



THE BUGLE

FORNHAM ST MARTIN & FORNHAM ST GENEVIEVE VILLAGE MAGAZINE

JUNE - JULY 2026

ISSUE NO. 147

Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve

Parish Councillors

Clive Last (Chair)

John Rushman (Vice Chair)

Paul Butler

Brandon Mahon

Linda Leong-Son

Vacancy

Vacancy

Parish Clerk

Justin Hook

clerk@fsmmsg-pc.gov.uk
01284 598128

Other Representatives

Rebecca Hopfensperger
(District & County Councillor)

07876 683516

Sarah Broughton
(District Councillor)

07929 305787

Peter Prinsley
(Labour MP)

peter.prinsley.mp@parliament.uk

Meetings

The Parish Council meets at 6:30pm in the Village Hall, on the second Thursday of each month, except August & December. Please check the village notice boards for any date changes.

Website

www.fsmmsg-pc.gov.uk

The deadline for articles for The Bugle August - September issue, will be 20th July 2026.

Dear Villagers

by Justin Hook, Parish Clerk & Bugle Editor

I've learned recently that we ought not talk about the weather, as Oscar Wilde famously dismissed weather talk as "the last refuge of the unimaginative."

Ooops! So... Moving swiftly on... The case of the village lawnmower! Maybe six weeks ago, I was walking the Hugo (the dog) along the path that runs parallel with the A134 at the top of The Drift, where I stumbled upon an up-turned lawnmower – seemingly abandoned. Thinking immediately that it'd been stolen or just kids messing I dragged it back and threw it in the back of my van (as I happened to have driven that morning). I checked with the Police to see if any reports had been logged, nothing. Then I heard of somebody who used to do some works along the back there, and I started to wonder/worry if indeed I was the thief that stole the lawnmower... I've since learned that said mower had been spotted outside somebody's house with a 'for sale' or 'take me' style notice? Can anybody shed any light? If in my haste to tidy up what I thought was abandoned, I inadvertently stole your mower – it's on my drive! Or if you know anything about where it's come from or whose it might be, please do get in touch. Or if anybody would like a mower (petrol, seems to work), for a small charity donation, again, get in touch.

Speaking of mowing, and of that footpath around The Drift to the old Thetford Road;

Mowing – it's great to see the mowers out and about, both from WSC and SCC. The PC is just finalising its own mowing contract for the playing field and some of the other verges in the village – we apologise for the delay, that's my bad – too busy stealing mowers! Sorry folks.

Footpath – this has been causing some concern, where the contractor has been clearing scrub and bushes and doing some tree works. Having done some digging and in speaking with the contractor, I'm led to believe that the area is being cleared so that a perimeter fence can be erected around the field. There is a planning application going through the process, for works to some of the big trees around the site, but the works carried out are just preliminary, and didn't require planning permission.

And speaking of footpaths – the village is looking and feeling much better still, since the works were carried out recently and we are still hearing positive comments to that effect - thank you for your feedback.

The bus stop at the top of Barton Hill has taken a battering, first with a stone from the lawn mowing team, and I don't know what caused the damage to the second pane – I'm hoping not vandalism, but thanks to Abbey Glass, the bus stop ought to be back in service very soon – thank you to whoever cleared up the second mess of shattered glass – much appreciated !

The play area has had some well overdue maintenance, with some old rotten parts removed, a new rope bridge installed and new swing seats and chains. Plans to repair the tower roof and repaint the whole lot are well under way, hopefully pre-summer holidays. It's surprising even what a difference a quick sweep makes!

The pole for the new bend sign will to be installed before you read this, on the dangerous bend between St Genevieve and Culford – the new automatic warning sign will hopefully make people more aware of the imminent bend, and side turn left.

Council also recently approved the purchase of a new solar VAS (vehicle activated sign) to replace one of the old units, with the old one being repositioned top a different location. The signs do make a difference, and (most) people do slow for them. The new unit will also provide speed data, which can be passed on to the authorities to help inform them of the issues we face with speeding traffic.

It's great to have the Tollgate junction back open again – whether or not you love it or hate it! I generally think that the works have been an improvement. I know that there will be many who want to shoot me down for that, but I feel that traffic flow has been quite good whenever I have used it. I have had my own near miss, but I'm putting that down to my misjudgement, or me misreading the road. After a period of settling in and people getting used to it, the majority of users will benefit from the new layout.

With regards to the Community Governance Review, and council's plans to merge with Fornham All Saints Parish Council, I previously mentioned that this went before WSC for consideration and was received favourably. The next stage is public consultation – please see the double page spread on pages 12 & 13 for more information. You can use the link to view the full proposal online, and be sure to email in your comments. If you have any questions about what this means, or what it might look like, please do email and we'll do our best to answer: **clerk@fsmg-pc.gov.uk**.

And in terms of the wider Local Government Reorganisation and Governments decision to move to 3 unitary authorities in Suffolk, there is a new website detailing how this might look, outlining time lines, boundaries etc. Very much a work in progress, as planning begins – but worth a read, and to keep your eyes on. See – **www.preview-suffolklgr-scc.cloud.contensis.com**.

We are still confident that a shake-up will provide access to better, more locally run and targeted services, and potentially more powers and responsibilities for the Parish Council.

Great to see so much going on at the village hall. If your group / club isn't represented, then let me know and we can make sure you are included.

We do our best to include other informative articles about other local services that may be of interest to help keep you healthy, active, warm and safe, as well as providing help if you are struggling financially or in rented accommodation. If you have something you'd like to write about, or an idea to share, then we'd love to hear from you too.

Lastly – don't forget that you can now use your new bins and food caddies as the new bin collection schedule is now live! There is more information available later in the magazine, or check out the WSC Facebook page, or the Suffolk Recycling website for all the latest information.

www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/better-recycling

As always, feedback, ideas and suggestions for the magazine welcome...

thebugle@fsmg-pc.gov.uk

Questions or issues in or around the village, send these to the Clerk...

clerk@fsmg-pc.gov.uk

Dates For Parish Council Meetings

June 11th 18th ****CHANGE OF DATE****

July 9th 16th ****CHANGE OF DATE****

August - no meeting (*unless planning*)

September 10th

October 8th

November 12th

December - no meeting (*unless planning*)

****Please note the new time of 6:30pm****

All meetings will be held in the Village Hall unless otherwise advised on the meeting agenda which will be posted on the village notice boards at least three clear days before each meeting.

(*excluding Sundays & Bank Holidays*).

Agendas can also be found on the Parish Council website.

www.fsmg-pc.gov.uk

For all communication, please email the Clerk in the first instance.

clerk@fsmg-pc.gov.uk



**PLEASE
NOTE:**
Council meetings
are normally on the
second Thursday of
the month, NOW
at 6:30pm

**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?**

**Become a Parish Councillor!
YOUR VILLAGE NEEDS YOU!!**

To find out more about becoming a Parish Councillor, please email the
Parish Clerk clerk@fsmg-pc.gov.uk

No Cold Caller Zone (NCCZ)

After a recent suggestion, and some correspondence with Trading Standards, a number of streets on the Fairways Estate have been adopted as No Cold Caller Zones and new signage has been put in place.

