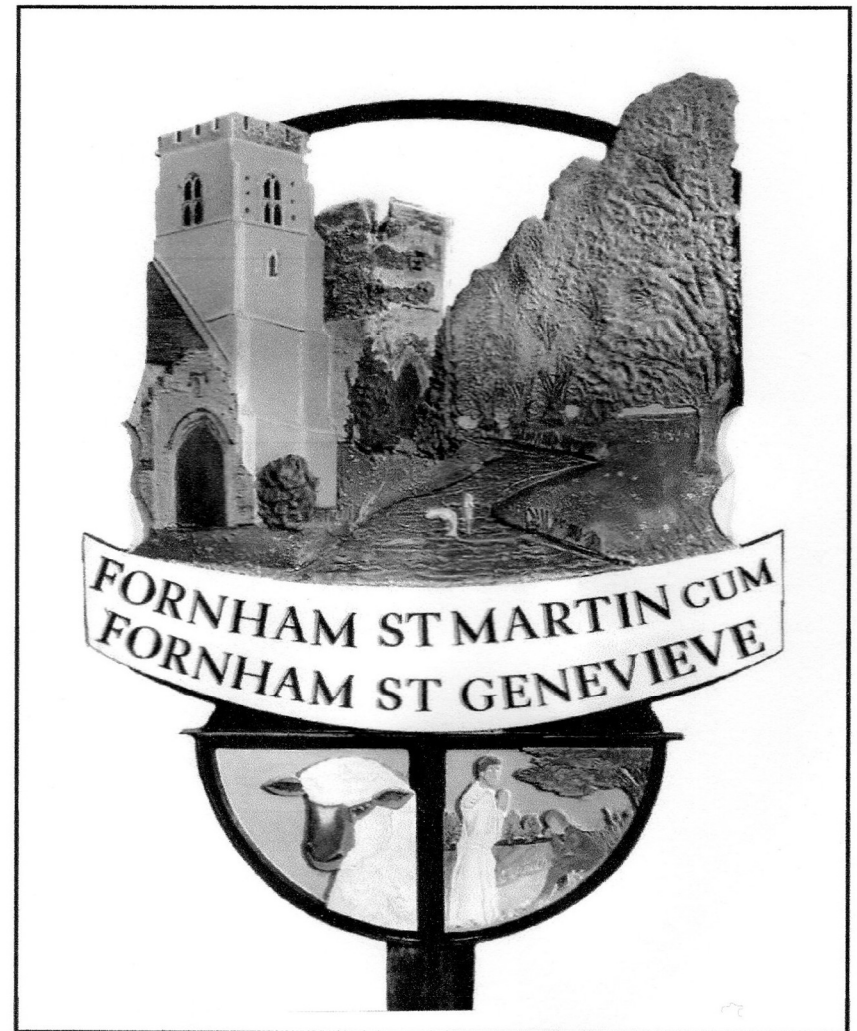
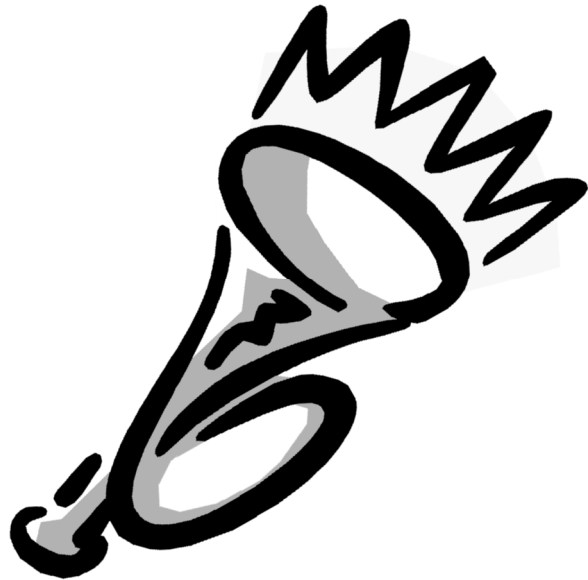


Fornham Bugle

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FEBRUARY 2020 - MARCH 2020

The Parish Council on behalf of all parishioners would like to acknowledge with thanks and appreciation, the work carried out by the volunteers who organise and distribute the Bugle.

Newsletter number **109**

Articles for inclusion in the Bugle should be posted to:

Pat & Su Brooklyn
8 Franklin Gardens
Cottenham
Cambridge CB24 8QW

Tel No: 01954 253 400

Note new email: buglefsmsg@gmail.com

For **advertising** contact Parish Clerk (see below) or via email on website <http://fornhamstmartin.onesuffolk.net/>

Delivery enquiries: Peter Forster Tel No: 01284 764723

Please note: deadline for articles to be included in the

APR / MAY 2020 issue is **NOON** on **Sat 21 Mar 2020**

Thank you.

