tuesday 22nd July- Saturday 30th August

*Subject to availability

Come along this Summer and take part in our **FREE** swim & lunch offer.

*Free for those eligible for free school meals and other funding

Available at:
Hadleigh Pool & Leisure
Kingfisher Leisure Centre
Mildenhall Hub
Haverhill Leisure Centre
Newmarket Leisure Centre
Bury Leisure Centre

For more info:
haf@ocleisure.com
abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF



abbeycroft
Let's Live Life





BECOME A LIFEGUARD ON US!



We're offering a limited number of fully funded places on the NPLQ Lifeguard Course at Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre. Who can apply?

- Aged 16-18
- Currently receiving free school meals or meals in further education.

Applicants must complete a swimming competency test before a place on the course is confirmed.

Register your interest by Sunday 22nd June 2025

abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF

    Let's Love Life

For More Info 

ADVENTURE DAYS

AGES 8-14 YEARS

22nd July- 30th August
Subject to availability
08:30-16:30

EXPLORE OUTDOOR

FREE* BOOK NOW 

Come to life in the great outdoors this summer and enjoy fire lighting and cooking in the wild, archery, law throwing and swimming, and much more.

With our Adventure Days happening across Babergh, Mid and West Suffolk, your child has the chance to unlock their inner explorer whilst fitting around your working hours.

*Free for those eligible for free school meals or the Suffolk County Council early years offer

abbeycroft.org.uk/HAF

 Let's Love Life

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

FAS Volunteering Group

Before I give you a short summary of what the Team has achieved recently, I want to have a brief rant!

Whilst we are happy to do most jobs around the village to keep it neat and tidy, and above all safe, there is one job that I am really fed up with having to do... And that is clear up after other peoples dogs!! This is particularly irksome on the Village Green where clearly a large dog is defecating and the owner is not picking up. Dog owners may miss the occasional pick but this is a serial offender. I am forever clearing up after this one. There are the elderly, children, and limited sighted people all transiting The Green and this is totally unacceptable.

I have put certain actions in train that will help catch this offender - and when, not if, we do I will take further action. **End of rant.**

In other news, a lot of good work has been carried out by the group: Flower beds cleared for replanting, flower beds re-stocked, paths cut back, traffic islands and paths cleared of weeds and many plants and shrubs pruned and tidied. Also, the fence on the River Lark has been staked along its full length to ensure the path is usable. This combined with the Council's extra wide and more regular cuts of the path, together with the volunteer groups tree and bush trimming, makes the journey to Hengrave most pleasant!

I just want to end by saying that I am incredibly impressed by the number of people that are now taking care of their "areas" and doing their "bit" towards keeping the village spick and span. Thanks also to those that are taking their bins back off The Green and village centre promptly.

If you would like to sign up, there is no commitment at all, just let me know and I will add you to the group's WhatsApp group. Thanks.

Martin Loveridge

Martin Loveridge, Volunteering Group Leader
07784-225375 | loveridgemartin@yahoo.co.uk

Fornham All Saints Church News

Back in June, we had a nature count in the churchyard and a coffee morning on what must have been the wettest June Saturday. However, despite the weather some people ventured out to count insects, plants and whatever they could find. With the aid of some wonderful apps, many of the species were named. Unfortunately the rather lovely orchid which was discovered last year did not reappear. The record of flora and fauna on Saturday 8th June at Fornham All Saints churchyard has been sent to Caring for God's Acre.

Many thanks to Linda for setting this up and for collecting the information. Thanks also to Julie and Elizabeth, who served cakes to those who came in for shelter and to John for manning the churchyard.

During this time we exercised "No Mow May" in order to make it easier to spot grasses and flowers. It is good to see the grass grow naturally for this time, later the grass was cut, which was quite a task and looked lovely to have it neat and tidy again.

Thank you to the Parish Council for it's upkeep, it is very much appreciated.

The early summer passed with a PCC meeting at the Rectory and with Family services which were enjoyable and interactive with joyous music provided by Kim, Emma, Steve, Claire and Skye, communion services including a Benefice service which we hosted at the end of June. Our gratitude goes to Revd Andy and Ali Miller and their team for leading us in our services.

In July, the entire PCC attended the Deanery Synod held at Culford Village Hall. We are very proud that one of our number has become the Secretary of the Deanery Synod. Well done Elizabeth! The visiting speaker was Revd Laura Mumford. Laura has recently been appointed as Growing Younger Enabler. We would all like one of those, however Laura is reaching out to young people up to the age of 25 with music as her first method of involvement... I think we will be hearing more about this in the future.