If you're not in one of the NCCZ's stickers are still available, to put in your windows or doors to ward off unwanted cold callers.

If you would like some stickers, please email the Clerk
clerk@fsmg-pc.gov.uk

Dog Fouling

There seems to be a few dog owners in the village, giving the rest of us a bad name. Reports of more dog fouling generally, but specifically on Lark Valley Drive and even the churchyard.

A polite reminder please, to pick up after your pooch - it's not really anybody else's responsibility!

ALSO, another polite reminder not to put poo bags in the bins IN or AROUND the fenced off play area on the playing field - these bins are for LITTER ONLY. There is a proper red poo bin just inside the playing field for your poo bags.

Fornham St Martin cum St Genevieve Parish Council - April 2026 Meeting

DRAFT Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 9th April 2026 at 6.30pm in the Village Hall

Councillors present: Clive Last (CL) Chair, John Rushman (JR) Vice Chair, Brandon Mahon (BM) and Linda Leong-Son (LLS).

In attendance: County Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger (RH), Clerk Justin Hook (JH), Stuart Turner (ST) from All Saints Resort (ASR), David Yates from the church (DY) and 3 members of the public.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Chair's welcome & apologies for absence.
The Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting. Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Paul Butler and District Cllr Sarah Broughton.
2. To receive any Declarations of Members' Interests.
None received.
CL advised his interest in future waste hub applications, having been involved in the land deal.
3. Approve and adopt the minutes from council meeting held on Thursday 12th March 2026.
Council resolved to approve the minutes and the Chair signed them.
4. To receive County & District Councillors reports.
Local Government Reorganisation result has been decided, with government backing the 3 unitary solution for Suffolk. Boundaries in West Suffolk being finalised. Fornhams and Gt Barton likely to be represented by 1 Councillor. From May onwards, planning for the new administration starts.
2027 will see the election of shadow council, 2028 the existing will be abolished and the new unitaries will take over. SCC have not appealed, but Reform might be appealing the decision, not the Conservatives. SCC always agreed to work with whatever decision was made.
CL noted unprofessional/bitter comments on the SCC website.
In RH's opinion, West Suffolk seems to be getting the best deal / least change – most sensible outcome.
RH on working party looking at new boundaries and approx. 60 new Cllrs for West Suffolk.
5. **PUBLIC FORUM** 10 minutes.
David Randall confirmed purchase of another gallon of weedkiller for the field.
DY confirmed if the Grant Awarding Policy applies to the church?
Clerk confirmed and advised he will circulate once adopted, and make available in website.
DY chasing for more welcome packs - to be covered later in the meeting under item 13i.
DY gave update on ongoing speeding issues, esp. concerning for elderly church goers and residents of Fornham House.
DY advised book sale confirmed for 18th April. PCSO's Amanda and Rachel coming.
ACTION: DY to email advance dates to Clerk to post on website.
JR suggested PCSO's ought to attend or send report for AGM & Parish Meeting.
ACTION: Clerk to request.
6. Planning applications.
Council to consider the following planning applications;
DC/26/0487/VAR
West Suffolk Operational Hub Bury Road Fornham St Martin IP31 1FE
Planning application - variation of condition 1 of DC/24/1072/VAR to allow use of amended

plans for waste transfer area of site for municipal operational hub comprising waste transfer station, household waste recycling centre (including reuse building), fleet depot (including offices), public realm maintenance depot and associated infrastructure including accesses, paths, internal roads and paths, parking, weighbridges, and landscaping.

Council resolved to support this variation.

7. Finance.

Council to consider and approve the following;

- i. **Council resolved to approve outstanding invoices & payments totalling £3,903.01.**

Clerk noted that the latest payslip was actually £0.20 less than the SO, so will adjust the next salary payment to rectify the overpayment.

- ii. Council noted payments received for March – **Total: £395.59** (£383.60 advertising / £11.99 interest).
- iii. Council noted bank balances to end of March – **Total: £30,900.78** (£746.21 current / £30,154.57 savings).

- iv. **Council resolved to approve end of year bank reconciliation for 2025/26.**

- v. **Council resolved to approve end of year finance report for 2025/26.**

- vi. **Council resolved to moving unspent funds to the following earmarked reserves;**

- a. £3.5k to NEW bend sign reserve
- b. £1k to NEW asset reserve
- c. £4.9k to play area refurbishment reserve
- d. £3,650 to NEW village works reserve

- vii. **Council resolved to reallocate £1k noticeboard reserves to play area refurbishment reserve.**

8. Council reviewed and approved Direct Debits and Standing Orders.

Direct Debits – Nest Pensions, ICO, WSC bin collections (consider paying bin collection as annual sum)

Standing Orders – Clerks salary

Council resolved to pay WSC annually for bin collections.

9. **Council resolved to approve the new Grant awarding Policy to bring better control of the application and awarding process.**

10. **Council resolved to approve the website accessibility report and statement.**

11. **Councillors resolved to agree to receiving agenda summons via email.**

12. Highways, footpaths and trees.

Everybody in agreement that the village works were a great success, making the pavements much tidier and safer. Thanks to the contractor and thanks to Longs Farms for providing space for the spoils.

Clerk to walk around with contractor, to update on progress and outstanding works.

13. Clerks update.

- i. Street signs School Lane & Oak Close.
Ongoing.

- ii. Volunteering group.

Great first session, with 8 strong team, clearing pavement edges and bushes from Park Avenue to just past Oak Close.

ACTION: Clerk to organise WhatsApp group for volunteers and set future monthly dates.

- iii. Playing field gate.

Works being carried out, and Clerk getting quotes to have sanded and treated.

- iv. All Saints Resort, walk around.

Very successful meeting with Cllrs from FAS and FSMSG having a tour of the facilities and sit down with David, Hannah, Louise, Stuart and Josh from ASR. Ideas shared for further parking, a sunken grass amphitheatre, padel courts in or near the maintenance stores and a view of the proposed spa garden and golf lounge locations. Potential open day to showcase improvements and offering to residents. More communications, with potential pieces for the parish magazines.

- v. Meeting with Waste Hub.

Successful first meeting but no attendees from FSMSG.

ACTION: Clerk to arrange another date.

- vi. Barton Hill pavement issue.

It appears works have been competed to alleviate the issue - **ITEM CLOSED.**

- i. Village welcome packs.

Clerk advised that he could not locate the original docs. The printer had only an old, incomplete copy. Clerk suggested all information is or could be available online and questioned the necessity of a welcome pack?

