



THE BUGLE

FORNHAM ST MARTIN & FORNHAM ST GENEVIEVE VILLAGE MAGAZINE

JUNE - JULY 2025

ISSUE NO. 141

Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve

Parish Councillors

Clive Last (Chair)	07771 957755
John Rushman (Vice Chair)	01284 701511
Paul Butler	01284 760119
Brandon Mahon	01284 747140
<i>Vacancy</i>	
<i>Vacancy</i>	
<i>Vacancy</i>	

Parish Clerk

Vicky Bright, CiLCA	07712 232920 fsmsgpc@gmail.com
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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 7:30pm in the Village Hall, on the second Thursday of each month, except August & December. Please check the village notice boards for any date changes.

Website

www.fornhamstmartin.onesuffolk.net

The deadline for articles for The Bugle August - September issue, will be 20th July 2025.

Intro From The New Chair

Hello, my name is Clive Last and at the Parish Council meeting on 8th May 2025 I was somewhat surprisingly voted as the new Chair of Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council, with Cllr John Rushman agreeing to become the Vice Chair.

This followed the resignations, at the Annual Parish Meeting that evening, of John Borrett (Chair), Mike Collier (Vice Chair) and also Penelope Borrett (Councillor). Whilst these resignations were perhaps expected on age and health grounds, it leaves the Parish Council with 3 vacant places which we would like to fill as soon as possible.

With the movement of local government to a single tier authority (no district councils) expected from early 2026, and with that decision likely to be an all-Suffolk authority headquartered in Ipswich, it is even more important that local communities make their views heard and Parish Councils must be a greater part of that communication process.

Below are the details for putting your name forward and if we receive more than 3 worthy candidates we will arrange an election, following Local Government rules, as soon as possible after a closing date of 14 days after the circulation of the notices, which have appeared on village notice boards.

Thank you for your interest and support.

Clive Last
Chair, Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council.

To register your interest in becoming a Parish Councillor, please email the Parish Clerk fsmgpc@gmail.com

Parish Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council are looking for new Councillors to represent both Fornham St Martin Ward and Fornham St Genevieve.

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

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

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

YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!!

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 Thursday of the month.
- Attend occasional 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. and be committed and enthusiastic.

You must:

- Be a British Citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union;
- Be 18 years of age or over
- During the previous 12-month period resided in the council area;
or
- Have during the whole of the 12 months previous 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 previous

WHERE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION:

If you are interested in the vacancy for a Parish Councillor, or would like more information, please contact the Clerk by email at fsmgpc@gmail.com.

Dates For Parish Council and Related Meetings 2025

Thursdasy 12th June 2025 at 7:30pm, followed by the King George Playing Field Trustee Meeting

Thursdasy 10th July 2025 at 7:30pm

All meetings will be held at 7:30pm in the Village Hall unless otherwise advised on the meeting agenda which will be posted on the village notice boards at least three full clear days before each meeting (*excluding Sundays and Bank Holidays*).



**PLEASE
NOTE:**
Council meetings
are now on the
second Thursday of
the month, NOT
Monday

Agendas can also be found on the Parish Council website:

www.fornhamstmartin.onesuffolk.net

Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council - April Meeting

Approved Minutes of the Meeting of Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council held on Monday 14th April 2025 at 7.30pm, in the Village Hall

Councillors present: Cllr. J. Borrett - Chair (JBo), Cllr. M Collier - Vice Chair (MC), Cllr. P. Butler (PBU), Cllr. J. Rushman (JR) & Cllr. C. Last (CL).

Also present: Vicky Bright, Clerk. David Yates – PCC. Cllr. Rebecca Hopfensperger – WSC/SCC.

ITEM

PUBLIC FORUM:

12 Members of the public were in attendance.

- Residents of School Lane raised concerns over the condition of School Lane and the issue of flooding due to sunken kerb stones and the downpipes from the Village Hall. The deeds of the Village Hall state that the charity is responsible for the maintenance of the Lane, but the Charity is not financially able to pay for the works. Residents in School Lane are prepared to make contributions and it was asked of the Parish Council could also contribute. Cllr. Hopfensperger offered to make a contribution from her Locality Budget. This item is to be discussed later in the meeting under Item 7 (ii).
- Residents living near the B1106 junction are concerned that despite the signage there are still frequent accidents. It was suggested that further road markings are needed around the corner, with some better Hi-Vis signage. It was agreed that visibility is better when the verges are well maintained too. This item is discussed further under Item 6 (ii).
- Residents raised concerns over the new amended hotel application for Pickleball courts and Tennis courts, they gave thanks to the applicant for removing the Pickleball courts, which is hoped should improve noise. However, residents expressed that they would still like the courts moved closer to the hotel, possibly another 20m. The hotel representatives present responded by explaining that due to the location of the pond this would not be possible, residents asked if it would be possible to move it as much as they could, despite the pond, even 10m would be better than nothing. The hotel representatives said they would take this back to the table for discussion and consideration. This item is to be discussed later in the meeting under Item 5 (i).
- The Hotel advised that they are running a free drop-in CPR session at the Hotel, with trained professionals, on 10th May 2025. Contact the Hub for information.

25/04/1

Chairman's Welcome & Acceptance of Apologies for Absence (LGA 1972, Section 85(1) & (2)):

Apologies: Cllr. P. Borrett. Cllr. B. Mahon.

25/04/2

Declaration of Members' Interest (for agenda items) – LGA 2000 Part III:

Cllr. Clive Last declared a personal interest in Item 5 (ii), as the applicant is his close neighbour.

25/04/3

Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council meetings – LGA 1972, Schedule 12, para 41(2):

Resolved 25/04/3.01

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10th March 2025 were adopted as a true statement and signed by the Chairman (Jbo).