The funeral of Yvonne Valerie Beattie was held on 11th July. Yvonne was born in Bury, moved away, then returned in later life. The church

was decorated with sunflowers as they were her favourite flowers. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

Forthcoming Events

The SHCT ride and stride cycle ride will take place on **13th September**

Macmillan Coffee morning, **Saturday September 27th, at 10.00am**

Harvest festival, **October 5th, 10.00am** - all produce will go to the food bank

Judith Scott

Judith Scott

**Fornham All Saints Church 101 Club
Winners**

Recent winners for July listed below;

	1st	2nd	3rd
July	Kyra Turner	Margaret Mutton	Valerie McCarter

For more information on how to support the church in this way, contact Elizabeth Gingell on **07311 281775** .

Friends Of The Village Hall News

Fornham Footers

In June we made a return visit to Brandon Country Park, always a popular destination for a walk in the shade on a warm day. Twelve people joined the walk and most opted for the 3½ mile walk with the remainder walking 1 mile. The weather was kind and only started to rain after we had finished. After the walk we had coffee in the park café before travelling to Thetford for lunch at the Warrener restaurant.

In July, many walkers were on holiday, but on American Independence Day we drove to Dalham Village. Walked up to the church (minding our heads on overhanging branches), on to Dalham Hall (once the home of Cecil Rhodes, founder of Rhodesia). At Beech Row, which overlooked the village, we could see an 18th century Smock Mill, now without sails after a gale in 1872 but still in use until WW1. Down through Leipsec Wood and down to the main road to the village, where there are lovely thatched cottages with beautiful gardens and a stream. The village pub only serves drinks and we were hungry so back to the cars and to Barrow for an excellent lunch.

Many thanks to two new walk organisers, I hope they will do another walk in the future.

Next walks Fridays 1st Aug, 5th Sept, 3rd Oct.

Mahjong

We meet twice a month, with usually 12 or more members at 9.30am on a Monday morning, there is always plenty of chat and laughter. Triple Knitting, Knitting, Grand Sequence are more names of special hands, if you would like to know what these 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 11th & 18th Aug and 8th & 22nd Sept.

Please contact either Lynne 766909 or Mary 763701

Film Club (4th Tuesday of the month but not August or December)

WE NEED MORE FILM CLUB MEMBERS!

“Quartet” was our June film and “Guess who’s coming to dinner” our July film.

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 on Tues 23rd Sept.

Due to a poor response to the showing of 4 VJ films, there will only be one on Wednesday 13th August at 7.30pm. A special one evening rate for non-members will be available.

To find out which film is being shown please contact Lynne, details below.

Traveller's Tales

Is now on holiday till our **next meeting on Thurs 11th Sept. at 7.30pm.**

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

Board & Card Games

Everybody who comes enjoys these afternoons but during the summer months we only meet once a month. Our favourite game is Rummikub. Each meeting the players decide which game, new or old that they would like to play. Scrabble board game has now been added to our list. £2.50 table money inc. refreshments.

Our next Wed. afternoons from 2pm to 4pm will be on 20th Aug & 3rd & 17th Sept (when we go back to twice a month).

Fornham Hackers!

Wednesday 11th June, turned out as a warm sunny but windy day for our first game of 2025. Eight golfers took part at Bury 9 hole golf course. It was a fun afternoon with a wide selection of scores! Jude had an excellent score of 20 stableford points. Many thanks to Stan & Penny for booking the tee times and enabling us to not have to pay the full fee!

The next round will be in Sept or Oct.



Charlie Haylock

Tickets are all sold now, but names can be added to a waiting list.

Historic House visit – Layer Marney Tower

This year we are visiting Layer Marney Tower in Essex on **Thursday 7th August**. The club is subsidising each person by £5.

Line Dancing ****NEW GROUP****

Would anyone like to join the “friends” group once a month, probably for one hour in the late afternoon/ early evening for a fun hour of LINE DANCING. Day to be decided.

Please get in touch, details below so I can see the level of interest.

I always welcome ideas for new groups connected to the “Friends”, 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 watched and where we’ve been.

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

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Feta & Herb Pie by Pigeon Cottage Kitchen

Ingredients...

- frozen spinach - 6 balls, defrosted, chopped with the excess moisture removed
- large bunch each of fresh dill, mint and flat leaf parsley, finely chopped
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 pack of feta - crumbled
- 1 small onion
- 1 tbsp light olive oil
- zest of a lemon
- pack of Jus-Rol ready-rolled all butter puff pastry
- White pepper and grated nutmeg

The Greeks make a lovely feta and herb pie like this with filo pastry called spanakopita but I find it much easier to make with ready rolled all-butter puff pastry. To be honest, I prefer the pastry to filo too. It's a really delicious summer pie which I serve with a simple tomato salad.



To make...