DY confirmed it has been a long-standing project, he visits new residents with a copy of The Bugle and The Lark Valley magazine, introduced himself and provides a welcome pack.

Council resolved to no longer produce welcome packs, instead Clerk to produce a simple one-page 'welcome,' encouraging new residents to visit their website for more information on the village, the PC, news, and any clubs / organisations, for DY to use when making visits.

- ii. Increased traffic on B1106.

RH confirmed that this route has actually always been a strategic lorry route.

- iii. CGR update.

WSC voted in support of the idea, and have moved to a period of public consultation, ending 30th June. Details on the website and in the parish noticeboards. Some questions for council to discuss - the actual naming i.e. The Fornhams or Three Fornhams, and the suggested Cllr numbers representing each village – current suggestion 5/1/5.

ACTION: Clerk to add to future agenda to discuss.

- iv. Grass cutting.

Clerk working to get quotes for the grass cutting in the village.

14. Councillors reports.

- v. Weekly & monthly play park inspection reports - Cllr Rushman/Cllr Butler.

Council to receive updates from monthly report and Cllrs bi-weekly visual inspections.

JR confirmed he has copies of the bi-weekly visual inspections to share with Clerk.

- vi. Speeding in the village - Cllr Mahon/Clerk.

Council to receive proposal for full "Fornhams" VAS locations & request for funds.

This item is to be deferred for a future agenda.

15. Children's play area improvements.

Clerk and Cllr Rushman visited the play park and have a blended proposal to replace some items and have a local contractor repair/repaint the other items for a reduced total of £7,815.05 inc. Vat.

Cllrs discussed the notion of safety vs attractiveness, in the light of the high costs involved. Clerk advised that seemingly little has been spent, so the bill is bigger, rather than spread over smaller jobs.

Council resolved to approve the £7,815.05 spend, plus additional works to treat/repaint goal posts and three benches.

16. Trim trail at the play park.

Clerk and Cllr Rushman visited the trim trail. Some minor works have been done to remove nails and sharp edges and the reports identify this. The trail itself is not in bad condition, other

that splitting wood, which is natural.

ASR offered to take the equipment, remove all of the bark at a shared cost of £1,250 to council, but that still leaves the areas to reseed or treat.

Clerk and Cllr Rushman suggested replacing the broken handle on the monkey bars, getting the last item jet washed, and reviewing again in 2027/2028.

Council resolved to agree to this proposal.

17. Bend in the road sign.

Clerk and Cllr Rushman visited the site for the bend sign to finalise exact location.

ACTION: Clerk to liaise with contractor.

JR also highlighted recently painted lines at the junction have faded already due to the lorries travelling on and over the lines in the middle of the road. There is also lots of gravel/debris in the road at the junction.

ACTION: Clerk to report separately on the SCC portal and send report numbers to RH to escalate.

18. Bus stops at Oak Close and opposite the Church/Woolpack.

Clerk and Cllr Rushman visited the both bus stop locations.

Oak Close looks like it could be easily extended. Clerk has sketched a proposal to get quoted to increase depth, add sides and a seat. Works required to repair tarmac, create a raised kerb, a dropped kerb and a path for safe passage to the opposite side of the road.

ACTION: Clerk to pull together proposal and work with RH to put forward for funding.

Opp the church does not look possible – no pavement width for a shelter, and no suitable alternative location.

19. Correspondence.

- i. Sold signs in the village.
Clerk emailed agent, and they were quickly removed.
- ii. Thanks and appreciation for pavement clearing.
Clerk, Cllrs and contractor received lots of appreciative comments.
- iii. Potential volunteer, and volunteer group job, tree issues and thank and appreciation for The Bugle.
Clerk will follow up.
- iv. NCCZ stickers.
Resident given details and will go direct to Trading Standards.
- v. Noticeboards.
Clerk had to remove book sale posters for council related information.
DY now returned key and noticeboards for council business only.
Clerk happy to share events via website and magazine, DY to provide dates in advance.
- vi. SCC Elections.
7th May – candidate details on the noticeboards
- vii. Internal audit.
Booked for week 15th-21st June.

20. Items to be raised on a future agenda.

Question of merging the parish magazines prior to CGR merger.

Full VAS location plan.

21. Date of next meeting.

Next meeting to be the Parish Council AGM held on (corrected date) May 14th 2026, at 6.30pm in the Village Hall.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held prior to this at 6:00pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed to the public 7.43pm.

Parish Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council are still looking for new Councillors.

Our Parish Councillors:

- Are available for PC meetings, usually, the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30pm (with the exception of August & December).
- 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 events

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 some time available 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 Parish Councillor, or would like more info, please email the Clerk clerk@fsmg-pc.gov.uk.

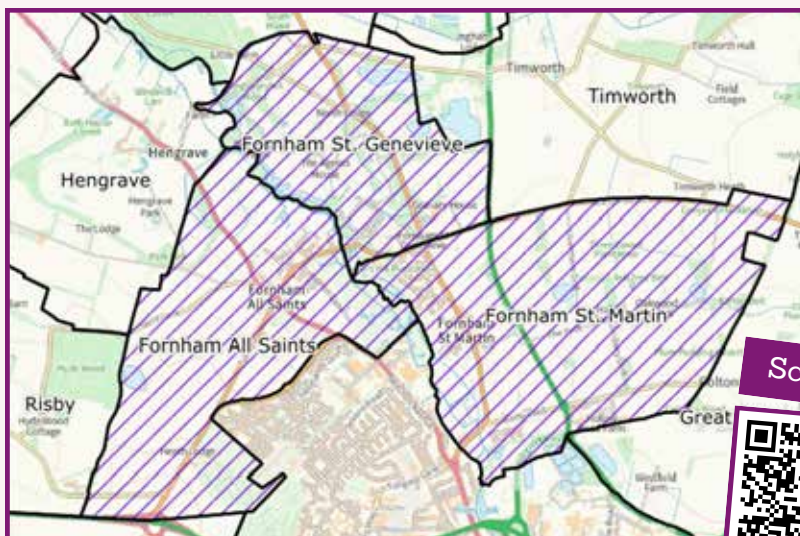
Have your say!

Public consultation on community governance arrangements

West Suffolk Council is consulting on the proposed change to community governance arrangements in Fornham All Saints, Fornham St Martin and Fornham St Genevieve.

Have your
say!

**on the proposal that the parishes of
Fornham All Saints, Fornham St Martin
and Fornham St Genevieve shall be
grouped under a common Parish Council
for the three Fornham Villages.**



Scan here



Deadline for responses: 30 June 2026

<https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/cgr-west-suffolk-council-2025-26.cfm>

Community Governance Review & Public Consultation

by West Suffolk Council

West Suffolk Council has agreed the draft recommendations for the Community Governance Review and launched a consultation on them which will run until 30 June 2026.

We would very much like to hear what you think of the draft recommendations.

