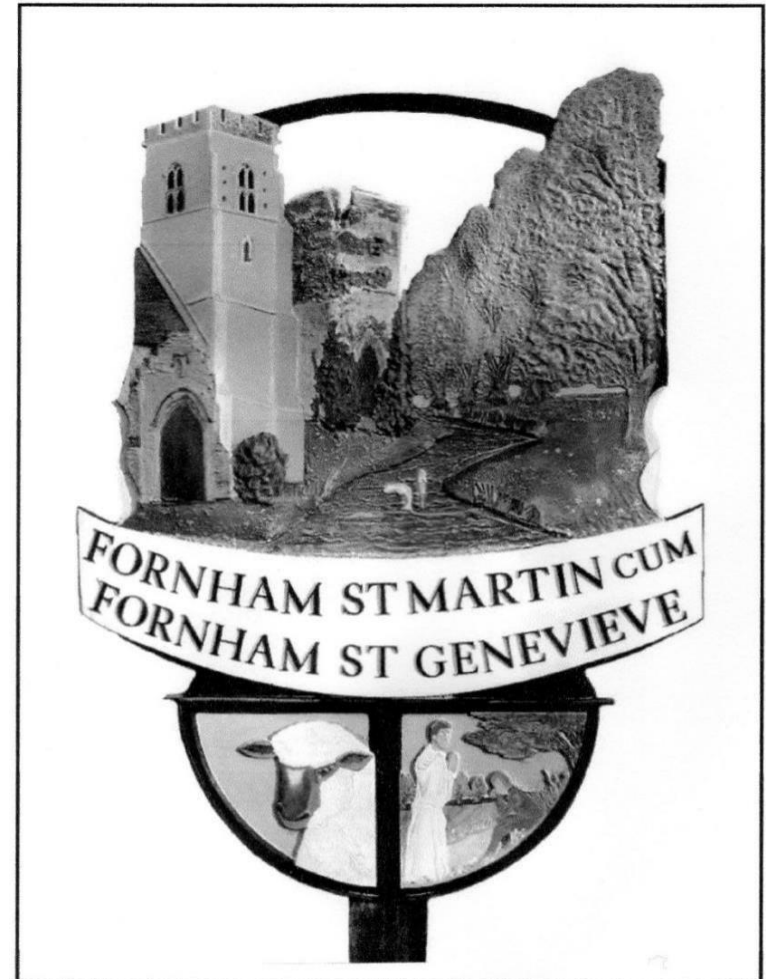


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The Parish Council on behalf of all parishioners would like to acknowledge with thanks and appreciation, the work carried out by the volunteers who organise and distribute the Bugle.

Fornham Bugle



December 23/January 24

Newsletter Number 132

For advertising, or for any article for inclusion in The Bugle contact the Bugle Compiler via email at:

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Enquiries: Tell No: 01284 764723

Please note: The deadline for articles to be included in the **February/March 2024** issue of The Bugle is Noon on **Friday 19th January**.

ADVERTISING

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

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Penelope Borrett - Fornham St Martin Tel: 01284 747140

Paul Butler - Fornham St Martin Tel: 01284 760119

Naomi Steward – Fornham St Martin Tel: 01284 489707

Vicky Bright, CiLCA

Fornham St Martin-cum-St Genevieve Parish Clerk

Tel: 07712 232920 Email: fsmsgpc@gmail.com

Any parishioners wishing to raise an issue or add an item to the agenda, should contact the Parish Clerk between 9:30am-2:30pm or between 6pm-7pm Monday evenings. Please be aware that the Clerk does not work on Tuesdays!

Parish Office: 3 Scott Avenue, Mildenhall, Suffolk IP287LT (Appointment only).

The Parish Council meets on the SECOND MONDAY of each month at 7:30pm in the Village Hall (with the exception of August & December).

West Suffolk/County Councillors

Rebecca Hopfensperger - Telephone 07876 683516

Sarah Broughton - Telephone 07929 305787

MP - Telephone 01284 752311 - jo.churchill.mp@parliament.uk

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Why not speak to our Home Manager to arrange a viewing appointment? Our team is always on hand to discuss your care needs and the lifestyle we provide



No. 01284 768327.

Address

Fornham House, Fornham St Martin, Bury St

Edmunds, Suffolk, IP31 1SR .

Contact details for the Village Hall for: a club meeting, exhibition, or private party

Please contact:

LYNN QUELCH on 07552 061489

Or email fornhamhall@aol.com

Whist Drive Club

Starting promptly at 7pm and finishing before 10pm on a Friday evening, held in Fornham St Martin Village Club. The Whist club is eager to invite anyone interested in playing "Progressive Whist". No partner is required. The entry fee is £2.00 (+ £1.00 for optional raffle) with a break for light refreshments included in the entry fee.

CHURCH NEWS

By David Yates

Our last Book Sale, Coffee and Cakes was on Saturday 18th November 10am – 3pm, with a Christmas Stall, it was very enjoyable seeing everyone for the usual refreshments and some Christmas cakes on sale, as well as lots of books! Also, we made the draw for the framed ink drawing of FSM church, by local artist Ben Keating, who unfortunately could not make it personally, and so Revd Sylvia stood in at the last-minute drawing. The lucky winner Margaret Woolmore was delighted.

The well stocked Christmas hamper was won by Catherine Buxton, as well as a few other raffle prizes by others. £1230 was raised altogether for the Bells Project, which is very pleasing, with grateful thanks to everyone who came as well of course to everyone who ran and organised it all. We'll have a nice break now for Christmas, till the next one in February.

Part of the publicity and promotions for our Bells Restoration Project was to offer various items like a bell, wheel or bell rope for people to individually

Fornham House

We would be interested in hosting any event, activity or talk at the house especially regarding nature and wildlife. You don't need to be an expert but enthusiasm to share your interest with the residents would be welcome.