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The **BUGLE** is a free publication to all residents of Fornham St Martin and Fornham St Genevieve. There are six editions per year.

Our advertising rates from December 2019/ January 2021 are £66 per ½ page for 6 editions £132 per full page for 6 editions

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	Suffolk County	0345 606 6067
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2020 Parish Council Meetings

ALL MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WELCOME

Meeting are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month,
with the exception of August and December.

All meetings start at 7:30 pm

What's on in Fornham St Martin Village Hall

Weekly

Monday	5:30 pm & 7:30 pm	Slimming World
Tuesday	10:00 am to 12 noon	Mums & Toddlers* *
Thursday	10:00 am to 3:30 pm	Patchwork
Friday	7:15 pm to 10:00 pm	Whist Drive in aid of St Nicholas Hospice

* *Term Time Only

Monthly

1st Wed	10:00 to 4:00 pm	Sewing Craft
1st Wed	7:15 pm to 10:00 pm	Military Whist Drive in aid of Air Ambulance
1st Thurs		
1st Fri	12 noon to 4:00 pm	Spinners and Weavers
2nd Tues	7:30 pm to 9:30 pm	Garden Club (not January)
2nd Wed		
3rd Mon	10:00 to 12 noon	Probus Ladies
3rd Wed	10:00 to 4:00 pm	Card Making (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sept, Nov)
3rd Wed	7:30 pm to 9:30 pm	Ladies Club
3rd Fri	12 noon to 4:00 pm	Spinners and Weavers
3rd Sun		
4th Wed	10:00 am to 4:00 pm	Mary's Quilters
4th Wed	7:30 pm to 9:30 pm	Card Making (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sept, Nov)

Occasional meetings

Parish Council, Village Hall Committees


*If you would like to book the Village Hall for a club meeting, exhibition, or private party, please contact **Roger Farnell, Hall Manager for bookings and enquiries on 07855 717 859** fornhamhall@gmail.com or **Maureen Hockett, Committee Chair for information 07887 778 353** maureen_agar@hotmail.com*

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Frank Stennett	Fornham St Genevieve	frank@stennetts.co.uk
Penelope Borrett	Fornham St Martin	01284 747140
John Borrett	Fornham St Martin	01284 747140
Peter Forster	Fornham St Martin	01284 764723
Gary Hubbard	Fornham St Martin	01284 753383
Paul Butler	Fornham St Martin	01284 760119
Vicky Bright (Parish Clerk)		07712 232920 fmsgpc@gmail.com

*Any parishioners wishing to raise an issue should contact the Parish Clerk
 tel 07712 232 920 between 9 am - 3 pm Mon, Thurs & Fri, or between
 5pm - 6:30pm Thursday evening. Or email anytime : fmsgpc@gmail.com.*

Parish Office: 3 Scott Avenue, Mildenhall, Suffolk IP28 7LT

**The Parish Council meets on the second Thursday of each month at
 7:30pm in the Village Hall with the exception of August & December.**

Borough / County Councillor		07876 683516
Rebecca Hopfensperger		
Sarah Broughton		07929 305787
MP		01284 752 311
Jo Churchill		jo.churchill.mp@parliament.uk
Community Beat Officer		01284 774 100
Rev Canon Mark Haworth		01284 755 374 07932 160 009

FSM 100 CLUB WINNERS


DECEMBER 2019

1st No 57 Kath Owen
 2nd No 41 Cindy Hudson
 3rd No 86 Justin Long

JANUARY 2020

1st No 35 Pat Bance
 2nd No 44 Maureen Groves
 3rd No 07 Janet Groom

Many thanks.



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CHURCH NEWS

At the time of writing, mid January, Christmas is just over, so we wish everyone a Happy, Safe and maybe a little prosperous New Year. We had very enjoyable and fulfilling Christmas Services, of Nine Lessons and Carols, followed by more carols at the Crib Service and Carols, both with the Church full, and standing room only at the Crib Service. There is always a special atmosphere with a full Church, and this undoubtedly rubs off on everyone. Maybe that's why we are blessed with so many at this service, as well as the atmospheric impression of the candles and holly and ivy on the window sills, and the focus of the crib stable in front of the altar.

Add the prospect of complimentary mince pies and mulled wine in The Woolpack next door, with thanks to Graham, slightly similar to the original style of wassailing or 'festive drinking to make merry'. It certainly tempted many to join us, even if only for an annual outing, or could it be the start of more.? Then nicely rounded off with Family Communion on Christmas Morning, again pleasing to see an above average attendance. Thanks a lot to Revds Mark and Sylvia for making these special, and everyone who helped decorate the Church, as well as Rod Cooledge who made the new crib stable. The collections from the Crib and Carols services were donated to EACH Childrens Hospice and Gatehouse, £265 and £150 respectively.