When considering the draft recommendation please note that a Community Governance Review should result in parish arrangements which:

- (a) reflect the identity and interest of the community in that area;
- (b) are effective and convenient for the delivery of services;
- (c) provide for a strong, inclusive community; and
- (d) reflect a sense of place

To provide your feedback on the draft recommendations, please email

cgr@westsuffolk.gov.uk

The consultation on the draft recommendations closes on 30 June 2026 and the council will then consider the comments received and draft final recommendations. The final recommendations will then be considered by West Suffolk Council at its meeting in October 2026. Any changes relating to financial or administrative arrangements will take effect from 1 April 2027 with any electoral changes implemented at the May 2027 parish elections. The full timetable is in the Terms of Reference.

For more information about the review please visit
www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/cgr-west-suffolk-council-2025-26.cfm.

If you have any queries regarding the Community Governance Review please email **cgr@westsuffolk.gov.uk**.

At the time of going to press,
the May minutes had not
been finalised

All minutes from Parish
Council meetings
can be found on the
website, or by using
the QR code here



www.fsmsg-pc.gov.uk

Consultation on Public Space Protection Areas

on behalf of West Suffolk Council Cllr Donna Higgins

I am writing to make you aware of a public consultation to help decide whether our existing Public Space Protection Orders across West Suffolk should be renewed and whether new orders proposed by the police and Forestry Commission should be adopted.

Public Space Protection Orders (PSPOs) were introduced by the Anti-Social Behaviour Crime and Policing Act 2012 to tackle anti-social and nuisance behaviour. The need for them has to be supported by evidence and they have to be reviewed every three years to either update or renew or expire.

What are the current PSPOs? Current PSPOs which are due to expire on 30 September include a power to confiscate alcohol where it is being drunk in the street and those drinking it are carrying out anti-social behaviour. This order covers designated areas in the town centres of Brandon, Bury St Edmunds, Haverhill and Newmarket.

There's also a PSPO banning the anti-social use of vehicles on Moreton Hall following issues of racing, meet ups and revving of engines.

In Bury St Edmunds, an existing PSPO bans anti-social street begging in Bury St Edmunds town centre. The council is continuing to work to accommodate people who are street homeless and get them the support that they need for mental health or addiction issues. Alongside this people can help by donating to Bury Drop In's Looking for Change campaign – the money is then used to help people who have been homeless, had help and are ready to move on with their lives.

There's also a PSPO banning dog fouling in all public open spaces – people should bag and bin their dog faeces. Dog walkers are banned from allowing dogs in certain play areas, sports pitches, war memorial gardens and other specific areas – see <https://www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/community/pspo/pspo-dogs.cfm>

What are the additional PSPOs proposed by partners? Changes to existing PSPOs requested by police include:

- The expansion of the existing PSPO area in Bury St Edmunds town centre to include Olding Road, the skate park and West Suffolk House
- A proposal to ban the use of pedal cycles and ebikes within the pedestrianised shopping area of the arc in Bury St Edmunds
- An extension to the existing PSPO in Haverhill with a proposal to prohibit begging and associated behaviour within the existing PSPO area.

The Forestry Commission has requested a PSPO banning the use of disposable barbecues and campfires in Kings Forest, Mildenhall Forest and Thetford Forest. It follows them leading to significant increase in forest fires which pose a risk to lives and properties.

Who can have a say and how? The council is keen for residents, business owners and their staff and visitors to give their own views and evidence and to have their say on the existing PSPOs, the changes proposed by Suffolk Police and the new PSPOs requested by the Forestry Commission. All of this will inform the council's Cabinet in its decisions when it meets in September.

People can give their feedback at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/H5BCPH/
Hard copies are available upon request to;
families.communities@westsuffolk.gov.uk

The consultation will close on Friday 10 July.

Friday Care Tip: Blood Pressure

by Able Community Care

Blood Pressure – You can get it checked without Visiting Your Local Surgery.

In many locations, it is difficult to get a GP Surgery appointment without waiting, often for a week or more. However, if you are worried about your blood pressure and you want to get it checked, you can do so without going to your surgery.

You can get a free blood pressure test in the UK without visiting a GP at most local community pharmacies, chain chemists such as Boots and Lloyds, and in addition, many large supermarkets offer this service.

If you Google “find a pharmacy that offers free blood pressure checks”, an NHS website will come up where you can put in your City or Town and your local pharmacy offering the service will come up.

You can get a free blood pressure check if you: are aged 40 or over.

You cannot get a free blood pressure check if you: already have high blood pressure or have had your blood pressure checked by a healthcare professional in the past six months.

About Able Community Care

Able Community Care is a specialist live-in care provider established in Norfolk in 1980, offering support throughout the UK and offshore islands. For our information pack, please call 01603 764567 or visit our website at www.ablecommunitycare.com.

To receive the Friday Care Tip each week as an individual or group, please email: [**info@ablecommunitycare.com**](mailto:info@ablecommunitycare.com)

 Suffolk recycles



**Better
Recycling**

IS COMING TO
SUFFOLK

In June 2026, your Recycling and Waste Services will be changing to make it easier for you to recycle more.

You'll receive a new bin and food waste caddies as part of the changes. If you live in a flat, new communal bins will be provided and clearly labelled for you to sort your recycling easily.



www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/better-recycling

Please do not use your new bins until June 2026

Green-lidded bin

**Better
Recycling**
IS COMING TO
WESTSUFFOLK



Shredded paper



Books



Cardboard



Paper

Blue bin



**Plastic pots,
tubs, trays,
& bottles**



Plastic films



**Glass
bottles
& jars**



**Metal
food
& drinks
cans**



Cartons



Grey caddies



Tea bags & coffee grounds



Meat and fish
(incl bones)



Plate scrapings



Pet food



Fruit & veg



Dairy

Black bin



Nappies



Dirty fast food
containers



Bagged vacuum
contents



Bagged
animal
waste



Other non
recyclable waste



Brown bin

Subscription only



Leaves



Dead plants
& flowers



Small branches



Grass
trimmings



Fornham Garden Club

by Ian Robertson

Fornham Garden Club met on 14th April 2026 for its Annual General Meeting. After the business, the members took part in a competitive gardening-themed quiz which was greatly enjoyed.

The May meeting of the Club took place on the 12th for a talk by Barry Robertson on 'The Science of Plants and Us'. Barry started his career as an apprentice at the James Hutton Institute in Scotland, then the John Innes Centre at Norwich.