The residents would love to be more involved in the village and feel it would be easiest if someone could come to them as it is difficult for them to go out much.

For any further information please contact:

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ajrose50@gmail.com

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sponsor, with inscribed plaques to be attached. After over 6 years since the project was launched, the 6 bells were taken down on 14th October, thanks to the efforts of the Guild of Ringers, a team of experienced handlers. Now the defective old oak bellframe has been dismantled and is being removed.

Hopefully by mid-2024 we will have raised the final amount to welcome them back and celebrate the traditional sounds of bells over the village again.

“The bells have gone - long live the bells”

On Sunday 12th November, we held our Remembrance Service, followed by laying wreaths at the War Memorial in the churchyard, by Sylvia Hilton on behalf of the church, and John Borrett, Parish Council chairman, on behalf of the parish, after reading the names of the fallen. What struck us all, like most people everywhere no doubt, was the young ages of the 15 fallen from FSM, typically 19 – 23 years old, but like many of their seniors they ‘did their bit’.

Very timely, we were then treated to a noisy fly past/over of 2 appearing to be Apache military helicopters, who swooped low and turned over the church, maybe then heading for Bury. I just hope we don’t get a bill!

We had a very suitable display of knitted poppies over the two altars, including a boxed ceramic pair from the Tower of London display in 2014, dedicated and donated by the family of the 2 brothers William and Cecil Feakes.

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Also on display was a copy of the War Memorial Unveiling and Dedication Service booklet on 3rd April 1921, with a photograph of the gathered crowd from the army and village, with the unveiling by Lieut-Col Long, and dedication by Rector Revd Harold Buckton. Our Christmas Services in FSM are on Christmas Eve, 4pm, Crib Service; and on Christmas Day 10am, as well as in other local churches listed in the church magazine available in church for those who don't subscribe to it each month, as well as all the regular Sunday and Tuesday services.

The Carol Service for the Fornhams' is in Fornham All Saints this year, same as last year, and may possibly be there again next year, despite ours being very popular.

The 100 Club winners in December are : 1st £30 Margaret Perry no.36; 2nd £20 Monica Gardner no.98; 3rd £10 Cedric Hanson no.99

Thanks again to everyone in the 100 Club supporting the church in this way.

There are currently a few vacancies if anyone would like to join - just ask me.

Cremation services were held for :-
 Florence Andrews on 15th November,
 David Hoggett on 16th November

The Village Hall

The Committee would like to say a huge 'thank you' to our Hall Manager Lynne, and her husband, for their hard work in maintaining and decorating the Hall. It is very much appreciated by all who use the Hall.

Unfortunately, we do not have as many groups as we would wish to support the running of the Hall. There are several gaps in the weekly rota on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. There have also been some cancellations. All this obviously has an impact on our income. The heating of the hall is again a concern to us, and we would urge the groups to be sparing in the use of the heaters. There is maintenance work to be done next year as we have discovered a crack in the wall near the back door. It isn't too serious but needs attending to, so we need to find funds for this. The good news is that we have had a few bookings for celebrations, and we would like to promote the Hall for these types of events: birthdays, weddings as well as for Wakes. For Halls in our area, we have a great deal of competition, but we like to say that our local Village Hall has atmosphere and history and is just right for small gatherings. Our Village Hall is registered as a Charity with the Charities Commission. All income is used to support the use of the Hall and its maintenance. Please support it.

Maureen, Nicki, John, Paul, Phil, Peter: The Village Hall Management Committee -Lynne: Hall Manager

What's on in Fornham St Martin Village Hall

Weekly

Tuesday 10:00 am to 12 noon **Mums & Toddlers****

****TermTimeOnly**

Monthly

1st Mon	10:00am to 1.00pm	ChainReaction
1st Tues	2:00am to 4:00pm	Jazz
1st Thurs	10:00am to 4:00pm	Patchwork
2nd Tues	10:00am to 4:00pm	Textiles
3rd Mon	10:00am to 12 noon	Probus Ladies
3rd Wed	7:30pm to 9:30 pm	Ladies Club
Thurs	10:00am to 4:00pm	Patchwork
3rd Fri	12 noon to 4:00 pm	SpinnersandWeavers
4 th Wed	10:am to 4:00pm	Quilters
4 th Fri	10:00am to 4:00pm	Textile
Fri	7pm to 10pm	Whist Drive Club

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 **for bookings and enquiries** Lynne Quelch, 07552 061 489 fornhamhall@aol.com or Maureen Hockett, Committee Chair, for information 07887 778 353 maureenl.hockett@aol.com*



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THURSDAY STITCHERS

Do you sew, patchwork, cross-stitch, appliqué, crochet or knit? We do. If you would like to join a happy, sociable group of ladies on a Thursday in Fornham St Martin Village Hall we would be happy to have your company.

We are open between 10.00am - 3.00 pm. Or just part of that time if it suits you best.

Come and meet us and see what we do, have a coffee with us and bring a friend if you wish. Just phone Catherine Buxton 01284 762149 or email cathbux@icloud.com or Sue Yates 02184 700532 or Jacky Ives 01284 769755 for more information or just pop in.

Talented writers

Do YOU want to publish a piece of fiction or non-fiction in the Bugle Newsletter? Like a poem, article or a short story. If you want to publish something or have any queries

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Future of Artificial Intelligence: What lies ahead? By Meral Ahmed

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a technology that has seen a rapid growth recently. It has also bred controversy and for many the idea of AI taking over the world scares them away from understanding its true benefits. AI can be useful at a personal level by replying to emails, texts or writing essays. All these tasks which can create unnecessary stress for us can easily be undertaken by AI. ChatGPT and Ellie are just some examples of AI that can greatly aid creation of tailored content. Also in society as a general, problems can be resolved by enhancing the power of AI to make: unbiased decisions, analyze data, save time and do repetitive tasks without human issues like boredom and fatigue.