We now look forward to another busy year of events, being organised by our newly formed Events Group, both to encourage community involvement and as well as raising essential funds for the church's maintenance and repair. Also to support our current major project to restore and enhance the bells and replace the supporting bell frame, together with a new upper gallery ringing floor followed by improving the servery facilities. It is pleasing and encouraging personal donations are building up, following distribution of the explanatory leaflet in the last Bugle, prepared with great skill and knowledge by Project Manager Matthew Kemsley, an avid ringer with the Suffolk Guild of Ringers, with grateful thanks to the Parish Council for assisting with this widespread publicity and appeal.

The events started off with a coffee morning on 18th January. A new



idea for us is a **Quiz and Chips evening on 15th February at 6pm in Church.** £10 includes fish and chips. Then our next **Book Sale, Coffee and Cakes is on Saturday 29th February,** 10 - 3pm Books and cakes donations very welcome.

On **6th June** we are planning a **Wedding Festival** with cream teas.

The **Annual Summer Fete will be on Saturday 18th July.** Initial planning will start soon, and as always we do need help with collecting goods and produce for the stalls, setting up the stalls and games as well as serving teas on the day. Do please get in touch if you can help, it takes 40 people to make it all run smoothly, or its a big strain on the few.

Our 100 Club continues, being re-organised this year as Margaret Ade is handing it over after very many years diligently and conscientiously collecting the subs and doing the monthly draw of prizes, all with our grateful thanks, as an invaluable and regular fund raiser over the years. Its always nice to hand over the prizes of £30, £15 and £5 to many of our long time members over the course of the year.

As part of the preparations for the Bells Project, Natural England sent along one of their volunteers from the Bat Conservation Trust, to inspect the upper tower for any sign of bat roosts. We are pleased to say he didn't find anything which could affect the project!

We were pleased to provide a plot in the churchyard for the burial of ashes of John Atherton, from FSM, attended by his family, on 27th Dec, with prayers said by their local Roman Catholic Minister Fr. David Bagstaff. Rest in Peace

It is with sadness we have heard of the passing of Daphne Burnett, a long time regular attendant at services in FSM, and at the weekly service in Fornham House where she resided over the last 5 years or so. She was thrilled to celebrate her 100th birthday last February, showing off her birthday card from The Queen, at a party in the Farmers Club. She will be particularly remembered by us for her popular and exuberant Pym's Parties in her garden in the summers. At the time of writing, her funeral is planned for 28th January, followed by burial in the churchyard. Our condolences go to sons Robin and Stuart, as well as her many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Services in February and March at 10.00 am are on : Sundays 9th and 23rd February, and 8th and 22nd March, with shorter ones on Tuesdays 4th and 18th February and 4th and 18th March, without hymns.