He informed the meeting that there is a connection between research and growing systems. Agriculture had started 20 million years ago when people foraged for food and then started to keep animals and to plant crops. Once a food source was in place, a society could be formed. Knowledge was gained by saving the best seeds and plants and this is how research is carried out now, including studying genetics and collecting seeds. The growing plants are inspected several times a year to assess their growth. It is becoming known that some plants struggle in winter because the cold season is no longer long enough; vernalisation needs cold weather for the plant to flower and set seed the next year. DNA sequencing and interpretation of the results and genetic markers are used to improve crops. Field trials are used to evaluate plants including drought tolerance. The large greenhouses now used commercially are really a big factory in which

Fornham Garden Club

Programme for 2026-2027

Unless otherwise stated, meetings are held at
Fornham All Saints Community Centre IP28 6JZ
 on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm for the raffle,
 tea/coffee and a chat. The meetings start at 7:30pm.

12th May

Barry Robertson
Science, Plants and Us



9th June

James Robinson
Dragonflies



14th July Yvonne Harbutt

Visit and demo. to RHN Plant
Centre, Barrow IP29 5BE

6pm (own cars) tea, biscuits, £4



11th August

Lew Dyer

Bamboo species - Pros and Cons



8th September

Guy Barker

Late Summer Colour





13th October
Nigel Start
Pruning Fruit Trees

10th November

Kate Elliott
A Garden Love Affair



8th December
Paul Marsh
Bury Botanic Garden

2027 12th January Annual Dinner

9th February
Dr Ian Bedford
Gardens for Us
and Them



9th March
Chris Wiley
Snowdrops

13th April

Annual General Meeting

power has become very expensive, so new methods such as LED lighting are being used in a controlled environment where climate simulation is used to match climate change.

Barry has worked in other countries to assist with crop development including using large poly tunnels, and having experienced what a swarm of locusts can do. He advised that plants should be treated as in a hospital and not a nursery so problems can be picked up.

For further information about Fornham Garden Club please contact the Chairman on **07876 644611** or **ijfrob@gmail.com**. Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at Fornham All Saints Community Centre with refreshments raffle and chat from 7.00pm and the meeting commencing at 7.30pm.

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:

thebugle@fsmg-pc.gov.uk

Financial Inclusion Service

→ Helping you with money

We can help you to:



Maximise your income

Check that you are claiming all of the support that you are eligible for

Explore options for increasing your income



Manage the money you have

Support with budgeting



Reduce your spending

Check for any reductions on household bills

Explore grants for household items



The service is open to anyone. You can be referred by another organisation or refer yourself. We are unable to help if you are already being supported with your money by another organisation.

Contact us



Financial.inclusion@westsuffolk.gov.uk
www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/cost-of-living

West Suffolk Council offers support to households at risk of significant fuel hardship

Households that are experiencing or at risk of significant fuel hardship are being targeted for support by a West Suffolk Council service.

The council's Financial Inclusion Service will be contacting over 2,000 low-income households that it has identified as likely to be experiencing or at risk of significant fuel hardship. It will be working to maximise their income and direct them to all means of suitable help.

The conflict with Iran has seen oil prices surge – the Government has announced that over £50 million of support to help for low-income households with the extra cost. In Suffolk that support is to be distributed by Suffolk County Council through its Crisis and Resilience Fund which started Wednesday 1st April. Residents who require immediate support may be eligible for help with heating costs through the existing Local Welfare Assistance Scheme (LWAS) with priority being given to fuel payments, (second applications will be accepted for Heating Oil Payments).

West Suffolk Council's Financial Inclusion Service can help households check if they are getting all the support that they can. But the council recognises that other households may also need help.

Residents are advised to use a benefits calculator at home such as Better Off Calculator - Policy in Practice to see if there are any benefits that they are entitled to. It is completely free to use and confidential. Some unclaimed benefits may also be back dated. See - **www.betteroffcalculator.co.uk**

West Suffolk Council is also offering a free Energy Advice Survey to homeowners, private tenants and landlords who are looking to improve their homes energy efficiency and help reduce fuel bills. They can also advise on eligibility for grants to support these works.

Contact **environment@westsuffolk.gov.uk** to book in a visit.

Many of our partner organisations can also help. These include:

Citizens Advice West Suffolk can provide money advice support
www.suffolkwestcab.org.uk

Realise Futures offers help with household budgeting
www.realisefutures.org/course/confidence-to-deal-with-everyday-household-budgeting/

More information on cost-of-living support can be found on West Suffolk Council's website at **www.westsuffolk.gov.uk/cost-of-living**. These webpages also detail more on our Financial Inclusion Service.

If residents need additional help they can contact our Financial Inclusion Service on **01284 757660**.

connecting **Communities**

rural transport



What could it be used for?

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

What is Connecting Communities?

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

For more information or to book a journey

01638 664304

www.suffolkonboard.com/CC

Cheap

Fares are based on what a normal bus journey would cost

Flexible

Journeys can be booked online or by phone around your schedule

Convenient

Pick-up and drop-off from your door or a convenient location

Modern

Clean, comfortable and well maintained vehicles



Rural Coffee Caravan - Fornham All Saints

Wednesday 3rd June, 2026 10am - 12pm
 Thingoe Lodge, Forge End, Fornham All Saints

FUTURE DATES

1st July
 5th August
 2nd September
 7th October
 4th November
 9th December

FAS Village Hall
 Thingoe Lodge
 FAS Village Hall
 Thingoe Lodge
 Thingoe Lodge
 Thingoe Lodge

Check out
 the website
 for details of
 dates in Great
 Livermere

All Welcome! Simply come for some company and we'll put the kettle on for you, providing free tea, coffee, biscuits or cake, and plenty of cheer. Or come and chat with us to see if there are any concerns we might be able to help you find answers to. We have access to a raft of information on local activities, services and organisations to help you stay happy, healthy, independent at home, and more connected to others in your area.

www.ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk

Please note visits may be subject to last minute changes due to extreme weather or unforeseen circumstances. We will give as much notice as we can, please check the website for updates.

**“A RAY OF
SUNSHINE,”
- BETTY**



**LIFE IS BETTER WHEN
YOU'RE SMILING**

Become a Befriending Volunteer – Make a Real Difference

by The Voluntary Network



Loneliness affects many people in our communities, but a simple act of friendship can change that. Befriending volunteers offer companionship, conversation, and connection to people who may otherwise feel isolated.

Befriending is about being there — sharing a chat, listening, or spending a little time together in person or over the phone. You don't need special skills or experience, just kindness, reliability, and a willingness to connect.

By volunteering, you can help someone feel valued and less alone, while also gaining a sense of purpose, new perspectives, and meaningful relationships of your own. Even an hour a week can make a big difference. If you're looking for a rewarding way to give back and strengthen your community, becoming a befriending volunteer could be the perfect opportunity.

How to Get Involved

Getting started is easy. Simply contact us to register your interest, and our team will guide you through the next steps, including a short application, training, and ongoing support. We'll work with you to match you with someone who suits your availability and interests.

Your time. Your kindness. Someone's brighter day.

jackie@thevoluntarynetwork.org

01638 608048

www.thevoluntarynetwork.org/befriending/how-to-volunteer/

East Anglian Air Ambulance: Support our urgent Cambridge Air Base Appeal

Cambridge Airport – home to our Cambridge crew – will be closing. Without a base in Cambridgeshire, we risk losing half of the service that currently responds to medical emergencies across our region.