AI can aid developments in healthcare and education sectors. It can help teachers plan their lessons to effectively support each student individually reducing their enormous workload. Doctors can utilize AI to help diagnose patients, improve communications and reduce human errors.

Our future could hold embracing AI as a useful tool rather than a threat. It can help combat issues and emphasize the individuality of humans and their unique skill sets. I for one wouldn't miss writing lengthy and painful essays!

Headway Suffolk to open new outreach hub in Newmarket

Outstanding-rated charity Headway Suffolk is looking to open a new outreach hub in Newmarket for adults living with brain injury, stroke or neurological conditions.

The satellite group will include a range of activities designed to help each individual with their rehabilitation, care and support needs in a safe and stimulating environment with an opportunity to meet others, as well as providing valuable respite for family carers.

It will initially start with an Understanding Brain Injury programme, where Headway's therapists will help clients understand and manage the effects of their injury or condition on their daily routines.

Headway Suffolk CEO Helen Fairweather said: "We want to prevent people having to travel to our main hubs in Ipswich and Bury St Edmunds

It was a very relaxed evening and although there was concentration, there was much chat.

Louise and Jackie were thanked.

New members are very welcome. Please contact 01284 767372 or 01284 766098 for further information.



Fornham St Martin playgroup update: Nicola

I am no longer able to run the village playgroup on Tuesday mornings.

However, I am very keen for the group to continue! The insurance runs until April and the toy and equipment cupboard is ready to go.

If you would like to volunteer to take responsibility for the playgroup, please do contact me:

nickysu.warwick@gmail.com

FORNHAM ST MARTIN LADIES' CLUB

By Janet Petch

The Fornham Ladies Group meeting was held at the village hall on 15th November. 19 members were present, among them some new members.

Apologies were received from J. Cook, K. Turner, V.Axton, H. Lancaster, S. Hilton, S. Hardy, J. Hoggett, M. Bonfield and A. Phillips.

Ann Phillips thanked the group for the card and flowers received whilst she was in hospital.

A visit has been arranged for a visit to the Yum Yum Tree Fudge factory at Woolpit on Tuesday 21st November departing at 12.15pm.

The Christmas meal has been organised to go to the West Suffolk College on 6th December at 12.30. Many thanks to Julia Ely for organising this.

“Speakers” this evening were Louise Petch and Jackie Strahn, who showed us how to make miniature bobble hats and decorated Christmas cards and tags to make our own personal designs. They could be made of buttons of various sizes on the card, paper stars, ribbon and other bits and bobs. The tables we were using had the look of a primary school classroom!

“The most important thing now is for people to come forward if they need our help or would like to find out more about the new Newmarket outreach hub or know anyone else who might benefit from it.”

Headway Suffolk is a registered charity that supports adults living with brain injury, stroke and neurological conditions through an extensive range of rehabilitation, therapy and care services.

In September 2022, it was rated outstanding by the Care Quality Commission. Louise Broddle, CQC head of adult social care inspection, said: “Headway Suffolk is clearly an important part of the community and other services can look to it as an example of how to deliver outstanding care and support.”

You can contact Headway on 01473 712225 or email helenmfairweather@headwaysuffolk.org.uk, or visit www.headwaysuffolk.org.uk.



You know this deeply

It comes in through your wired-in walls
 a sound that penetrates the concrete malls
 the summons of the wild geese calls
 Through the walls you hide behind
 with blunted ears and eyes half-blind;
 it says, how can you live like this, confined?

The geese remind you, you are wild
 They reach your soul, that inner child
 you've long ignored, its needs denied
 They say go out and taste the trees
 inhale the leaves, digest the breeze
 that waves its patterns through the reeds.

It wants you back, this world unwired;
 lift up your head, drink in the wind
 align your breathing with the wild
 and watch its ways until you see
 the whole in every tangled piece
 how simple builds complexity.

You know this deeply. You are wild.
 You were born with wild inside.

Alan




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It takes up to 18 months, including a year living with a volunteer puppy socialiser to train a dog. They are easily recognisable by their smart burgundy jackets.

Almost 1 in 6 of the UK population are deaf or have hearing loss and a hearing dog is specially matched to a deaf person. They are a tremendous support in helping deaf people grow in confidence and in leading more sociable lives. It was a most interesting talk and it gave great insight into the importance of the dogs in the lives of deaf people. It costs £45,000 to train a dog.

New members are very welcome. Please contact 01284 767372 or 01284 766098 for further details.

By Janet Petch

HORRIBLE HEMLOCK

This might not be the best time of year to go hunting out plants living locally which can do you harm but you can still very easily spot the skeletons of HEMLOCK and a picture taken locally is shown here.



It's a constant surprise that a plant which is notoriously poisonous - it was the plant that was given to the famous Greek philosopher, Socrates, at his execution - is common throughout England and is widespread along roadside verges and river banks.

What does Hemlock look like? A tall, four feet or more, upright plant, hemlock can be distinguished by the distinctive and unpleasant, mousy smell of its foliage and its purple-reddish spotted stems. Its leaves are finely divided and large, and its flowers are small and white and appear in umbrella-like clusters in June and July. It has a repellent smell when its leaves are crushed, helping to ensure that accidental poisonings don't occur very often - even livestock studiously avoid it.

It looks a bit like cow parsley: how do I tell them apart?

- Hemlock is entirely free of hairs and smooth, not hairy.
- Hemlock has red/purple (not green) blotchy stems.
- Hemlock has rounded leaf stems not U-shaped leaf stems.

How harmful is it? Norwich City Council sees fit to provide this advice through its website:

"When touched the plant can generate a painful rash, or painful burning on the eyes if contact is made there.

Consuming any part of the plant can lead to poisoning which affects the nervous and respiratory systems and can lead to respiratory failure.