- Preheat the oven to 180C.
- First, make the pie filling. Sauté the onion in olive oil in medium heat until it is soft and golden. Allow to cool.
- In a medium-sized bowl, add the spinach, herbs, onion, feta, lemon zest, seasoning and most of the beaten egg. Retain a little of the yolk for the pastry. Mix thoroughly.
- Line a baking sheet with baking parchment. Unfurl the pastry and cut into two pieces, the bottom should be a couple of centimetres smaller than the top. Lay the bottom rectangle in the middle of the baking sheet. Spoon the filling over the bottom piece of pastry to within 2 cm of the edges. Brush the edge with a little egg yolk beaten with a splash of water. Lay the top piece over the bottom and press the edges together with the tines of a fork. Lightly prick and score the top layer with a sharp knife and brush with the rest of the beaten egg. Refrigerate for half an hour or so.
- Bake in the oven until crisp and golden. Remove and allow to cool. Cut into slices or squares - serve just warm.

Share, follow, like, enjoy! To get the latest #TheFridayRecipe from the Pigeon Cottage Kitchen, simply add your email address to the subscribe box at the top right-hand column of the website www.pigeoncottage.com Follow on Instagram at Pigeon Cottage Kitchen or the Pigeon Cottage Kitchen page on Facebook.

Hedgehogs by Katie Austin

I was able to go to a hedgehog talk in Morton Hall community centre which was led by a lady from the Suffolk Hedgehog Hospital. I took some interesting information from this and it highlighted to me how small things we can do in and around our gardens can make a massive impact on hedgehogs who have a fast-declining population. Here are some of the key points I took from the talk which hopefully, we can put into action in the village to help our prickly friends!

- Leave water down in a small dish in your garden and regularly top it up, especially with the heat we have been having.
- Offer cat food, hedgehog food, dry kitten or puppy food, but NOT mealworms which is a common food for hedgehogs which is actually not good for them at all!
- Always check grass and garden areas before strimming, as this is one of the lead causes of hedgehog deaths and injuries
- Check piles of grass and leaves before lighting a bonfire
- Keep a hedgehog highway in your garden: leaving a gap in fences so that hedgehogs can move between gardens
- Pick up any elastic bands you see out and about, and also plastic ring binders from cans as hedgehogs can get stuck in these.
- And, obviously, drive carefully! Sadly road accidents are one of the leading causes of death for hedgehogs and this could be so easily avoided with less speed and more awareness!

If you see a hedgehog out during the day, it would be worth calling a rescuer. Suffolk Hedgehog Hospital and Suffolk Prickles are both local rescues and will offer advice to assist with hedgehog concerns. Their contact details can be found online.

Finding a hedgehog, whether alive or not, can be documented on the 'BIG hedgehog map' online which is creating data about the populations which is, sadly, declining.

Hopefully with some of these pointers we can all try and help and do our bit for hedgehogs!

Community Centre Diary

Activity	Date	Times
Table Tennis Club Martin - 07784 225375	Monday nights	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Pilates Sarah: 07791 330924	Every Tuesday	10:00am to 11:00am
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: 07467 030352	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 Moir: 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

Fornham All Saints Community Council July 2025

The Car Boot Sales at the Community Centre have gone very well so far this year. The rain has managed to hold off, in fact our last car boot sale ended early because of the heat! Unheard of!

There are three car boot sales left this year –

Sunday 27 July
Sunday 31 August
Sunday 28 September

Gates will open at 8am instead of the traditional 7am.

We are desperately in need of new volunteers to help with the car boot sales - either 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 moving along. A preliminary budget estimate for the refurbishment has now been obtained. This was far higher than anticipated. The Architect has suggested other, cheaper solutions which could include a new building rather than refurbishing the existing one. Further meetings will be held to discuss this going forward between the architect, quantity surveyor, structural engineers and the Committee's Working Party for this project. There will be further updates at our next meeting.

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.

The next Community Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 2 September 2025 at 6pm at the Community Centre. Everyone is welcome.



Christmas Quiz

Unfortunately I had to cancel the family quiz, it was probably too close to the School holidays. Please put DECEMBER 13th in your diaries for our annual Christmas Quiz, with our brilliant quiz master Mark, it will again be fun, there will be a raffle, bring your own nibbles and drink.

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW SOON



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

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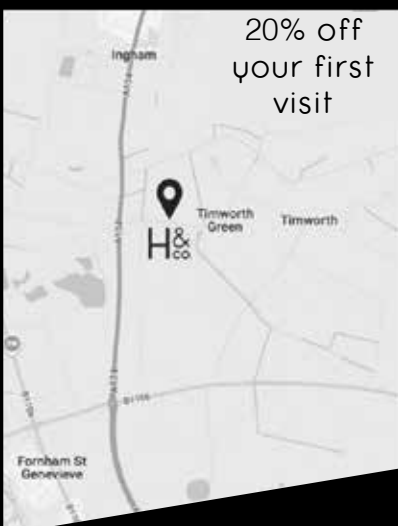
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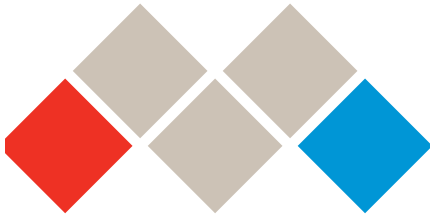


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Local Services & Useful Contacts

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
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	
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