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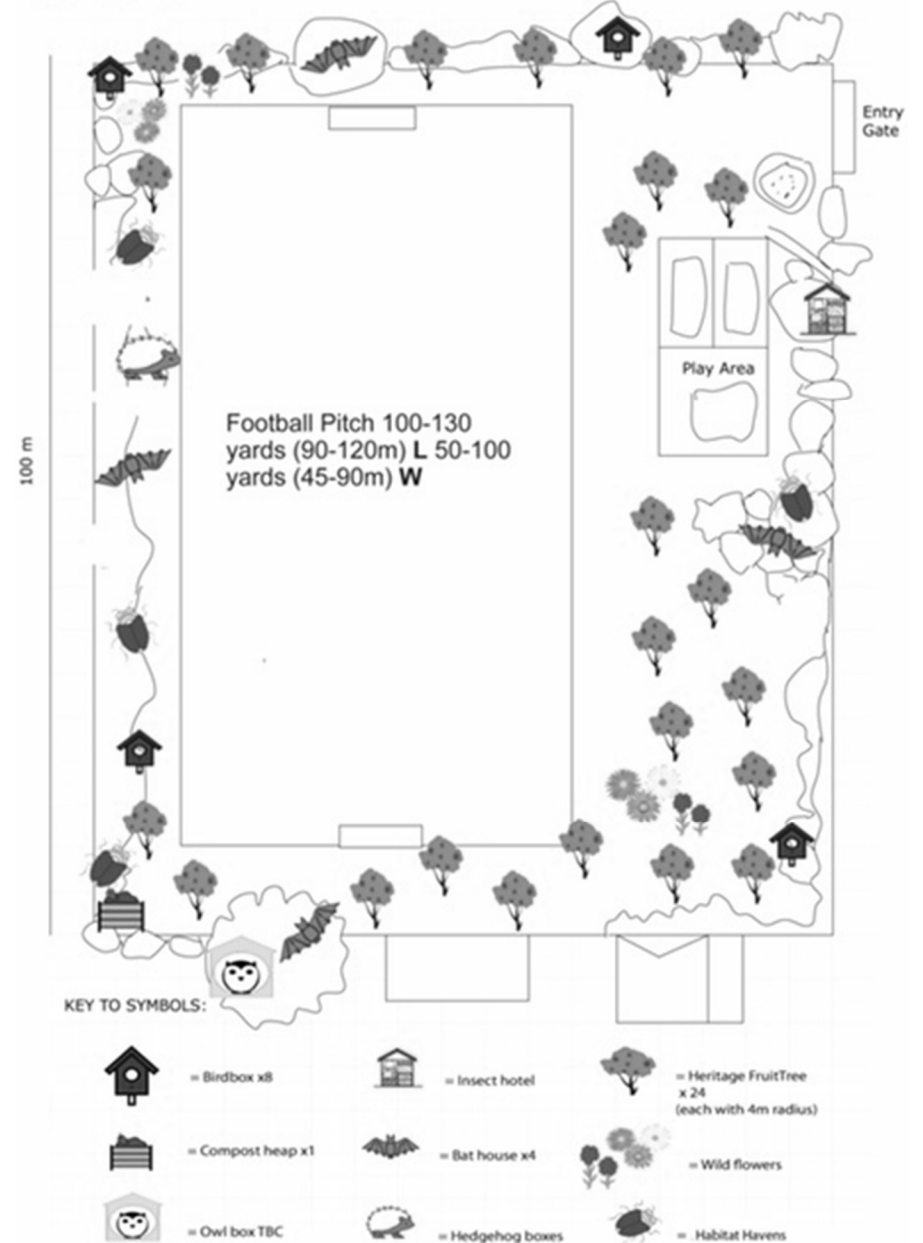
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**Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council
January 2020 DRAFT MINUTES Meeting Summary**

Councillor's Present: Cllr. Mike Collier (MC), Cllr. Peter Forster (PF), Cllr. John Borrett (JB), Cllr. Penny Borrett (PBo), Cllr. Paul Butler (PBU), Cllr. Frank Stennett (FS).

3 Members of the public were present.

Local Authority Reports:

County & Borough Councillor

Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger gave the following report;

- Budget setting has begun and the budget will go to Full Council in February 2020. Adult & Children Services make up 70% of the budget. The proposed rise of council tax will be 1.99% plus 2% Adult Social Care.
- The flooding issue at Barton Hill (BMW Garage) – the gullies were jetted again, but there are still issues with surface water, Cllr. Hopfensperger is to report this again as well as the flooding at Russell Baron Road and at the bus stop in Fornham St Genevieve.
- HGV's have been using the bridge at the Fornham's, Cllr. Hopfensperger has forwarded the reporting tool for Trading Standards.
- Cllr. Hopfensperger is to follow up on the surfacing & skirting works on The Street, FSG, and also to address the issue street sweeping in the villages.
- The planning application for the Severals development at Great Barton, including a footbridge over the railway, was submitted today, there will be consultation before going to Committee in April 2020. Great Barton will be holding a drop-in consultation event between 10am-3pm on Saturday 18th January 2020.

The PC Chairman, Cllr. Mike Collier read out a statement to our Borough Councillor, raising concerns over local tourism and lodges developments. The statement can be read separately in this edition of the Bugle.

See pages 14/15

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Police Report

PC Andre De Jongh presented crime stats for September 2019 to December 2019;

5 Adult Referrals, 4 Child Referrals, 2 Burglaries (not residential), 1 Intent to Supply, 3 Domestic Reports, 4 Common Assaults, 1 Malicious, 2 Harassment, 1 theft (Defibrillator), 1 Fraud, 1 Section 4 Public Order & 1 Criminal Damage.

- 28 out of 77 reports associated to Fornham St Martin & St Genevieve.
- Suffolk recorded the highest drink/drug drive offences over the Christmas period.
- Communications & the 101 system is being looked at for improvements.

New entry level standards were introduced for UK Police; these have been bypassed to recruit 20,000 new Officers.

Police SNT newsletters are available to view at;
www.suffolk.police.uk/your-area/snt-newsletters

Planning:

DC/19/1700/FUL – AMENDED (i) Change of use of part of golf course to 37no. caravan lodge holiday homes (ii) new access from A1101 (iii) construction of access roads, parking spaces and associated infrastructure LOCATION Caravan Site South, Pigeon Lane, All Saints Hotel, Fornham All Saints

Resolved 20/01/6.01

It was agreed to reiterate objections submitted previously.