Symptoms include trembling, burning sensation in digestive tract, increased salivation, dilated pupils, muscle pain,

Forthcoming events: A visit to the Yum Yum Fudge factory at Woolpit on 21st November, bus to leave Fornham All Saints at 12.15pm. The tour will last 3 hours. A proposed trip to the Brick Lane Music Hall, London on 31st May 2024. Cost £76, which includes bus, theatre tickets and afternoon tea.

The speaker for the evening was Margo Harrison with Linus, a hearing dog for the deaf. Hearing dogs for deaf people is a charity and has been in existence for 42 years, being co-founded by Lady Beatrice Wright and Doctor Bruce Foyle, a vet (and father of Ben Foyle). The charity relies solely on donations, puppy sponsorships and gifts in wills. It does not received any government funding.

The dogs are trained to respond to important sounds and danger signals. The dogs alert a deaf person to a sound by touching them with their paw or their nose and then leading the person to the source of the sound. In the case of danger, such as a smoke alarm, each dog is taught to lie down so their owner is aware that there is a hazard.

The evening finished with tea/coffee plus a celebration cake (made by Heather) as it was the 60th anniversary of the Ladies Group (previously Young Wives)

New members to the club are very welcome. Please contact 01284 767372 or 01284 766098 for further information.

FORNHAM ST MARTIN LADIES' CLUB

The group met on 18th October at the Village Hall and there were 20 members present. Apologies were received from H Lancaster, A Phillips, B Scarfe and J Hoggett. Ann Phillips is out of hospital and rehabilitating ready to go home. We wish her well.

On a sad note, June Hoggett's husband David died recently and a card and flowers had been given to her from the club. Our thoughts are with June and her family.

weakness, rapid followed by decreased heart rate, loss of speech, convulsions and unconsciousness.\

Seek medical attention immediately if you experience any symptoms or think you have come into contact with the plant.

If possible, take a sample of the plant for identification. Do not try and make the patient sick and help them to remain calm."

Where can I find out more?

<https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/wildlife-explorer/wildflowers/hemlock>

<https://www.norwich.gov.uk/hemlockadvice#>

Pete Ansbro

Apologies for the late delivery of this edition of the Bugle. But it was unavoidable due to scheduling issues. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Suffolk Highways Online Reporting Tool:-

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

The Highways Reporting Tool allows you to report a new defect and monitor the status of existing

reports, such as; blocked drains, Cycle lane/tracks & public right of way issues, damaged drain/manhole cover, vegetation and mud on the road, flooding on a road or pavement, missing/damaged barriers or guardrails, missing/damaged or obscured signs, missing/ faded road markings, Potholes & Pavement defects, trees/hedges affecting the highways or footways.

Do not report a highways problem online if:

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

They go out in pairs, normally four people at a time and have undergone a full training programme. It costs about £21,000 a year to run. They also supported by a large Prayer Team.

The Town Pastors represent over 30 different churches in Bury St Edmunds and surrounding area. Funding is received from many sources, including Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner.

There is a uniform worn by those out in the town centre and they are also equipped with a rucksack containing various items plus squares of Cadburys chocolate which often relieves tensions that might be building on occasions. One never knows what the evening might bring forth! There is a need for more volunteers as numbers dropped after Covid.

Jo was awarded the BEM in 2015 although she feels this should be for all the Pastors.

It was a most interesting talk and gave much insight into the work of the Town Pastors.

Fees would remain at £20 per annum plus £3 for the raffle each meeting.

Christmas lunch has been booked for 6th December at the West Suffolk College. Cost will be £28 for the meal with £2 added for a tip/service. Payment will be needed when definite numbers are booked.

The Treasurer presented her report, copies of which were available, detailing income and expenditure and how funds stand. The Treasurer was thanked for her report.

Kyra Turner thanked the committee for her card and flowers when she had been ill.

Jo Copsey from the Town Pastors was our speaker for the evening.

The Town Pastors was opened in Ipswich in 2006 and in Bury in 2008. They are a voluntary independent inter-denominational church response to urban problems engaging with people on the streets to care, listen and dialogue, show concern and offer practical help in a non- judgemental way. They work alongside St Edmundsbury Borough Council, the police and emergency services.

At the moment they are working Saturday nights between 10pm and 4am. For reasons of personal safety they are monitored by CCTV in the town centre and are linked to the Townslink radio system.

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FORNHAM ST MARTIN CUM ST GENEVIEVE PARISH COUNCIL

S.137 DONATIONS FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

The Parish Council has a pot of funds that allows them to give donations to Community Groups and Organisations, to assist them with their running costs etc.

Due to the Pandemic, we realise that many groups have been unable to meet for some time, therefore if your group is now in a position to meet again and you need assistance with any running costs associated with this, please contact the Clerk;
fsmgpc@gmail.com to apply for a donation



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Fornham St Martin Ladies' Club By Janet Petch

The AGM of the Fornham Ladies Group took place on 20th September 2023 at 7.30pm.

There were 15 people present, with apologies from A. Phillips, S. Hardy, J. Hoggett and H. Lancaster.

The present committee were thanked and had agreed to stand a further year. The Secretary mentioned that if any other person wanted to join the committee, they were very welcome to do so.

The Secretary presented her report of the events during the past year. There had been various outings which had been very much enjoyed and it was hoped there would be further outings in the coming year – suggestions were considered.

There had been sad news too, with the death of Mary Payne and Beth Riches.

Beryl Dykes had moved to Surrey. David Payne had kindly printed the programme for 2023/24 as he has done in past years and had been thanked for this.

Cheques for signing and approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices

Resolved 23/11/9.02

It was agreed to approve payments of outstanding invoices and cheques were signed by Cllr. M. Collier and Cllr. Butler.

Councillors Reports

Cllr. Butler advised that the hall has had several repairs carried out recently; guttering replaced, drains rodded, replacement roof slates and further repairs to the roof are needed. The Treasurer is preparing a financial statement for their next meeting and they will be approaching the Parish Council and District Councillors for further funding.