25/04/4

County, District and Community reports:

Cllr. Sarah Broughton sent apologies.

Cllr. Hopfensperger gave the following report:

- Devolution – WSC have submitted their interim business case for a 3 unitary for Suffolk. All District and Borough Councils are in agreement with this proposal. SCC are proposing a 1 unitary, the formal case is to be submitted in September, with the Government's decision expected approximately Christmas time. Cllr. Hopfensperger is to send the Clerk copies of the WSC & SCC Business cases and the figures for the different options.

Cllr. Hopfensperger gave updates on the following items on the agenda; 6 (i), (ii), (iii), (v), (vii).

25/04/5

i

Planning Applications for consideration:

DC/24/0538/FUL RE-CONSULTATION – Three tennis courts. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve

Resolved 25/04/5.01

It was agreed my unanimous vote to request a Holding Objection on application DC/24/0538/FUL, for the following reasons;

- The drawings on the application still state Racquet ball courts, and need to be amended to state Tennis Courts.
- Residents would like the applicant to look further at moving the courts closer to the hotel.

ii

DC/25/0473/FUL – one self build/custom dwelling (following demolition of existing dwelling). Location: Rathkeltair Lodge, Barton Hill, Fornham St Martin

Resolved 25/04/5.02

It was agreed by a vote of 4 in favour and 1 abstaining, to offer No Objections to application DC/25/0473/FUL.

**This was later deferred and a Holding Objection was requested, following further information received from the agent after the meeting via email, advising that the red boundary line had been added, thus reducing the actual plot size from 1 hectare to ½ hectare in order to meet the regulations of ½ hectare plot size for self-build. The Parish Council have requested further clarification around the self-build plot size rules.*

iii

(For information only):

DC/25/0129/HH – a. porch extension b. infill extensions to front and rear elevation c. first floor side elevation d. double doors to replace windows to rear elevation e. single storey rear extension f. new windows to side and rear elevations g. new rooflight to front elevation. Location: 4 Lark Valley Drive, Fornham St Martin – Approved 31st March 2025!

iv

DC/24/1660/FUL – change of use of land to equestrian and construction of domestic stables. Location: North Lodge, Fornham Park, Fornham St Genevieve - *Pending Decision!

- v **DC/24/1671/TPO – TPO 030 (1960) tree preservation order one Ash (T1 on plan within A5 on order) fell. Location: The Laurels, Parklands Green, Fornham St Genevieve - *Pending Decision!**
- vi **DC/24/1123/FUL – reinstatement of 10-metre-high golf ball safety nets to the rear of 23-29 Pigeon Lane on the golf course side of existing tree belt. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve – Pending decision!**
- vii **DC/24/1091/FUL – parking area for 15no. cars. Location: All Saints Hotel, The Street, Fornham St Genevieve – Pending decision!**
- viii **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!**

25/04/6

Highways/Footpaths & Trees

- i **Update on works date for White lining/hatching outside the Woolpack pub (RH-SCC)**
Cllr. Hopfensperger advised she would chase this up, as the works were scheduled to be completed by end of January.
- ii **Update on Signage/lining Scheme on B1106 towards Culford/West Stow Road (RH-SCC)**
Cllr. Hopfensperger confirmed she was in the process of finalising quotes for illuminated BEND/SLOW signs, to be placed on the approach to the bend, to give prior warning. It was suggested that two signs be placed either end of the bend, but it was agreed to see how much each sign was first. It has been confirmed that the verge cutting has now been added to the cyclic program and Cllr. Hopfensperger is going to check the schedule for that area.
- iii **Overgrown trees next to the Lark Valley footpath Update (RH-WSC)**
Cllr. Hopfensperger advised she has now found emails from 2019, when SCC admitted responsibility for the trees and carried out the last maintenance, she has forwarded this to Andy Moore for his action, as the criteria hasn't changed since 2019. Cllr, Hopfensperger has also raised this issue of SCC Highways passing responsibility to the District for Highways issues, to the Cabinet Member.
- iv **Update on Mud/Flooding on Barton Hill footpath (Ref: 00498752) (RH-SCC)**
The Chairman raised with Cllr. Hopfensperger that since the area was path repaired with tarmac, it has caused a raised bump on the footpath, which now allows the water to pool and form a pond. Cllr. Hopfensperger advised she would raise this with Andy Moore.
- v **Update on overgrown vegetation on the footpath – Barton Hill to the first bridge (Ref:00500496)**
Cllr. Hopfensperger confirmed that this is SCC responsibility and like Item 6 (iii), she had forwarded it to Andy Moore for his attention and had raised it with the Cabinet Member.
- vi **Discuss erosion of the highway which immediately abuts the private road of Lark Valley Court (Pbu)**
Cllr. Butler confirmed the works to repair the highway has now been completed.

vii **Update on CityFibre works in FSM – David Yates complaint & Complaint RE: Daffodils**
Cllr. Hopfensperger advised she is liaising with the Area Manager and he has confirmed that it is City Fibre responsibility to 'make good' and damage caused by works they undertake and in response to the lack of consultation, he advised it is also their responsibility to consult with residents, not SCC and he has requested works to be carried out to repair the damage made. David Yates advised that the workers did come out, but only repaired the damage in front of one property. Cllr. Hopfensperger is to take this up with the Area Manager. The Clerk advised that they had also destroyed all the daffodil bulbs, and Cllr. Hopfensperger was asked to raise this with him too.

viii **Discuss Parking on the footpath opposite The Pines**
The Clerk advised she had received a complaint from a resident regarding parked vehicles frequently blocking the footway opposite The Pines. The Council agreed that they have no powers to enforce parking regulations and advised it was a Police matter. The Clerk is to advise the resident to report it to the Police.

ix **Discuss Highways Signage Audit & Review & cleaning**
Cllr. Rushman suggested an audit of all road signage in the village to record and that need repair, replace or cleaning, Cllr Rushman volunteered to lead this.