DC/19/2262/RM - Reserved Matters Application - Submission of details under Outline Planning Permission DC/18/0829/OUT - the means of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale for the construction of 1no. dwelling (Previous Application DC/19/0800/RM) LOCATION Land Adjacent to The Old Parsonage, The Street, Fornham St Martin

Resolved 20/01/6.02

No Objections submitted on 12th December 2019.

Highways & Footpaths:

The Clerk confirmed that the Tree Officer had approved the works needed on the trees overhanging the public footpath.

Lark Valley Footpaths

Cllr. Hopfensperger confirmed that she had followed up on this and some repairs are to be done in the worse areas soon.

Discuss Traffic Calming & Signage on Barton Hill

Following a meeting with Highways a Speed & Safety review on this stretch of road is to be carried out once the Hub opens. This review and a traffic count has been ordered and will be carried out mid February, the road safety team will then prepare a feasibility study of best options. A general review of surrounding roads to the Hub is also to be done in March 2020

The Safety Audit review of Fornham Road has been received with recommendations for widening the chicanes, improving signage and a possible speed limit reduction, works are scheduled for February 2020.

Parish Matters:

Parking on Verges on 'The Street'

It was agreed to defer this item to allow the Clerk and Cllr. Collier to identify the worst affected verges and to ascertain ownership and permissions needed to possibly site planters on the verges to defer parking.

Eco Initiatives for the King George Playing Field Preliminary plans from Greener Growth are in the Bugle for consultation for the second time this edition, plans are also available to view by contacting the Clerk. The Plans will be on display at the February Parish Council meeting.

Defibrillator Update

The Clerk advised that the Insurance had now paid out on the claim and she is liaising with CHT to order a new Defibrillator and to return the loan unit to them. The Clerk is to look at changing the access code to the cabinet once the new unit is in place and also finding a back-up volunteer to check the Defibrillator, for incidences of holiday/sickness cover.



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Finance & Policies:

Parish Council Bank Balances and Reconciliation

The bank balances and reconciliation of payments and receipts were received and adopted. The bank account balance as of 29th November 2019 is £15,964.24.

Budget 2020/21

The Clerk presented the Budget to Actual Report for 2019/20 up to 31st December 2019.

The Clerk presented the projected budget for 2020/21, it was scrutinised and adopted with projected expenditure of £29,815.64.

Adoption of Precept Request Figures 2020/21

It was agreed to submit the Precept request at £27,315.00, a 4.68% increase. An increase of £2.50 per household (Band D) for the year.

Next Meeting to be held on Thursday 13th February 2020 at 7:30pm, in the Village Hall, Fornham St Martin

Meeting Closed 9:30pm

The Parish Council Minutes of Meetings will in future be submitted in an abbreviated report format to the Bugle. Full copies of Draft and Approved Minutes can be viewed on our website;

<http://fornhamstmartin.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/> or can be requested from the Clerk fmsgpc@gmail.com or in writing at **3 Scott Avenue, Mildenhall Suffolk IP28 7LT.**

PLEASE NOTE : The deadline for articles to be included in the **APR 20/ MAY 20** edition of the Bugle will be **NOON SAT 21 MAR 2020** This will ensure that residents receive their copy before the beginning of the month shown on the front cover.

NOTE: email for contributors buglemsg@gmail.com

To Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger.....We are very concerned as a Parish Council at the current and planned future developments in and around Fornham St Martin and Fornham All Saints. We have 24 Lodges already built in Fornham Park now called "Aspen," and a further 27 are soon to be having foundations laid... *A further 12 have been applied for and a decision is still pending. At a recent Parish Council meeting we discussed an application for a further 37 lodges at the golf course. We unanimously agreed to object to this application. It now looks like this application might be accepted so this would mean that up to 100 Lodges would be in two Infill Villages all within half a mile. In the near future up to 100 lodges could be built on Genevieve lakes under RV6. This would deliver 200 lodges in the immediate area.

What mechanisms are there available to get the Borough to get a grip on such a potentially vast leisure development? ... Is the Borough looking at this holistically...? Where does all this Leisure expansion fit with Vision 20/31 and the Core Strategy? Surely these two villages should not be swamped with "leisure Developments".

The question is "What is in it for the residents?" In Fornham St Genevieve we still have a main road that needs resurfacing and it is in a very poor state. Someone has identified all the damaged areas with white lines, yet nothing has been done and the lines are virtually washed away! We have footpaths that never see a sweeper from one year to the next and residents clear the paths in some areas out of frustration and safety concerns. Now that the new Hub is opening next week in our village, what can residents expect to see in the way of improved pavement sweeping and attention to curbs?