Meeting closed 9:33pm

**Date of Next Meeting:
Parish Council Meeting
on Monday 8th January
2024, in the Fornham St
Martin Village Hall.**

**SUMMARY APPROVED OCTOBER 2023 Minutes of the Meeting
of Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council**

Councillors present: Cllr. J. Borrett (Chair), Cllr. M. Collier (Vice Chair), Cllr. P. Borrett, Cllr. P. Butler & Cllr. N. Steward

Also present: Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger WSC/SCC.

Public Forum:

Two members of the public were in attendance.

- The issue of the Barton Hill footpath was raised, it needs cutting back, there is also mud on the road. The surfacing is also an issue, and once it is cut back the surfacing defects will be even more apparent, Cllr. Borrett (JBo) advised it hadn't been done properly in the first place and now patch repairs were not good enough and were inefficient and was a waste of tax payers' money. The Clerk advised that Cllr. Hopfensperger had reported at the last meeting, that she has requested that the footpath be cut, the Clerk is to ask her to chase this up.
- David Yates advised that the bells are to be removed from the tower on the 14th/15th October and are available to people to see them on Sunday 15th October at 6pm. Cllr. Butler extended thanks to David Yates for his hard work and efforts.

Local Authority Reports:

County & District Councillors:

Cllr. Hopfensperger reported on West Suffolk Council issues;

- There is to be a review of grass cutting due to the fact that there has been issue with the schedule and areas being missed etc.
- West Suffolk Hub – it was decided at the last full council that the current plans on the hub will be stopped, instead the Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre will receive some work to update it, but we've not be told what this will entail and when it will happen. Christmas in Bury St Edmunds – There are lots of things happening with regards to Christmas in Bury details of events can be found here [The Official Tourism Site for Bury St... | Bury St Edmunds & Beyond \(visit-burystedmunds.co.uk\)](https://www.visit-burystedmunds.co.uk/)

Cllr. Butler raised concerns over the state of the surfacing on Station Hill, stating “it’s a disgrace”. He also called for no more flats to be built within the town, and stated that the flats on Station Hill and Tayfen Meadows are more than sufficient.

Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings:

The minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 11th September 2023 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (JBo).

Planning (For consideration):

AP/23/0042/STAND - Planning application - outdoor gymnasium including open sided exercise shelter, moveable exercise equipment and equipment storage container
LOCATION: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve, Suffolk (APPLICATION NO: DC/22/1378/FUL)
No further comments to be submitted, other than reiterating our previous objections.

(For Information Only):

DC/23/1375/TPO - TPO 164 (1971) - Tree preservation order trees marked purple on submitted maps (A1, G1 and G2 on order) – all works specified on submitted tree schedules.
Location: Open Space, Culford Road, Fornham St Martin, IP28 6BY – *Pending decision!*

DC/23/1330/TPO - TPO 175a (1993) Tree preservation order - one Sycamore (T1 on order) fell. Location: Fornham Grange, School Lane, Fornham St Martin – *Pending decision!*

DC/23/1343/FUL - two outdoor tennis courts. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve – *Pending decision!*

DC/23/1154/OUT - Outline Planning Application (means of access to be considered) for demolition of existing buildings and structures to provide new employment floorspace

Notice Boards Quotes/Options

The Clerk presented quotes from The Noticeboard Company for 6xA4 & 9xA4 sized notice boards, as well as quotes from Display Boards Direct & Greenbarnes Ltd.

It was agreed to replace the worst notice board in FSG, opposite Parklands Green, and look at replacing the boards next financial year. It was suggested that there was no need for a board in Lark Valley as well and it will be considered whether to replace it or not.

Resolved 23/11/7.03

It was agreed to accept the quote for 1x 750x750mm (6xA4) post mounted board from The Noticeboard Company at a cost of £500.60, Excluding VAT.

Discuss tree removal (TPO’s) All Saints Golf Course/Hotel entrance (permission 5-day notice)

Cllr. Hopfensperger advised that the trees forming part of TPO 030 (1960) were removed under a 5-Day notice and had been signed off by the Tree Officer, Daniel Gospel on 16th October, this is subject to replacements being planted in the same planting season. The national regulations allow for an exemption to the normal TPO consenting regime where a tree is dead. The regulations require the landowner to provide the local authority with 5 days’ notice of carrying out removal and the Council can require replacement planting as required in this case.

Finance & Policies:

Parish Council Bank Reconciliation from list of payments/receipts

Resolved 23/11/9.01

The bank balances and reconciliation of payments and receipts were received and adopted and initialled & signed as such by the Chairman. The bank account balance as of the 29th September 2023 is £33,199.29.

Vandalism and Insurance claim for Trim Trail +/- discuss consultation for repair

The Clerk advised that the Insurers had agreed the claim and paid out for the repairs to the Trim Trail Hurdles, the Clerk is to instruct Playdale to proceed with installing the new hurdles.

Resolved 23/11/7.01

The quote from Playdale Playgrounds was approved for the new hurdles at the trim trail, at a cost of £ 4,757.41.

The Clerk advised that she had still received no feedback from residents regarding the Bugle notice about the play area. It was agreed to put another notice in the Bugle and to invite people to attend a consultation to be held at the February PC meeting.

Discuss Village Grass Cutting & Landscape Tenders (after M&TJ's cease trading)

The Clerk advised that M&TJs had ceased trading and the Council needs to find a new contractor for next years season. The Clerk presented quotes for the grass cutting from Tilbrook's, TOP Garden Services & TCL Landscapes. It was agreed that the Clerk would invite all three companies to do a walk around with Cllr. Collier to discuss the grass cutting, hedge works, and other aspects of the annual landscaping contract and quotes would then be considered at the January meeting.

Quotes/Options for repairs/replace wooden bus shelter

The Clerk advised that the quotes to repair the roof and replace the cladding came to a total of £2,917, and presented quotes for various options of replacement bus shelter. It was agreed to stick with a wooden shelter and the Clerk presented 3 quotes for this, 2 like for like and 1 smaller shelter. It was discussed and agreed that the shelter is very rarely used and therefore the smaller shelter would be more than suitable.