Every day, five people across Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Norfolk and Suffolk need our specialist critical care team.

People like baby Clayton who was born in January 2025 at just 26 weeks.

Clayton's story

"I looked down and saw a tiny baby boy gasping for air," Clayton's Mum, Mia, recalls.



Our Anglia Two crew, Dr Liam Neale and Critical Care Paramedic (CCP) Jon Locke, were dispatched by critical care car from our Cambridge base. The equipment carried by our helicopters and critical care cars enables enhanced care to be delivered at the incident scene – when the patient needs it most – such as blood transfusions, advanced pain relief, sedation and anaesthesia, and surgical interventions. This, combined with quick onward transfer to the most appropriate hospital, gives every patient the best possible chance of surviving and recovering from a life-threatening emergency.

When Dr Liam and CCP Jon arrived, Clayton was alive but extremely unwell and it was a race against time. Taking baby Clayton to the back of a heated road ambulance, Dr Liam and CCP Jon began treating Clayton immediately, providing critical care in the moments he needed it most.

Dr Liam explains, "Babies born this prematurely struggle to adapt to the outside world and often need help with their breathing. Even in a hospital setting, children this premature are at risk of dying. Being born at home increases this risk. The odds really were against Clayton, and we needed to do all we could to help him."

Clayton's tiny body was fighting hard, but he was barely breathing, so Dr Liam and CCP Jon inserted a breathing tube so they could inflate his lungs. Dr Liam continues. "He was so small he could fit in the palm of my hand."



It was a real test of our equipment and skills on somebody so tiny. We got him breathing again, then supported this until he reached the hospital specialists. It was one of the most challenging jobs I've ever been to."

"They worked so hard to keep Clayton alive," Mia says.



Against all the odds, Clayton survived.

We need your help to relocate and build a new base

24/7 365 days a year, our crews deliver hospital-level care to people facing sudden medical emergencies. We're not just a fast transfer to hospital; we bring the

emergency department to the scene, giving people the best possible chance when every second counts. But right now, this lifesaving service is under threat.

With no Cambridge site, our air ambulance service will be cut in half – leaving just one base in Norfolk. With no crew in the centre of the region, tasking times to patients, like Baby Clayton, who are facing time-sensitive, life-threatening emergencies, will increase dramatically – putting local lives at risk.

As a charity, every mission we attend is only possible thanks to public donations. **Please act now and donate £30 to protect the future of lifesaving care in East Anglia: eaaa.org.uk/base**



East Anglian Air Ambulance

Update from All Saints Resort

Dear Villagers,

We hope you are enjoying the arrival of spring and the brighter days ahead.

Over the recent May Bank Holiday weekend, we were delighted to relaunch Suffolk Golf Club, welcoming many new faces and encouraging new memberships to our enjoyable and challenging course, suitable for golfers of all abilities.

The reopening of The Lodge Café has also been warmly received by golfers, gym members and local residents alike. Open daily from 7am–5pm (until 3pm on Sundays), The Lodge offers lunches, cakes, pastries and coffee in a relaxed setting. We recently hosted our first Quiz Night, initially for Health Hub and golf members, and following its success we hope to organise more community events in the future. Please keep an eye on our website and social media channels for updates on upcoming activities.

Residents wishing to receive information regarding future fireworks displays at the resort are welcome to contact the Parish Council Clerk to be added to a mailing list. Details of any future displays will also be shared on the Parish Council Facebook page. Should displays take place, we would be delighted to welcome villagers to enjoy them from The View Terrace, which offers an excellent vantage point.

As a hotel and resort, we remain strongly committed to sustainability and reducing our environmental impact. Over the past year, we introduced our Eco Pledge, which can be viewed on our website and helps guide our environmental initiatives and accountability.

Among the many improvements introduced recently are five electric robotic mowers now used on The Suffolk Golf Course, helping to reduce emissions by approximately 90% while maintaining the course to a high standard. We also continue to prioritise local suppliers and locally sourced produce across our food and beverage operations.

Many residents may have noticed the cricket bat willow trees removed earlier this year. These have now been replanted, and the timber was exported to India to be crafted into cricket bats. A similar bat can be viewed in the hallway leading to The View restaurant. Continuing this sustainable cycle remains important to us, and we are proud to have now planted more than 10,000 new trees across the estate.

Unfortunately, we have also experienced a significant increase in vandalism and damage across the golf course, resulting in repair costs amounting to

several thousands of pounds. We are working closely with Suffolk Police and would greatly appreciate the support of our neighbours and local residents in helping to reduce these incidents.

Finally, we would like to thank everyone for their continued support and look forward to welcoming you to All Saints in the coming months.

Warm regards,

The All Saints Resort Team

Suffolk Connected by Suffolk Police

Get connected with what is happening in your local area, stay up to date and get involved in shaping what goes on where you live or work. Suffolk Connected is an easy, free messaging service from Suffolk Police, providing news and updates on policing matters that are relevant to you.



Sign up to receive email updates about crime and suspicious activity where you live or work, crime prevention advice and updates from your local neighbourhood policing team. You'll also have the opportunity to reply directly to your neighbourhood officers and have your say on local policing priorities.



To sign up, visit
www.suffolkconnected.org.uk

Calthorpe and Edwards Educational Foundation 2026/27

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

The Governors limit assistance initially for a maximum of three years and to no person over 25 years of age. The period may, at the Governors' discretion, be extended a year at a time when appropriate, but not beyond the age limit. The grant is paid in three termly instalments and for the year 2025/26 it was £360 pa.

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

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

Inner Group

Ampton, Ingham, Great and Little Livermere, Timworth.

Outer Group

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

Currently there are 3 students from Ingham, 1 student from Ampton and 3 from Great Livermere.

There are 4 students from Fornham St Martin, 16 from Great Barton, 2 from Ixworth and 1 from Wordwell.

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

‘Discover Lavenham’ guides are back for a new and exciting 2026 programme

by Lavenham Tour Guide Association

Lavenham’s official town guides are now back and are planning some new and exciting tours for 2026. The guides are a mixture of qualified blue and green badge guides accredited by the Institute of Tour Guiding.

Each week of the year the guides conduct history tours of the town to delight visitors from near and far. The tours touch on the amazing history of one of the best preserved medieval villages in the world.

Claire Partner is the chair of the Lavenham Guides.



Claire said: “We are so lucky to live in a place which is so alive with amazing history. On our tours we share stories about the village, about the wool trade and how Lavenham came to be so very wealthy back in the medieval period. There’s so many beautiful buildings and stories to share.”

The guides, who all live in North Essex and Suffolk, are now hoping to boost their tour visitors by having a new exciting range of tours they will offer in 2026.