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We have no cycle way plans to our knowledge and there are none being considered in the lodge applications. Surely this is fundamental in a modern looking development. We have some pavements in Lark Valley that are dangerous because of tree roots causing damage. You are aware of these, as this was identified many months ago. Walking in Lark Valley at dusk is dangerous in certain areas.

From the gates of Aspen park to the gates of All Saints Hotel is . half a mile and 100 lodges are potentially designated for this area.....Genevieve Lakes is a mile or so up the road. Surely there needs to be a re-think of Boroughs plans for such an explosion of Leisure facilities in such a small area. Can our residents look forward to improved maintenance on our roads and pavements ? We look forward to your usual support on these issues and for your endeavours to persuade the Borough that enough is enough?.

Development Management Policies Document DM34 States..... In supporting tourism and leisure developments in the countryside a balance needs to be attained to ensure that such development minimises impact on the character of the built and natural environment and the quality of life of its residents.

Cllr. Mike Collier, Chairman
Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council

** It has just been announced that the Borough have refused planning permission for the extra 12 Lodges in Aspen Park.*

* * * * *

Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council

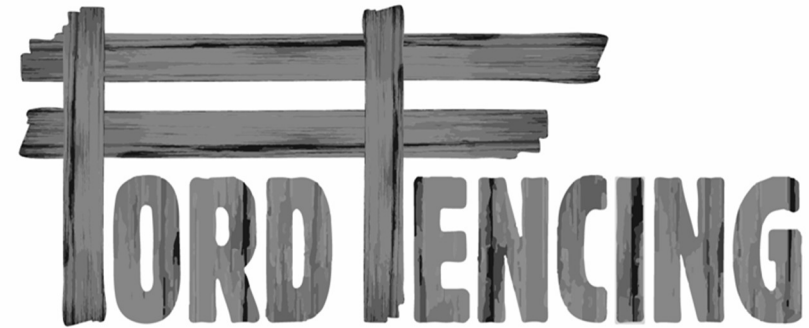
King George Playing Field – Eco Initiatives

The Parish Council are working with Greener Growth to introduce some Eco initiatives, such as small areas of wild flower planting, some fruit tree planting, Bird & Owl boxes, Bug hotels, Hedgehog & Bat houses, along the edges and boundaries. The idea of a volunteer group to help with the scheme and aftercare and maintenance is hoped to be put in place. If you have any suggestions or would like to be involved in the project, please contact the Clerk fsmgpc@gmail.com Tel: 07712 232920. Please see (*page 9*) the Preliminary Draft Drawing of proposals put forward by Greener Growth, any comments or ideas are welcome. We hope to have final draft drawings and plans available at the February Parish Council meeting for residents to view.

Council Tax Precept 2020/21

For Residents information following an annual review of our budget for 2020-2021, we have calculated that our precept request this year will be £27,315.00 (£55.94 for a Band D property). This would equate to an increase of £2.50 per household over the year, or 21p per month (4.68%). The justification for this much needed increase is that we need to build up our diminished reserves for future Community Projects. This increase will show on your 2020/21 Council Tax Bill.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Clerk on fsmgpc@gmail.com or Tel: 07712 232920



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Malcolm Jeffery
Community Funeral Celebrant

My name is Malcolm and I am your local community funeral celebrant living in Manners Road, Fornham St Martin. I can conduct religious, semi-religious and non-religious funerals and have over 20 years' experience.

When the time comes, I'll visit you in your home and help you to prepare the funeral for that special person. I can give advice and guidance or follow the plans you have in mind. I have conducted funerals at the crematorium, Woodland Cemeteries and at the Cemetery Chapels followed by a burial.

I am also happy to plan visits in advance if you would like this to happen.

Mobile 07988 770022
Email malcolmjeffery@mail.com
Website malcolmjeffery.co.uk



LADIES CLUB

On 4 December Fornham Ladies Club members met to share a Christmas Dinner together. The Priory Hotel in Bury St Edmunds was overwhelmingly a very popular choice for this. The hotel has had a recent makeover and everyone was looking forward to seeing how it looks now. Sadly the evening was a bit of a disappointment. The room we were dining in had not been decorated for Christmas in any way but this did not stop us having a pleasant evening together.

Happy New Year. Mary Payne 704801

The theme of the talk to the Ladies this month was, Antique Baby Bottles. Linda Shadbolt began by passing round a new born baby. Or rather a very realistic baby doll. Much to the delight of the Ladies who enjoyed cuddling it. She then went on to show us an early midwives box. Containing various pieces of medical equipment one wouldn't want used today.