Resolved 23/11/7.02

It was agreed to accept a quote for a wooden shelter, fully clad with featheredge boarding and a sloping roof with EDPM finish, at a cost of £1,500.00 Including VAT, from MJL Building Services.

(Classes E(g)(iii), B2 and B8) including vehicular access with all other matters reserved. Location: Shepherds Grove Industrial Estate, East Sumner Road, Hepworth – *Pending decision!*

DC/22/1294/FUL- animal feed mill and associated development including ancillary offices, silos, warehouse, improved access route and parking. Location: Land of Compiegne Way, Bury St Edmunds (British Sugar) – *Approved 6th September 2023!*

DC/22/1887/FUL - create access into All Saints Golf and Country Club. Location: Land off the Street, Fornham All Saints – *Pending Decision!*

DC/20/0496/FUL - 68 lodges with parking, landscaping, waste and recycling areas and construction compound/maintenance area.

Location: St Genevieve Lakes, Road from Bury Road to B1106, Timworth – *Pending Decision!*

Highways/Footpaths & Trees:

- Cllr. Hopfensperger has advised that Andy Moore will be visiting and carrying out the works himself to clear the footpaths in Parklands Green; this may take longer as the highways contract for Milestone, who take over from Kier, started in October and there were a few transitional arrangements to iron out.
 - There is no further update on the Manners Road resurfacing, date TBC - again we are awaiting a new schedule of work following Milestone's take over.
 - Footway surfacing on Barton Hill to A134, Andy Moore has updated that it is still not meeting a priority intervention criteria but will continue to monitor.
- The bench repairs at Barton Hill - the bench was property of St Edmundsbury Council and should have been adopted by WSC when they merged, along with the one opposite Lark Valley Drive and the one opposite Parklands Green (FSG)

- West Suffolk are going to send me a list of assets in the village registered with them and I've asked to check that the Barton Hill, Culford Road and Lark Valley benches are included.
- The gully works by Flowline on Russell Baron Road are still pending, date TBC – awaiting the schedule from Milestone.
- The vegetation on Thetford Road has only partly been cut back – I can confirm I have reported this.
- Street Light Russell Baron Road – Reinstatement SCC – I can confirm I have now reported this to them.
- The Market Stall at Barton Hill has reappeared, it has been reported to Enforcement to follow up on
- The Clerk is to request that a representative from PROW and Cllr. Hopfensperger meet with the Clerk/Chair on site to try and resolve the issue of the Old Thetford Road footpath, and what is technically a PROW, or not, and who is responsible for what sections, to get it maintained and added to the 'cyclic' schedule.

Parish Matters.

Vandalism and Insurance claim for Trim Trail +/- discuss consultation for repair

- The Clerk advised that she had received no response from the Bugle consultation regarding what to do with the Trim Trail and play area. It was agreed to put the consultation notice in the next edition of the Bugle again

The Clerk requested that a representative from PROW and Cllr. Hopfensperger meet with the Clerk/Chair on site to try and resolve the issue of the Old Thetford Road footpath,

- and what is technically a PROW, or not, and who is responsible for what sections, to get it maintained and
- added to the 'cyclic' schedule. A date for this is to be confirmed by James Pickerin, PROW
- Street light missing Russell Baron Road, following RTC – reported but haven't had a reply

Cllr. Steward (NS) is still to send the Clerk photos of the obscured pedestrian crossing sign by the crossing on Barton Hill, for the Clerk to report it to Highways.

Cllr. Hopfensperger has been asked to have The Street cleared to make it easier to use and she has requested this.

The Market stall at 21 Barton Hill has been reported to Enforcement.

The Clerk is to ask if the white hatching/lining outside the Woolpack can be repainted, as it is very faded.

Barton Hill VAS Post Installation Update

The Clerk confirmed that now the new Highways contractor has started the works to install the VAS post has been ordered, date TBC.

Parish Matters.

Trim Trail & Play Area Inspections

The fence that runs alongside the playing field and down to Church Lane is damaged and ideally needs replacing. The Clerk is to establish ownership and look at quotes for options.

DC/23/1343/FUL - two outdoor tennis courts. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve – Pending decision!

DC/22/1887/FUL - create access into All Saints Golf and Country Club. Location: Land off the Street, Fornham All Saints – Pending Decision!

DC/20/0496/FUL - 68 lodges with parking, landscaping, waste and recycling areas and construction compound/maintenance area. Location: St Genevieve Lakes, Road from Bury Road to B1106, Timworth – Pending Decision!

Highways/Footpaths & Trees:

- Footways in Parklands Green, - Andy Moore to carry out the works over several visits, this may take longer as the highways contract for Milestone started in October and there were a few transitional arrangements to iron out.
- Manners Road resurfacing, - date TBC again we are awaiting a new schedule of work following Milestone's take over.
- Footway surfacing on Barton Hill to A134 Hub, - Still not meeting the priority intervention criteria but will continue to monitor.
- The bench repairs at Barton Hill, and adoption by WSC of the 3 benches; Opp. Parklands Green, FSG, Barton Hill, & Opp. Lark Valley, FSM. – The Clerk is to send a list of the benches to Chery Froud – WSC.
- The gulley works by Flowline on Russell Baron Road are still pending - date TBC, Andy Warr is to chase Flowline.

These are the footways/PROW's that are overgrown and need cutting back and have been reported;

- Vegetation along the Thetford Road from Barton Hill to BMW garage by the bus stop
- the widened path from the bottom of Barton Hill to the village

Discuss Quotes for Tree Works in the Playing Field Resolved 23/10/7.01

It was agreed to accept the quote from Heartwood Tree Services for the tree works in the playing field and village green at a cost of £800.