Claire said: “This year we will be putting on some fabulous new and exciting themed tours. These will include a spooky Halloween themed tour and our special Christmas Lantern Tour with a guest appearance from Scrooge.



“Every tour will give a new chance to learn more about the village and other stories about the local area that will fascinate and entertain. We’d encourage history lovers everywhere to come along and take part which are all guaranteed to raise a smile.”

For more information, please see at their Facebook page “Discover Lavenham” or visit **www.guideeast.co.uk** for more information.

The regular tours take place weekly on a Wednesday at 2pm then from the 1st April until 31st October on Saturdays at 11am and Sunday’s at 11am. All tours start from the entrance of The Swan Hotel on the High Street.

Village Hall AGM - Chair's Report, April 2026

by Maureen Hockett

Financially another difficult year when we were unable to increase our reserves.

We have been successful in our application to receive funding from West Suffolk Council for some external maintenance of the building. It has been identified that there are some cracks in the flint work around the rear door. In addition, some of the pointing needs to be replaced. We received a quote from H G Frost who will carry out the work. This needs to be completed by the end of September, to make use of the funding.

Groups – We continue to have some long-term groups but, unfortunately, we have had to say 'goodbye' to five groups, some of whom were closing due to lack of numbers. On a positive note, Lynne has managed to secure a new sewing group Fibre Fusion; a new WI group and a choir who will meet in the Hall in the autumn. Some Workshops are also booked. There continues to be bookings for family parties, but these have become less frequent.

Grounds – over a weekend last August the car park and the edge of the property were strimmed and cleared of weeds. The garden shrubs were pruned, and the area was tidied up.

Parking – this remains an issue regarding a neighbour who insists on using our parking bay at the front of the building despite being reminded that the Hall is private property and there are signs to indicate that the spaces are for the use of Hall users only. The Parish Council in the past has spoken to this person, and several letters have been issued. The Community Police Officer has been advised and has spoken to the person concerned.

Equipment – a table storage trolley was purchased through the funds received from West Suffolk Council. This is proving especially useful and keeps the tables away from the walls, causing damage.

Decoration – during the month of August the Main Hall underwent some decorative work. The Dado rail is often knocked, and paint was peeling off, therefore, it was stripped of paint (several layers from over the years) and sanded down. It was then varnished. This has reduced the need for annual painting.

The Small Hall continues to be used for storage of the chairs and tables and has now undergone some redecoration. The painting of the Kitchen is the next task.

In order to keep costs down, the Committee have undertaken small

maintenance tasks, gardening, and decoration of the Hall themselves.

Our Hall Manager, Lynne Quelch, continues to do an excellent job of looking after the Groups; advertising for new groups; keeping the Social Media pages up to date, and maintaining the Hall to a high standard, as well as doing decorating and gardening.

Thank you Lynne for your hard work and support.

Village Hall Diary		
Activity	Date	Times
	MONDAYS AVAILABLE TO HIRE	
Fibrefusion	First Tuesday	10:00am - 4:00pm
Teaming Up Jordan: 07555 603340	First & Third Tuesday	6:30pm to 9:00pm
Women Inspired	First Wednesday	6:45pm - 8:45pm
Ladies Club	Third Wednesday	7:00pm - 10:00pm
Mary's Quilters Mary: 01284 700101	Fourth Wednesday	10:00am - 4:00pm
Thursday Sewing Group	Every Thursday	10:00am - 4:00pm
Starz	Fourth & Fifth Friday	10:00am - 4:00pm
Whist chrisbird2370@gmail.com	Every Friday	7:00pm - 10:00pm
	SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS AVAILABLE FOR PARTIES, GROUPS & GATHERINGS	

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

FORNHAM ST MARTIN CUM ST GENEVIEVE PARISH COUNCIL S137 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.

If your group would like to be considered for a donation, please contact the Clerk:

clerk@fsmsg-pc.gov.uk

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 thebugle@fsmsg-pc.gov.uk

Church News

by David Yates

The first Book Sale Coffee and Cakes of the year was on 18th April and good to see our regular readers and friends as another year starts, with thanks to everyone donating fresh books, and cakes.

Unfortunately Bury Free Press omitted to put in the advert on Friday 10th April, only Friday 17th April, the usual adverts being one day and eight days prior, but they should be in next time.

Nearly £700 was raised for vital church funds, but also important was everyone enjoyed meeting up again, or maybe for the first time, choosing books from a choice of some 2500, as well as the delicious refreshments. The next Book Sale Coffee and Cakes is on Saturday 18th July 10am - 3pm, and we look forward to seeing everyone.

The Parish Council now restrict notices in their locked notice boards to their own, understandably, so in future the posters will only be in the church and village hall public notice boards.

The annual Christian Aid Week commenced 10th - 17th May, to support all those struggling to cope with poverty and hunger in so many undeveloped countries, having to survive with wars and famine and failing crops. It is a relief and development charity of 41 Christian (Protestant and Orthodox) churches in Great Britain and Ireland, and works to support sustainable development, eradicate poverty, support civil society and provide disaster relief in South America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia. It works with hundreds of local partner organisations in some of the world's most vulnerable communities across 24 countries; like Fridah Moraa, who lives in a corrugated metal shelter in Nairobi, often waking in the morning with no food to feed her two children, after her husband died, with daily aching hunger.

Christian Aid has established a trusted partner, Beacon of Hope, who are supporting all similar families to overcome poverty for themselves, with opportunities to train as farmers, gaining the skills and equipment to grow produce near their homes, and they are gradually turning the tide on urban poverty, feeding themselves and taking produce to market.

Thanks to our dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers, we have delivered the usual little red envelopes around the village, asking those who wish to donate to return it to their local street deliverer, and in church. I will have spare envelopes for anyone else who would like to donate, or in the donations box in church.

A few of us were recently delighted to meet Beryl Dykes, in the Woolpack, when she was visiting a good friend in Norfolk. She and Jeff are very happy in their new residence in Weybridge, participating in the social life and making new friends, and nearer to their sons for some help and support when needed. They send their best wishes to all friends here in The Fornhams.

The bell ringers are really getting to grips with the art of campanology,

under the guidance of Tower Captain Deborah Blumfield. We have ongoing learner handling sessions, as it takes several months to master bell control. Newcomers are welcome to try it out and join what is a very active and sociable county (Suffolk Guild of Ringers) and national organisation (Central Council of Church Bell Ringers) to enable the bells to be rung by our own Band of Ringers for special occasions. Contact Deborah for more information at **deborah.blumfield@outlook.com**.

Following the restoration and augmentation to eight bells, the new ring is becoming well known around a wide area, and visiting bands regularly come to try them out, about 6 or so, so far, including one from West Yorkshire on Saturday 18th July from 2pm – 3pm. All speak very highly of the tone and ease of ringing, making us very proud and grateful to everyone who supported the project.