Linda went on to describe the various bottles she had brought with her. Some of which dated from the 17th century. Her interest began when she found a bottle used by her mother to feed her. Then went on to find bottles in antique shops. The earliest bottles were made from horn. In 1770 Dr Hugh Smith invented a baby feeder made from pewter. Looking very much like a teapot. Called a Burry Pot. Linda then showed a pap bottle. This is like an invalid feeder. Pap was made from various items such as, bread, mixed with milk, water, small beer, sugar, and raw meat. Even, at one time, soap, as this was made with animal fat. Once palm oil was used to make soap, how many mothers understood this? It is no wonder, she said, that infant mortality was so high. Bottles and pap feeders were very unhygienic. It was usually the babies fed by a wet nurse that survived. Wet nurses were almost members of the family. Feeding several children. Usually employed by the wealthy. Linda ended her talk by reading amusing letters, received by a health worker friend, from parents wanting free milk.

Next month the talk will be On Climate Change. By Ian Mills.

The Fornham Ladies usually hold a meeting on the third Wednesday in the month. Do please join us. A warm welcome awaits you.

Beryl Dykes 01284 704109

GARDEN CLUB

Our speaker in November was Nigel Start who delivered a beautifully illustrated talk on the History of Gardening. In the Iron Age, inhabitants of Britain began to occupy more permanent dwellings allowing them to establish primitive cultivated land. They grew broad beans, peas, cereals, hazel nuts, parsnips, carrots, kale and native herbs. The Iron Age ended with colonisation by the Romans, who introduced walnuts, roses, apples, and onions; archaeological evidence indicates the presence of gardens. The earliest paper record of gardening is from Canterbury Cathedral, dated 1160! In 1440 "John the Gardener" wrote a poem called "The Feate of Gardening", which provides a detailed insight into Early English gardening, often of a surprisingly practical nature. Tudor times saw the introduction of formal Italian-style Renaissance gardens (and almost total absence of flowers). Wealthier families in the times of the Tudors and Stuarts developed gardens as areas for relaxation. The early plant hunters of the 1600's introduced lilacs, gladiolus, lupins, poppies. In 1673, the Chelsea Physic Garden was established to grow plants for medicinal purposes and is still open today. The Georgian period saw the involvement of the Royal family in the expansion of many public gardens (eg, Kew Gardens). The mid- to late- 1700's saw the arrival of Capability Brown with his landscape gardens and Humphrey Repton (who attended Bury Grammar School!) with his famous Red Books. In 1804, the Horticulture Society (later the RHS) was established. The Victorians were responsible for the introduction of glasshouses, mowers, gnomes (!) and the earliest pesticides. The Arts and Crafts movement, the National Trust (1895), the Allotment and Leisure Gardens Act (1908) and the first Chelsea Flower Show (1913), along with Gertrude Jekyll, Vita Sackville-West, Christopher Lloyd, Beth Chatto, Lawrence Hill (est. Organic Gardening), and presenters of Gardener's World have all, in their way, had a great influence on the last 100 years of gardening. Bringing us to the present day, with generally smaller enclosed gardens often designed for outdoor living – bit like the Iron Age really (except for the gas barbeques!)

This is a call out to all residents of
Fornham St Martin and Fornham St Genevieve
Your village magazine needs YOU!
Have YOU got an article / club / story
to tell that will interest our readers if so please
email: buglefsmsg@gmail.com or post to address on page 2.



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ELDERBURY SOCIAL CLUB

On January 7th John Saunders gave a talk titled 'Time on your Hands'. It was like a tour of the clocks in Bury St Edmunds and was very interesting. He started with the clock in Angel Corner which dates from 1702. It was in Angel Corner that the John Gresham memorial collection was housed. It was moved in 1993 to the Manor house. John Gresham left his entire collection to the people of Bury St Edmunds, it's now in Moyes Hall. There is an Armillary sundial in the Cathedral garden of remembrance. The Norman tower did have a clock with 13 bells. The bells were used because in the 12th century people didn't have clocks or watches. There is a sundial on the South side of St Mary's Church, the clock on the West front was donated by the townspeople for the Victorian jubilee. There is a Parliament Clock inside St Marys. The largest clock in the town is outside Armstrong Funeral Directors. The clock outside Thurlow Champness dates from 1900 and like the one at Moyse's hall and Sneezums is all electric so doesn't require any winding up. John Saunders has many more talks as a town guide and takes people on rickshaw rides around the town.

We have an interesting programme lined up for this year with visits to Elstree Studios, Cromer, Fuller's Mill and Thursford and interesting speakers.