25/04/7

Parish Matters:

- i **Weekly Inspection Reports Trim Trail & Play Area & Agree Weekly Rota**
Cllr. John Rushman to continue weekly inspections and has forwarded photographs to the Clerk that were taken at the most recent visit. The Clerk is to source quotes for the repairs needed at the play are and Trim Trail.
- ii **Discuss the condition of School Lane – VHC**
The Clerk read out a statement from the VHC outlining the problems with the lane and asking for a donation. The Clerk reported that so far this financial year the Council has given a total of £2,250.00 in donations to the hall. It was suggested that the VHC be encouraged to take up Cllr. Hopfensperger's offer of a donation from her Locality and get the downpipes/soakaways done as a priority. It was also suggested that the option of applying 'plainings' to the surfacing, as previously done, be investigated and a clearer idea of costs be looked into.
- iii **Discuss the works and quote for Basal Growth on trees in village**
The Clerk presented two quotes for the works from Tilbrook's and Heartwood Tree Services.
Resolved 25/04/7.01
It was agreed to accept the quote for £450 for works to remove the basal growth from the trees.
- iv **Discuss Leaflet distribution with the Bugle**
The Clerk advised that Justin Hook had been approached to include a leaflet on the SCC 'Warm Homes Initiative'. It was agreed that this was not feasible, as it would incur costs to the PC for staff and hours. It was suggested that Justin offer SCC a centre double page to advertise at a reduced cost for as many editions as they want.
- v **Discuss ongoing issue of alarm at the pumping station**

The Clerk advised that she had been contacted to say that the alarm was going off again and that WSC had advised them that the previous contractor had obviously not dealt with it, but that the new contractor would not take on outstanding works that should have been completed by the previous contractor. Cllr. Hopfensperger asked the Clerk to forward the email correspondence to her and she will look into it.

25/04/8

Correspondence:

- WSC – West Suffolk Housing Pathway;

I'm writing to let you know about a new service being launched by West Suffolk Council today. The aim of this new service will be to help house and support vulnerable people and to further West Suffolk Council's work in preventing and reducing homelessness. The new West Suffolk Housing Pathway will be tailored to individual needs to help people who need support either in sustaining accommodation or to maintain independent living. This will include support for people with learning difficulties or mental health needs, people battling drug or alcohol addiction, homeless people and ex-offenders. It will also help people who are working but who need additional support. The new service will offer three levels of support from accommodation only through to high level care for people with complex needs who may pose a risk to themselves and others. Our continued emphasis will be on homelessness prevention while also breaking the pattern of repeat homelessness that sadly happens for some of the people we help. This is in line with the aims and actions of our [Housing, Homelessness Reduction and Rough Sleeping Strategy](#), which was itself shaped through public engagement including with our town and parish councils. The new housing pathway service is backed with £200,000 a year of funding from the council's housing reserves. It follows on from changes by Suffolk County Council to only fund Housing Related Support to people it has a statutory responsibility for. While the changes to HRS were initially due to take effect on 1 April 2024, Suffolk Public Sector Leaders provided interim funding for a year to allow time for the district and borough councils to look at alternative provision. Through this new service we are helping the most vulnerable people in our communities while also working to deliver on some of the key aims set out in our strategy to tackle and reduce homelessness and rough sleeping.

25/04/9

i

Finance & Policies:

Bank Reconciliation from list of payments/receipts

Resolved 25/04/9.01

The bank balances and reconciliation of payments and receipts were received and adopted and initialled & signed as such by the Chairman (JBo). The bank account balance as of the 31st March 2025 is £18,307.83.

ii

Payment Schedule/list to authorise payment of outstanding invoices

Resolved 25/04/9.02

The payment schedule for outstanding invoices was checked and signed by two signatories.

Payee	Details	Invoice number	Total	Power to pay*
Mrs V Bright	Expenses	-	£15.58	3
David Randall	Village planting	-	£41.40	14
J Hook	Bugle Compiler		£209.63	8
First Impressions	Bugle printing	SI-DRAFT	£557.87	8
SALC	Membership 25-26	29773	£485.23	3

SALC	Payroll	29552	£54.00	3
Mrs D Pott	Litter Pickers	003/25	£145.09	9
	Bugle Distribution	002	£40.00	8

iii **Discuss Annual Price change notification - Commercial Waste & Recycling Collections Service**

Resolved 25/04/9.03

The Parish Council agreed the price increase for the Commercial Waste collection service from WSC for the playing field and dog bins at a rate of a 4.5% rise from our current rates for general waste and a 4.24% rise for dry mixed recycling collections.

iv **Appoint & Adopt the letter of engagement for the Internal Auditor 24/25**

The Council adopted the letter of engagement from SALC and agreed to appoint SALC as the internal auditor for the 2024/25 financial year.

25/04/10

Councillors Reports & Items for Future Agendas:

Cllr. Butler advised of the FAS Computer Club that is looking for new members and asked if a poster could be displayed in the PC notice boards; Cllr. Collier agreed to do this.

Meeting closed at 8:59pm

Date of Next Meeting: Annual Parish Council Meeting on Thursday 8th May 2025, following the Annual Parish Meeting at 7:30pm.

Signed: *Clive Last*

Date: 8th May, 2025

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.

Email the Clerk for more information: fsmgpc@gmail.com

Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council - May Meeting

DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting & AGM held on Thursday 8th May 2025 at 7.30pm in Village Hall

Councillors present: Clive Last (CL) Chair, John Rushman (JR) vice-chair, Paul Butler (PBu) and Brandon Mahon (BH)

In attendance: Sarah Broughton WSC (part) and David Yates PCC

Apologies: Vicky Bright (Clerk) and Becky Hopfensperger (WSC/SCC)

Public forum.