The First Peal of 5040 changes which will take about 3 hours, is a mark of achievement, and is planned for Sunday 12th July between 12pm and 3pm. The band will consist mainly of Suffolk Guild members who greatly contributed to the project. We hope you enjoy.

Talking musically, our wonderful 1912 Durham organ has just had its annual tune and is fit and well for another year. It makes a wonderful contribution to our services, thanks to our regular organists Marina Kralina and Steph Holland.

In the Spring Newsletter of The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust, (SHCT) they included the results of a national survey by The National Churches Trust, announced at the V & A London, that 80% voted to say they valued the nation's church buildings. That is opportune, as we are about to carry out some regular maintenance to the church, required every 5 years by the Diocese, after their Architect has carried out the Quinquennial Inspection. The cost of some £5,000 is supported only by the many donations made by our village community as parishioners, with our grateful thanks, on behalf of the church. SHCT do give us grants for specific major repairs, not required at this time, fortunately. The Annual Ride and Stride event last September, raised £216,000, to enable these grants to be awarded to help churches with these essential repairs.

We are also grateful to the Parish Council for their annual grant, to contribute towards the regular maintenance of the churchyard, to keep it tidy and respectful for the regular visitors, and especially those tending family graves.

We have had many visitors over the last few months, from near and far : Leicester, Ipswich, California, Texas, Holland, Cambridge and Hong Kong, with some nice comments in the visitors book, complimentary over how well the church is kept, full of colour from the 45 kneelers in the pews and especially the stained glass windows, as well as appreciation for the church always being open every day, as not all are, thanks to our rota of volunteers. Some were visiting family graves, and others just sightseeing, church visiting is quite a popular hobby.

The 100 Club winners are:

June	1st	£30	Wendy Flack no. 26
	2nd	£20	Wendy Pott no. 79
	3rd	£10	Kathleen Blaza no. 59
July	1st	£30	Monique Jones no. 38
	2nd	£20	Melvyn Jocelyn no. 89
	3rd	£10	Maureen Groves no. 30

Thanks to everyone who supports the church in this way.

Additional volunteers are needed for occasional flowers and cleaning and would be made most welcome.

With the magazine now two monthly, the next one after this is, August - September. Any suggestions to be included please let me know.

Mobile Library Dates & Times

Every 4th TUESDAY

June 16th
July 14th
August 11th
September 8th
October 6th
November 3rd
December 1st
December 29th

Lark Valley Drive
12:00 – 12:30pm

For more information, visit the Suffolk
Libraries website:

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk



The Renters Rights Act

Changes for tenants who rent privately



The Renters' Rights Act introduces important changes for tenants who rent their homes from private landlords. The changes aim to give tenants greater security, fairness, and flexibility in their homes. This leaflet gives a quick guide to the changes and what they mean for tenants in West Suffolk.

The following changes are effective from **1 May 2026**. Other changes will follow although dates have not yet been confirmed.

The council can fine landlords who break the new rules.



No more section 21 evictions

From 1st May 2026, landlords cannot use a section 21 notice to evict tenants, and will only be able to end a tenancy for a valid reason.

However, if your landlord gives you a valid section 21 notice before 1 May 2026 they could still ask the court for a possession order to evict you. They will only have a limited time to do this and you can stop the eviction if the notice is invalid.



No more fixed term tenancies

Most private tenants currently have an Assured Shorthold Tenancy. These will automatically convert to Periodic Assured Tenancies, which are rolling agreements with no end date. Landlords must provide existing tenants with a government produced information sheet by 31 May to explain these changes.

Tenants can end the tenancy by giving 2 months' notice, or less if the landlord agrees.



Rent Rules

Landlords can only ask for one month's rent in advance and they can't accept more than the advertised rent.

Rent can only go up once a year, after the landlord giving 2 months' notice.



Right to ask to keep a pet

Tenants can ask to keep a pet. Landlords can only say no for a good reason.



End to discrimination

Landlords and agents can't discriminate against any tenants just because they have children or claim benefits.



For more detailed information about these changes and the Renters Rights Act:
safesuffolkrenters.org/tenants



If you are affected by the Renters Rights Act and need help or advice:
safesuffolkrenters.org/contact



If you are threatened with homelessness:
westsuffolk.gov.uk/housing/find_a_home/homelessness.cfm

West Suffolk
Council



**Safe
Suffolk
Renters**

Do you rent your home from a private landlord?

Safe Suffolk Renters is a **FREE** service that provides advice and support for those living in the East or West Suffolk Council areas.

We can offer **FREE** help with:

- Damp and mould
- Healthy home checks
- Information about rights and responsibilities including the Renters Rights Bill



Find out more about how we can help.
Get in touch with our team today at
safesuffolkrenters.org



Cost OF Living SUPPORT



infolink.suffolk.gov.uk/CostOfLiving 

Advertising	For advertising, or any article for inclusion in The Bugle, contact the Editor thebugle@fsmsg-pc.gov.uk
Delivery	Laurie & Donna Pott 01284 768784 / 07817 563655
Deadline	The deadline for articles to be included in the June -July issue of is 20th May

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

The Bugle is a free publication delivered to over 500 properties in the village every two months.

The cost of advertising for the year will be;

Full A5 page - £151.80

Half page - £75.90

10% discount is offered to advertisers located within the two villages

To discuss you advertising requirements, please contact the Editor

thebugle@fsmsg-pc.gov.uk

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West Suffolk Chiropractic Clinic

about us...

A family run Chiropractic Clinic offering expert care for all types of musculoskeletal conditions, helping to relieve pain, improve mobility and support your overall wellbeing with tailored, professional treatment.

what we treat...

Back pain / Neck Pain / Headaches / Knee pain / Hip pain
Elbow pain / Ankle pain / Shoulder pain

**Ready to feel better? Call us or visit our website
to book your appointment today.**

contact us:

 01284 330893

 www.westsuffolkchiro.co.uk

 hello@westsuffolkchiro.co.uk

 Unit 2, Greenwood Court, Skyliner Way, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP32 7GY

Fornham House

Fornham St Martin, Bury St Edmunds, IP31 1SR



Fornham House offers high standards of **residential** and **dementia care**, where our friendly team truly care for your family like they would their own - providing compassion, respect, and dignity.

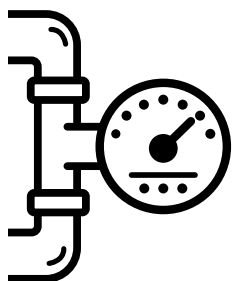
Our **dementia-friendly extension** offers 17 ensuite rooms surrounded by scenic gardens.



Call us on **01284 596555** or visit **healthcarehomes.co.uk**

Committed, compassionate, caring

DAVID WEBSTER HEATING & PLUMBING SERVICES



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Local Services & Useful Contacts

Organisation	Details	Phone No.	Comments
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