We will be pleased to welcome anyone who would like to join us at 2pm in the community centre the first Tuesday in the month. We do have an amplifier Busker 12 which we are happy to loan out for 25 pounds.

Margaret Leeder

At the November meeting, members were very saddened to learn of the recent death of Barbara Hill who, along with her husband Ron, had been a founding member of the Garden Club in 1995.

On 6 December, we travelled to Blickling Hall, Norfolk for an early evening visit to enjoy the festive illuminations. The Hall's interior was warm and welcoming with lights and decorations with varying themes throughout, including gingerbread men. Outdoors, there was a spectacular garden of lights, including the parterre, and the very impressive walk leading to the Temple, where mulled wine, hot chocolate and (more!) gingerbread were being served. The café, craft area and gift shop all entertained us, despite the heavy rain. Huge thanks to Mike Clark for jumping through many hoops to achieve this successful outing.

Our speaker for the final meeting of the year in December was Simon White who is the Garden Centre Manager of Peter Beales Nursery, the renowned rose growers of Attleborough, Norfolk. He has visited the club several times in the past to talk about roses but this time his talk was on another passion, chrysanthemums, which he has shown at several local horticultural shows.

He stressed that it takes considerable time and dedication to grow chrysanthemums, especially to show standard. It can also be quite expensive as there could be around 5 weeks of having to heat your glasshouse for 24 hours a day! He advised that (for showing purposes) cuttings should be taken around mid-January when planning for a show in November and kept in a heated glasshouse or on a window ledge. Once these cuttings are rooted (generally about 3 weeks later) they should be potted on. This stage is still conducted under glass and heat. Once this pot appears to be full of roots, the plant should be moved into a 6-inch pot. This second potting is usually around the second week in March and, at this point, the pots can be moved to cold frames to acclimatise. Some time in April to May, replot the plant (again!) into a 9-inch pot and, although these pots can remain in the cold frames, plenty of ventilation is required so the cold frame can remain open. Mid-May (Simon suggested the 10th as the ideal date!) is the start of "stopping", when the growing tip of each plant should be pinched out.



Then the pots can be moved outside although it is best to continue to provide some form of cover to protect the foliage. All the pots should be fed in July. The aim is one bloom per stem so all the extra side shoots should be removed in August/September. When colour shows on the bud move the plants back into a glasshouse with a cold fan, in order to prevent condensation. In early November the blooms are out and ready to be dressed for showing!

On Tuesday 8th January, over 60 members and guests gathered at the Bury St Edmunds Golf Club for the annual Dinner. At 7:30 pm we sat down to a 3-course meal followed by coffee and chocolates. The evening concluded with a raffle of prizes donated by members, and finished with a draw for the table decorations, with one lucky winner per table taking these impressive flower arrangements home. It was an enjoyable evening and our thanks to Mike Clark for organising it.

The Garden Club meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in Fornham St Martin Village Hall. Membership is £13/year with visitors paying £3/visit. For further information, please contact the Chairman (Keith Jones, 728077); new members are always very welcome.

INGHAM GLASSHOUSES

The glasshouse project is aimed at solving serious national issues of food security and agricultural reliance on fossil fuels. By developing a cost-effective solution, that reduces CO2 emissions in food supply chains.

Construction has started at the Ingham site on the 'world first low carbon' development, which will be heated by using heat from the nearby Fornham Anglian Water recycling centre.

The Ingham glasshouses will provide 135 jobs. It is being built by Greencoat Capital, which is the UK's biggest investor in renewable energy. It will be among the largest ever constructed in the country covering over 13 hectares - larger than the 10-hectare O2 Arena.

Frank Stennett said: "This technology is revolutionary and will lead the way for future food production, this system and technology will be more competitive than glasshouses heated by fossil fuels. It will reduce the Carbon footprint and cut food miles"

"We very proud of being part of creating this and apologise for any inconvenience caused"

River Lark Catchment Partnership Flempton Bridge Brush and Tree Clearing

In 2019 the RLCP was part of the Brecks and Fen River Edge (BFER) partnership awarded money by the Heritage Lottery Fund to deliver river restoration work, path and access improvements along the River Lark.



On Saturday the 18th January the first work party took place downstream of Flempton Bridge, hosted by the Fornhams Group of the RLCP.

Volunteers from throughout the catchment cleared brush, trimmed and felled trees along the bank and in the river. The materials collected and processed will be used to make brush bundles at later work parties. These will be used to construct revetments that protect the river banks and create a more natural channel.



Many thanks to The Suffolk Wildlife Trust for their support and to all the volunteers that spent a beautiful day helping to make the River Lark better.

If you are interested in joining us or for further details, please email us at fornhams@riverlark.org.uk
Cathy and David Emerson