4 members of the public, plus David Yates PCC and Sarah Broughton WSC were in attendance. Hannah Cuthbertson, who was a regular attendee, was asked to identify herself and she did so as the General Manager of All Saints Resort

There were no matters raised by members of the public.

25/05/01. Election of officers. With the resignations of John Borrett (Chairman), Penelope Borrett and Mike Collier (Vice Chairman) tendered at the prior Annual Meeting, Council resolved to elect Clive Last as Chairman and John Rushman as Vice Chairman. Both signed their Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

25/05/04. Declaration of acceptance of office by members. Brandon Mahon was previously Co-opted as councillor and signed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

25/05/05. Declaration of members interest. Clive Last declared that the planning application DC/25/0473/FUL Rathkeltair Lodge Barton Hill, was a neighbour and friend.

25/05/06. Appointment of Councillor responsibilities and representatives on outside bodies. The following appointments were agreed;

- SALC Liaison - Clerk
- WSC Liaison - Chair and Clerk
- Planning Applications - full council
- Playing field and play equipment - John Rushman
- Street Lighting - all councillors and clerk to SCC
- VAS equipment - Brandon Mahon and volunteer Matthew Kemsley
- Defibrillator - Brandon Mahon and volunteer Simon Loughe
- Village planting - volunteer David Randall
- Asset risk management - Brandon Mahon

The representation in respect of Village Hall committee, and Trees and Footpaths were left for decision at next meeting.

25/05/07. Appointment of Responsible Financial Officer. This item was deferred until next meeting as Clerk was not present.

25/05/08. Adoption of asset register. A schedule of the PC assets was circulated and Chairman signed as a true record.

25/05/09 Adoption of Annual Governance Statement. A formal resolution to accept was unanimously agreed and Chairman authorised to sign.

25/05/10.i Adoption of accounts and bank reconciliation y/e 31/Mar/2025. These were formally examined and approved and Chairman authorised to sign.

/10.ii Accounting statements for 24/25 financial year. Formal resolution accepted and Chairman authorised to sign.

25/05/11. Budget 2025/26. The budget as prepared, with comparisons with prior year actuals was presented by Chairman and unanimously accepted and Chairman authorised to sign.

25/05/12.i. Financial risk assessment. The presented document was examined and accepted and the Chairman authorised to sign.

/12.ii. Effectiveness of internal controls, audit and appointment of auditor for

2025/26. The formal resolution was presented to the meeting and approved and the Chairman authorised to sign.

25/05/13.i Adoption of NALC 2025 Model Financing Regulations. Resolution adopted and Chairman authorised to sign.

/13.ii Adoption of NALC 2025 Model Standing Orders. Resolution adopted and Chairman authorised to sign.

25/05/14. Adoption of annual statement of Payments and Direct Debits. Presented schedule approved for Chairman to sign.

25/05/15. Consideration of annual donations. Item deferred to next meeting when Clerk present.

COUNCIL ORDINARY BUSINESS

25/05/16. Minutes of previous meeting held 14th April 2025 duly adopted and signed by the Chairman (CL).

25/05/17. Planning applications (for consideration).

i) DC/24/1660/FUL AMENDED Land at Fornham Park, Fornham St. Genevieve for equestrian use and stabling. The council took note of the planning officer comments and examined the new plan showing BNG requirements. **No objection.**

ii) DC/24/0538/FUL Re-consultation. Three tennis courts at All Saints Hotel. The council had no objection to the application as long as change from Racquetball courts to Tennis courts was clearly shown on the plan submitted with the revised application and the requirement for acoustic fencing and tree

screening, in the original application, was maintained. **No Objection providing revised plan posted to planning portal.**

iii) DC/25/0473/FUL. one self build dwelling (after demolition of existing) at Rathkeltair Lodge, Barton Hill. The council took notice of the planning officers written comments and examined the revised plan on the WSC portal. **Holding objection removed.**

v) DC/24/1671/TPO Ash Tree removal at The Laurels, Parklands Green , St Genevieve

Application refused by WSC Arboricultural office.

vi) DC/24/1223/FUL Reinstatement of 10m high golf ball safely fence on All Saints Golf course where it abuts 22-29 Pigeon Lane.

Pending Decision by WSC.

vii) DC/24/1091/FUL All Saints Hotel. Additional parking area for 15 cars.

Application approved by WSC.

viii) DC/20/0496/FUL. 68 lodges with landscaping at St Genevieve Lakes, from Bury Road to B1106 at Timworth.

Long standing application Pending Consideration by WSC.

25/05/18 Highways Footpaths and Trees

i) white lining outside Woolpack Pub completed.

ii) Signage at B1106 at Culford/West Stow junction. Improvements to signage made and vegetation cut back. Still in discussion with SCC regarding VAS illuminated signage.

iii) Overgrown Trees at Lark Valley footpath. SCC inspected and does not meet criteria for any action at this point.

iv) Mud/flooding on Barton Hill/Tollgate footpath. Dry weather has cured problem for time being. Will inspect again in autumn to see if remedial raising of footpath in worse area and drainage works by private landowners on both sides of road have cured problem.

v) Overgrown vegetation on footpath Barton Hill/Tollgate. This and footpath to village will now be managed by PC via private contractor but WSC will meet costs.

vi) Audit of Signage and cleaning proposal. carried forward to next meeting (JR).

25/05/19 Parish Matters

i) Weekly and monthly inspections for H&S, reported as no issues. Rota for ongoing inspections agreed (JR).

ii) Regular alarm activation at Sewage pumping station St Genevieve. Now resolved.