It was agreed to tender out the grass cutting and landscaping contract in the New Year.

Discuss further Bonfires – Tollgate Bridge

Cllr. Borrett (JBo) is to get photos & video evidence with a diary of incidences be sent to Cllr. Hopfensperger and Environmental Health, once enough evidence is collected. It was advised that if the bonfires are burning toxic materials, or is too close to buildings then it can be reported immediately. It was suggested that the Clerk place a notice in the Bugle advising residents about the law around bonfires.

Discuss the current village hall finances/funding status

Cllr. Butler (PBU) advised that the Chair and Hall Manager were doing an excellent job, and recent refurbishments had been made to improve the hall and make it more energy efficient. However, since the Pandemic income has been significantly reduced, more hires are needed and with the rise in electricity costs the hall is not making enough income to support its outgoings (May, June, July 2023 £3,825 income with £5,802 outgoings). It is getting to the point where thoughts around marketing and whether the hall should be a community asset or a commercial enterprise, are being considered. It was requested that the Parish Council consider increasing its annual donation when it is considered next May.

Finance & Policies:**Resolved 23/10/9.01**

The bank balances and reconciliation of payments and receipts were received and adopted and initialled & signed as such by the Chairman. The bank account balance as of the 1st September 2023 is £37,285.71.

Cheques for signing and approval and to authorise payment of outstanding invoices**Resolved 23/10/9.02**

It was agreed to approve payments of outstanding invoices and cheques were signed by Cllr. M. Collier and Cllr. Butler.

Adoption of the AGAR External Audit Report & Certificate For 2022-23**Resolved 23/10/9.03**

It was agreed to accept the 2022-23 AGAR External Audit Report and Certificate, with the following raised other matter;

The smaller authority has not provided:

- an adequate explanation for the variance between the prior and current year values in Box 3 of Section 2.
- an adequate explanation as to why the prior year Box 8 figure does not agree to the prior year bank reconciliation provided by the smaller authority.

Planning (For consideration):

DC/23/1748/FUL (Amended) – Planning application - change of use from office (class E) to ten hotel rooms (class C1) on second floor including six additional roof lights and three automatic opening vents. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve

Resolved 23/11/5.01

It was agreed to offer No Objections in Principle, but with comments that parking provision should be addressed as part of the application and any conditions set upon approval.

(For Information Only):

AP/23/0042/STAND - Planning application - outdoor gymnasium including open sided exercise shelter, moveable exercise equipment and equipment storage container LOCATION: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve, Suffolk (APPLICATION NO: DC/22/1378/FUL) – *Pending decision!*

DC/23/1375/TPO - TPO 164 (1971) - Tree preservation order - trees marked purple on submitted maps (A1, G1 and G2 on order) – all works specified on submitted tree schedules. Location: Open Space, Culford Road, Fornham St Martin, IP28 6BY – *Approved 13th October 2023.*

DC/23/1330/TPO - TPO 175a (1993) Tree preservation order - one Sycamore (T1 on order) fell. Location: Fornham Grange, School Lane, Fornham St Martin – *Approved 18th October 2023.*

SUMMARY DRAFT NOVEMBER 2023 Minutes of the Meeting of Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council

Councillors present: Cllr. J. Borrett (Chair), Cllr. M. Collier (Vice Chair), Cllr. P. Borrett, Cllr. P. Butler & Cllr. N. Steward

Also present: Clerk, Vicky Bright. Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger WSC/SCC.

Public Forum:

1 member of public was present.

No issues were raised during the public forum.

Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council

meetings:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th October 2023 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (JBo).

Local Authority Reports:

County & District Councillors:

Cllr. Hopfensperger advised that she has some extra funding available for signage, and asked the Council to carry out an Audit of signage in the village and to let her know of any broken, faded/missing signs, roundels and posts, to see if they could be funded through this extra funding available.

Consider a donation to the Church for the annual hedge trimming in the churchyard

Resolved 23/10/9.04

It was agreed to give a donation of £150, towards the £300 cost of the annual hedge trimming for churchyard maintenance.

It was suggested that the annual donation be reviewed in May, to include a proportion towards annual hedge cutting as well as the annual grass cutting, and this is to be included going forward.

Meeting closed 9:47pm.

Merry
Christmas!
AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR

King George Playing Field - Play Area Consultation

The Parish Council are in the process of looking at replacing some of the play equipment at the King Georges playing field. We would be very interested in opinions and suggestions on what sort of equipment and play provision residents would like to see.

Any suggestions can be emailed to the Clerk on fsmsgpc@gmail.com, or by writing to: 3 Scott Avenue, Mildenhall, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP28 7LT

But we would also invite you to attend a public consultation to be held at the February Parish Council meeting, on Monday 12th February 2024 at 7:30pm, in the Fornham St Martin Village Hall.

Christmas in Bury St Edmunds

Christmas in Bury St Edmunds is magical! With award-winning food & drink, cosy hotels, wintery walks and fantastic shopping...

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during that 12-month period resided in the council area; or

- Have during the whole of the 12 months preceding that day occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the council area; or
- have during that same period had your principal or only place of work in the council area; or
- You can also satisfy the criteria to be elected if you have lived in the council area or within 3 miles of it for the whole of the 12 months preceding the “relevant day”.

You cannot stand as a Parish Councillor if you:

- × are subject of a bankruptcy restriction order or interim order
- × have, within five years before the day of the election/co-option, been convicted in the United Kingdom of any offence and have had a sentence of imprisonment (whether suspended or not) for a period of over three months without the option of a fine
- × Work for the council you want to become a councillor for (but you can work for other local authorities, including the principal authorities that represent the same area).

WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION:

If you may be interested in the vacancy for a Parish Councillor, but would still like more info, please contact the Clerk by email at fsmgpc@gmail.com or telephone 07712 232920.