25/05/20 Finance & Policies.

i) Bank reconciliation and list of payment/receipts from May 2024 presented to Councillors pre meeting and formerly adopted and signed by Chairman

ii) Payment schedule of outstanding amounts presented to Councillors. All agreed and bank authorisation signed by two signatories.
Council noted the bank mandate needs to be amended to reflect change of Councillors (VB and CL).

25/05/21 Councillors reports and items for future agenda

i) No new matter were forthcoming other than urgent necessity to attract new councillors. 3 new members would be ideal and applications to be invited in next edition of The Bugle. Meanwhile any interested parties please contact Clerk or Chairman.

Next meeting Thursday 12th June at Village Hall, followed by King George Playing Field Charity Trustee Meeting.

Meeting closed at 21.30.

In the Clerks absence, these minutes were drafted by the Chairman of the Council.

To be signed by the Chairman at the next meeting of the Parish Council, Thursday 12th June.

Signed:

Date:

Any parishioners wishing to raise an issue
should contact the Parish Clerk & RFO

Vicky Bright, CiLCA 07712 232920
fsmgpc@gmail.com

Office hours:

9:30am to 2:30pm, Monday, Thursday & Friday.

Please be aware that the Clerk does not work on Tuesday or Wednesday!

Parish Office: 3 Scott Avenue, Mildenhall, Suffolk IP28 7LT (by appointment only)



NATIONAL GARDEN SCHEME
Garden Open For Charity



5 Parklands Green

Fornham St Genevieve, Bury St
Edmunds, IP28 6UH

Sunday 15 June
11am - 4pm

Adults £5 Children free

Plant Stall
Tea, coffee & cake



DOGS WELCOME



PLANTS FOR SALE



TEAS



Registered charity no. 112344

More information at ngs.org.uk

Rotary
in East Anglia



The Classic Car Show at Culford

Sunday 13th July 2025

10am-3.30pm



- This is our eleventh and biggest ever Classic Car Show
- 500+ Classic Cars
- Stalls
- Stunning surroundings.
- Reduced Price Tickets available in advance from our website link below or scan the QR code.

www.theclassiccarshow.org.uk/

All proceeds from this event will be donated to Charity – our lead charity again this year is East Anglia's Children's Hospices

Church News

By David Yates

A Dedication Service for the completed Bells Restoration Project was held on Sunday 18th May at 4.30pm, with Acting Bishop Graeme Knowles presiding. 100 attended the service, including 3 former churchwardens, especially Beryl Dykes now from Surrey and Peter Haselhurst from Solihull now, together with Andrew Nicholson, the bellhanger, from Dorset. Afterwards, we enjoyed drinks and refreshments outside in warm sunny weather.

Commenced in 2017, the project has been a long road, but with thanks to everyone who donated and sponsored bells or other parts like the wheels or bell ropes, we eventually made it. Huge thanks to Project Leader in the latter stages, Neal Dodge, and the other Guild of Ringers, who enabled essential grants to be awarded, and helped with much of the work, removing the nearly 200-year-old Oak bellframe, and replacing it with a new steel one. All ready for Nicholson Engineering, Dorset, to return the original 6 bells, augmented with 2 more, generously donated by The Keltek Trust, from redundant churches in Rochdale and Truro. David Kelly came to see the tuned and cleaned bells on their return last September and said he has now donated 900 bells to active churches, from redundant ones.

The Guild of Ringers are now forming a band of ringers at FSM, and we would love to hear from anyone interested in starting the necessary training and getting in tune! Weekly practice sessions have commenced on Tuesday evenings.

Now that all the hard work has been done by Nicholson Engineering and the Guild of Ringers volunteers, ably assisted by our very own Ged Foster, some redecoration and plaster restoration needs carrying out to the lower tower walls.

New lighting has been installed at ground floor, up the tower, and in the upper ringing chamber. A lightning conductor has been installed as well, fully tested and certified, with all the steel now at the top of the tower, it's all protected, if needed!

The next Book Sale Coffee and Cakes, at the time of writing after the editorial deadline, on 31st May, probably went very well, I expect,

typically, with maybe everyone restocking for those long summer evenings, as well as enjoying some light refreshments over coffee and chat with friends, or maybe making some new ones, possibly new neighbours even!

The 100 Club winners are:

June	1st	£30	Pauline Taylor	no. 32
	2nd	£20	Elaine Bonney	no. 53
	3rd	£10	Maurice Gill	no. 44
July	1st	£30	Hans Koppe	no. 15
	2nd	£20	Val Axton	no. 83
	3rd	£10	Monique Jones	no. 38

Thanks to them, and everyone in the club for supporting the church in this way.

The Quinquennial (5 yearly) Inspection and Report has found some building maintenance is recommended, as usual, and whilst not excessive, the costs of more than a few thousand pounds now needs to be found.

The funeral of our long-standing church member and friend, Joan Webb, was held in April, with a full church of family and friends giving thanksgiving for her long and active life. We miss seeing her so regularly at services, and helping at so many events over the years, serving refreshments and selling raffle tickets.

As a joint churchwarden with others, but on my own for nearly 2 years now, I want to spend a bit more time enjoying my retirement, reading some books, gardening, days out, meals out, maybe having a paddle in the sea somewhere, as I used to in Whitley Bay.

So, at the recent Annual Parochial Church Meeting I did not request nomination to renew my annual election as churchwarden but simply retain being a member of our Church Council (PCC) and Treasurer.

By being relieved of some of the roles and responsibilities to the Diocese, I plan continuing supporting the church, but in less onerous ways.

It has been a pleasure and privilege to fulfil being a churchwarden for some 21 years, since 2004. Particularly generating and stabilising

our finances and seeing the successful extensive restorations of the 1912 wind organ in 2015, and recently the huge Bells Project over the last 8 years, now fulfilled and completed, with arduous progress at times.

We held the Good Friday Service on 18th April, in Holy Week, at the end of Lent, keeping a vigil for the final hour as it's known, 2–3pm, to commemorate when Jesus was crucified. The Easter Sunday Service was held at Fornham All Saints.

We held a service on VE Day 80 on 8th May, in conjunction with national events marking 80 years since the end of WWII, to recognise and give thanksgiving for all those involved in the monumental event of the Victory in Europe in 1945, after 6 years of death and destruction in that dreadful war. The service culminated with 2 minutes silence at the War Memorial, and laying of a poppy wreath by John Borrett, Parish Council Chairman, on behalf of the parish.

As an aside, I attended the recent Parish Council AGM, to keep in touch with village affairs, and liaise over matters of joint interest. Like us, they have lost a few councillors for the forthcoming year but still maintain an active role in village affairs representing public concerns, and like us would welcome anyone interested in helping run and manage the church, to maintain its continuation for future generations, so important to village life and its residents when they might need it. Similarly, help with occasional cleaning and flowers to decorate the church for services and visitors. Please get in touch if you feel you can help us.

All in conjunction with liaising with West Suffolk Councillors Beccy Hopfensperger and Sarah Broughton, who have been providing regular support to both the church and parish.

With the magazine now bi-monthly, the next one is August – September, doesn't time fly, when you're basking in the Summer sun, choc ice in hand.!

DEDICATION OF THE BELLS

By Beryl Dykes



What a wonderful day
Such an emotional
sensation
As the bishop called out
**LET THE BELLS BE
RUNG!**
At the service of their
dedication.

As the bells rang true and
clear
I thought back over many
a year
On the events raising
funds
David keeping an eye on
the sums
Quizzes and teas many a
books sale
There were times we
thought we might fail
But now we say with shouts
and yells
Ring out Ring out St
Martin's Bells!

A photograph of a large, ornate bell tower interior. The central focus is a large, dark metal bell hanging from a wooden frame. The background shows stone walls and Gothic-style windows. The lighting is warm and dramatic.

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**Your local bell ringers are
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For more information please contact

DEBORAH BLUMFIELD 07766 562643

Fornham Garden Club

Fornham Garden Club met on 11th March 2025 to listen to Nigel Start give his illuminating talk on the pleasures and perils of Poisonous Plants in our Gardens.

He informed that toxins are widespread in the natural world, that many plants and fungi produce them. Early civilisation learned about this and passed on the knowledge and they were used as medicines and drugs e.g. digitalis. Some are lethal and the amateur gardener can be at risk eg. hemlock which is reappearing in hedgerows.

Many of our garden plants are toxic, for example native evergreens, especially the red berries which are not even touched by birds and wildlife. Although ivy and juniper are eaten by goats! Wildlife do not touch willow or the fruit of the wild cherry.

To the gardener laburnum seeds, wisteria sap, Japanese anemone stems, Lily of the Valley sap, fig sap and unripe fruit, and also euphorbia sap are all toxic. In the vegetable garden there are toxins in uncooked runner beans and many other beans, and rhubarb leaves. Also green potatoes, tomatoes, aubergines and sweet peppers, some if eaten unripe, others should be cooked.

Evergreen hedges and box cuttings can be an irritant to the skin and beware of leaving laurel cuttings in a confined space!

Lastly many bulbs are toxic eg tulips, snowdrops, daffodils and hyacinths. And with mushrooms - always seek the advice of an expert!

On 8th April, the Garden Club held its Annual General Meeting where the Chairman thanked all who helped with the running of activities and also the members for attending. During the previous 12 months there had been 8 meetings, 3 outings and the annual dinner. A gardening themed quiz was held instead of a speaker and enjoyed by all.

On 13th May the Club was delighted to receive a talk and slideshow from Melanie Collins of Mickfield Hostas. The first information was inevitably about slugs and snails. Hosta are mainly attacked by snails which are nocturnal. Controlling them can be done by erasing their

trails or by using water barriers as they need air to breathe. Pellets also can be put in small jars and left in places where snails may hide during the day. Vigilance is needed all year round to protect the plants. Also, companion planting or the use of petroleum products and coffee can disrupt their sense of smell and copper tape or the use of any metal is a good barrier.

Hostas are shade loving but it is best to avoid extremes of wet or dry. Divide plants in the green between May and September. If in pots, wet the root ball well to make it more pliable. When watering hostas do it well and not just sprinkle and do not over feed. Some provide fragrant flowers and modern cultivars will flower more than once.

Hostas are originally from Asia, mostly from Japan where there is a temperate climate with defined seasons. There are around 69 species with about 10,000 different cultivars. When choosing a Hosta consider its size when mature, placement, colour and seasonal variegation.

For further information about Fornham Garden Club please contact the Chairman on **07876 644611** or **ijfrob@gmail.com**

2025

Tue 13th May Hostas
Melanie Collins

Tue 10th June Langham Hall Walled Gardens
(visit - own cars) 3x9cm plants, tea, cake £15

Tue 8th July The Trouble **Without** Wasps
Dr. Ian Bedford

Tue 12th August Walk and Talk
at Depden Care Farm
(visit - own cars) Tim Freathy

Tue 9th September Sustainable Gardening
MD Sow Successful Chris Wiley

Tue 14th October Fullers Mill
Jude Law A Plantsman's Garden

Tue 11th November Bamboo Species
Lew Dyer The Pros and Cons

Tue 9th December Compost
Chris Field

2026

Tue 13th January Annual Dinner

Tue 10th February Companion Planting
Dr. Ian Bedford for a Balanced Garden

Tue 10th March Creating Full Blooming
Sharka Baxter in Difficult Areas

Tue 14th April Annual General Meeting

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Local NHS and Social Care Services lose thousands of pounds each year due to missing equipment. All items returned will be assessed, safety tested and either repaired and reused or stripped down for recycling.