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Mrs H Eden 07557 337872

**Mrs P Drewry 01638 730469/
07980 017043**

**“Life is mostly froth and bubble,
Two things stand like stone.
Kindness in another’s trouble.
Courage in your own.”**

Quote by Adam Lindsay Gordon
(famously quoted by Joanna Lumley)

The 'Bird's and bees' of Bee's and Wasps Part 2

Queens are the winter wasps we sometimes find in our homes or sheds. Most don't make it. The ones that do have a hectic couple of late-spring months building up their depleted reserves as well as building a new nest and laying worker eggs. For 4-6 weeks she has to feed them with chewed up insects until they develop into adult workers, who take over her foraging duties. She usually remains in the nest for the rest of her days, before being killed off by winter or a usurper.

The bumblebees combine elements of honeybees and wasps. Like wasps, only the queens survives the winter, although I should say 'usually', because there is recent evidence that some bumblebee workers in southern UK are surviving our increasingly mild winters. The bumblebee queen wakes in the early part of the year to beaver away at building a nest, including a 'honey-pot'. She is ready to produce and tend worker eggs as soon as enough flowers are in bloom and to feed them fresh flower nectar and pollen, or rainy-day honey from the pot, until they can take over her duties, leaving her to lay more eggs. Incidentally, should the queen die a worker-daughters can take over.

volunteer distributors, ensuring each distributor has enough copies and dealing with any delivery enquiries.

If you are interested, please contact the Clerk on fsmsgpc@gmail.co or telephone 07712 232920.

Councillor Vacancies

The Parish Council are looking for 2 new Councillors.

Our Parish Councillors:

- Are available for PC meetings, held monthly (with the exception of August & December) after 7:30pm in the evenings. Usually, the 2nd Monday of the month.
- Attend the odd training sessions
- Attend occasional consultation events and informative local authority meetings.
- Undertake any actions they volunteer for and are delegated to them from meetings.
- Receive and respond to PC emails in between meetings.
- May help with the Village activities or Village Litter pick etc.

You need to:

- Care about getting the best for your community.
- Have a willingness to represent your electorate.
- Want to make a difference.
- Adhere to the Code of Conduct.
- Register your interests.
- Have the time.
- Be committed and enthusiastic.

You must be:

- a British Citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union;
- Be 18 years of age or over

- Make sure that you follow these steps to reduce your impact on neighbours:
 - always keep the number of bonfires you have to a minimum
 - be aware of the wind direction as this may carry smoke into neighbouring properties
 - do not use chemicals such as engine oil, methylated spirit or vehicle fuels to start a bonfire
 - it is polite to tell neighbours before lighting a bonfire as they may wish to use outside space for drying clothes
 - make sure the fire is under supervision at all times and make sure a means of extinguishing the bonfire is available

Report a problem with air quality (smoke, dust or odours)
 - phone Customer Services on 01284 757053 or
 email: customer.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk

VOLUNTEER NEEDED – Bugle Distribution Overseer

Following retirement of Peter Forster, who has overseen the distributors and delivery of the Bugle newsletter for many years, our thanks and appreciation to him, we are currently looking for a volunteer to oversee the distribution and delivery of the Bugles 6 editions annually.

The role will involve taking delivery of the newsletters from the printers (delivered to your home), liaising with and organising the present team of

There are never anywhere near as many bees in a bumblebee nest as in a honeybee or wasp colony and no honeycomb either because no bees will need feeding over winter. Bumblebee life cycle is similar to the wasp's. Late in the summer the queen turns to laying eggs that become queens and stingless males. Drones die after mating, leaving the mated queens to put on fat before hibernating. Amazingly, bumblebees can elevate their body temperatures enough to fly in cold weather. That's why you see them as late as November or as early as February.

A line about the many solitary bees and wasps, which forgo social colonies. The usual lifecycle for females is: hatch - make a nest - mate - stock the nest with food (paralysed meat for wasps; nectar and pollen for bees) - then seal it up - die (never seeing your babies). For males it's simpler: leave nest - mate - die.

Finally, you've probably seen a cuckoo this autumn. Really? Well, there are cuckoo bumblebees, too. Like feathered cuckoos they bypass all the hassle of bringing up offspring (so no pollen baskets on their legs). After the familiar mating flight with drones of their own kind they sleep for months before emerging to take over a 'normal' bumble nest, kicking out or killing the resident queen, and commandeering her workers - who

then blindly tend the usurper's eggs. These all become drones or queens; she doesn't need workers of her own. The mated cuckoo queen then hibernates, but for longer than ordinary queens, having no need to build a nest or bring up the first generation of workers. So cuckoos wake up in June when all that faff is over!

Alan

PARISH COUNCIL NOTICES

Suffolk Highways Online Reporting Tool

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

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

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

Do not report a highways problem online if:

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

Dog Fouling

Recently dog fouling has started to become an issue again. I am sure that all residents that own dogs will assist us by ensuring they collect their dog's waste and **dispose of it in the Dog Waste Bins provided.**

Dog Waste can be very hazardous to children, causing blindness (Toxocariasis).

- Under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 in England and Wales, a person who doesn't clean up after their dog may face an on-the-spot fine of up to £80. These fines are known as fixed penalty notices. If a person refuses to pay, they can be taken to the local Magistrates Court for the dog fouling offence and fined up to £1,000.

The Parish Council hope that this notice will encourage all dog owners to act responsibly, and to improve the problem without the need to introduce fines for offenders.

Bonfires

There are no specific laws restricting non-commercial bonfires. However, you should not burn anything that is likely to cause a danger to health such as rubber or plastic. If you are creating a nuisance with your bonfire or outdoor burner. You may be issued with an 'abatement notice' which may require you to desist from lighting bonfires, or the notice may issue specific guidance around the use of an outdoor burner.

It is important to note that if you fail to comply with an abatement notice issued by your local council, you could be **fined up to £5000.**

- Bonfires should be used as a last resort after separating recycling materials- this includes composition of garden waste.