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September 9th
October 7th
November 4th
December 2nd
December 30th

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12:00 – 12:30pm

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fsmgpc@gmail.com

Helping Suffolk Homeowners Stay Warm & Cut Energy Bills

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

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

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

Homeowners of all ages and financial backgrounds may be eligible, including retirees and those with a poor credit history.

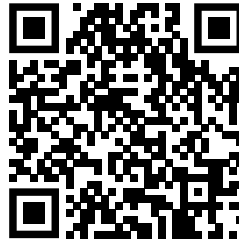
Local homeowners recently shared their experiences:



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For more details on the scheme and how to apply, visit
www.lendology.org.uk/partner/view/suffolk-council
or www.warmhomessuffolk.org

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

This financial promotion/communication has been approved by Lendology CIC, a community interest company limited by guarantee. Lendology CIC is a community interest company limited by guarantee, registered in England, company number 4512225. Registered address: Heatherton Park Studios, Bradford on Tone, Taunton TA4 1EU. Lendology CIC is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (675263) for credit regulated activities.

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The warm feeling fund

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

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



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Takes Your Breath Away

By Alan Leigh

I write these articles well before you read them so I have to do some crystal-ball gazing but I'm anticipating that we've all heard a cuckoo by now. No? You'll have to get a move on because they'll soon be heading back, mainly to the rainforests of central Africa.

Hang on, let's unpack that! The British Trust for Ornithology's cuckoo project (www.bto.org/cuckoos) is well worth a look. You'll see that some cuckoos take the western Spain and Morocco route, whereas others go via Italy and Libya. Either way, after dumping each egg in the nest of their unsuspecting victims to leave all the parental drudgery to them, they coo us goodbye. Cuckoos prefer to migrate at night, leaving the daylight for fuelling up on insects, including their speciality, the hairy caterpillars that most other birds avoid. Last year Wilfred, a Suffolk-hatched cuckoo, travelled a mind-boggling 5,592 miles. In November 24 he was in Angola, well south of the equator. But, assuming he made it back, he'll now be ending his month back in Suffolk. Perhaps you've heard him! The new cuckoos need longer to grow strong enough to migrate, without adults, purely on instinct, but by the end of July they'll be gone, too.

For many humans, running for the bus is enough to reduce us to a panting wreck. Even endurance runners rarely top 50 miles. Yet birds, even tiny ones, can store and spend their energy with much greater efficiency. So how do birds like cuckoos, swallows and swifts - even little migrating chiffchaffs - achieve such incredible feats of athleticism? Like us, birds store energy as fat but for flyers that's a limit - fat is heavy - so they have to make frequent refuelling stops. At some point, though, they're likely to have to cross an ocean or a desert. Faced with running out of fuel and the impossibility of landing to feed, birds have plan B, namely the ability to metabolise protein, turning some of their own muscles and organs such as the liver into fuel.

Cuckoos' night-flying is another clever strategy that leaves the daylight for refuelling while also avoiding the problem of predators. As another serious challenge for the wing-flapping athlete is overheating, flying high in the cool of the night solves this, too.

Birds have another huge advantage over mammals. Our respiration is two-stroke (1. breathe in oxygen, 2. breathe out carbon dioxide) - so, only 50% efficient. But birds use four-stroke breathing. Although their lungs are proportionally smaller than those of mammals, they are interconnected to nine air sacs. There's a set at the tail-end that store fresh air, with the lungs amidships and another set of air sacs in the throat area that hold stale air. The air's complete in-out journey through the bird breathing system takes two in-breaths and two out... Unlike our lungs, avian ones do not inflate/deflate and - here's the clever bit - the airflow only goes through them one way, from tail to head. When birds inhale fresh air through the windpipe the chest muscles push most of it to the posterior air sacs, forcing the air already there into the lungs. This displaces stale air from the previous breath, moving it to the front air sacs. During exhalation, the stale air in the front air sacs is breathed out to be replaced by a new lot of stale air from the lungs. Confused? The point (prepare to be amazed) is that their lungs absorb oxygen during all four cycles, on each in and out breath! Truly efficient.

I hope that took your breath away!

Alan

Cost OF Living

SUPPORT



infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/CostOfLiving



The Picture (In Alio Loco)

By Kenneth Byrom

The scene is of a far distant beach somewhere imagined

The sky is blue

The sea is bluer

The sand is whiter than any sand I have ever seen

Wisps of cloud drift serenely across an endless sky and a lone sail
breaks the horizon

The scene is mounted and
framed and hangs on the
wall of my bedroom

It is the last thing I see at
night

And the first thing I see in
the morning

And everyday I wish I
was there, with you



Village Hall Diary

Activity	Date	Times
Chain Reaction (textiles) Hilary Belchak h.belchak@btinternet.com	Second Monday	10:00am - 1:00pm
Jazz Club Keith: 01284 761690	Third Monday	1:30pm - 4:00pm
The Avenue Jordan: 07555 603340	Every Tuesday	10:00am - 4:00pm
Teaming Up Jordan: 07555 603340	Every Tuesday	6:00pm to 9:00pm
Stitch Group	First Wednesday	10:00am - 4:00pm
Ladies Club	Third Wednesday	7:00pm - 10:00pm
Mary's Quilters Mary: 01284 700101	Fourth Wednesday	10:00am - 4:00pm
Thursday Group	Every Thursday	10:00am - 3:00pm
Weavers	First Friday	10:00am - 4:00pm
Starz 2	Fourth & Fifth Friday	10:00am - 4:00pm
Whist chrisbird2370@gmail.com	Every Friday	7:00pm - 10:00pm

Party? Club Meeting? Exhibition?

If you would like to hire the Village Hall for your one-off or regular event, please contact:

Lynne Quelch

07552 061489 - fornhamhall@aol.com

or

Maureen Hockett, Committee Chair

07887 778353 - maureenl.hockett@aol.com

We'd love to hear from you!

Would you like to publish a piece in The Bugle newsletter?

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 buglenewsletter@gmail.com

Well done Georgie!

The Bugle were following local girl Georgie on her mission to take on her first London Marathon, running to raise money for the charity Mind.

Well... She did it! In six hours, thirty minutes (and 52 seconds).

Well done Georgie! And well done for raising almost £2,000 for Mind - what an incredible achievement!



Is your group represented in The Bugle?

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:

[**buglenewsletter@gmail.com**](mailto:buglenewsletter@gmail.com)

Quick Summer Colouring Fun!

Coloring and doodling offer numerous positive benefits for both children and adults, including improved mental well-being, cognitive function, and creative expression. These activities can reduce stress and anxiety, enhance focus, and provide a therapeutic outlet for emotional expression!



Advertising

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

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Please note

The deadline for articles to be included in the August - September issue of The Bugle is 20th July

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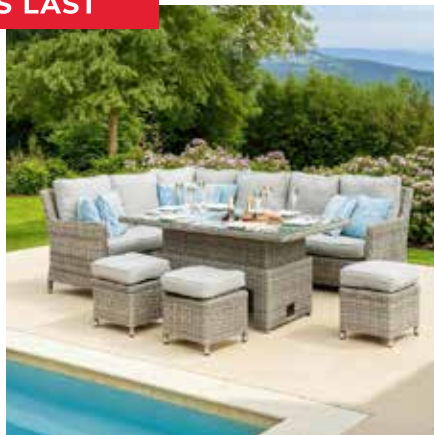
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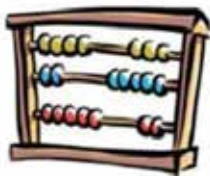
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CoVista Living: Enhancing Community Living with Extra Care

CoVista Living stands out as an exemplary Extra Care housing community, dedicated to providing freedom within a secure environment

The Courtyard

Located in the serene village setting of Ixworth, CoVista Living offers comfort and support for those seeking independence and care, under the guidance of Registered Manager Ann Robinson. Each resident has a self-contained studio or flat, ensuring privacy while care assistance remains readily available.

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

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

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

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

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

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

01359 231188 / 07932 920758

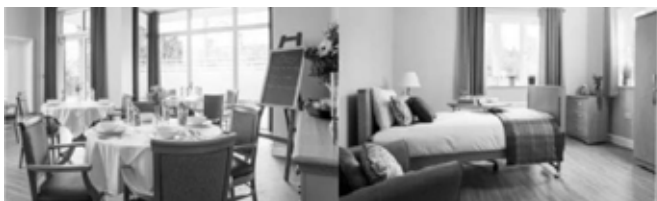
The Courtyard Extra Care
Peddars Close, Ixworth, IP31 2HD

Fornham House

Caring is at the heart of everything we do

Fornham House care home in Fornham St Martin, Bury St Edmunds offers a warm, homely environment, providing quality nursing, residential and dementia care on a permanent and respite basis.

Fornham House offers a range of lounges and relaxation areas, where many social activities take place and are complemented by patio and garden areas for outdoor relaxation. There are generous rooms, some ideal for couples and all with en-suite facilities. Fornham House's range of private and communal spaces provide residents with the necessary facilities for a quality life in later years. Our brand new purpose-built extension has 17 en-suite rooms suitable for those living with dementia. Our extension provides modern fittings throughout, yet exudes a cosy atmosphere, in keeping with the tradition of Fornham House. All rooms are fully furnished, however we encourage residents to bring with them items of furniture and personal possessions so that their room can be a true 'home from home.'



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.



01284 768327

Fornham House, Fornham St Martin, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP31 1SR

Anglim Health

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The Bugle reserves the right to decline an article or advertisement and may also discontinue publication of an article or advertisement without either warning or explanation, where applicable giving a partial or total refund of any payment[s] made.

When publishing articles sent in by members of the public, we wish to make clear that in no way does it mean that The Bugle agrees or concurs with any views or opinions expressed therein.

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.

Local Services & Useful Contacts

Organisation	Details	Phone No.	Comments
Bugle Newsletter	buglenewsletter@gmail.com		Justin Hook
Church	St Martins Church, Fornham St Martin www.northburychurches.org.uk	01284 700400	
Citizens Advice	www.suffolkwestcab.org.uk	0808 278 7868	
Councils	West Suffolk Council www.westsuffolk.gov.uk	01284 763233	
	Suffolk County Council www.suffolk.gov.uk	0345 606 6067	
	Parish Council www.fornhamstmartin.onesuffolk.net	07712 232920	Vicky Bright Clerk
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	FSM Village Hall fornhamhall@aol.com	07552 061489	Lynne Quelch
Medical	West Suffolk Hospital www.wsh.nhs.uk	01284 713000	
	NHS Non-Emergency	111	
Police	Non-Emergency www.suffolk.police.uk	101	
	Crime Stoppers www.crimestoppers-uk.org	0800 555 111	
Samaritans	Bury St Edmunds Samaritans www.samaritans.org	01284 750000 116 123	Local Rate Free
Transport	National Rail www.nationalrail.co.uk	03457 484950	
	Travel Line www.suffolkonboard.com/buses	0871 200 2233	
	Bury Taxi	01284 766777	
Water	Anglian Water www.anglianwater.co.uk	0800 771881	Report Leaks