

Fornham All Saints

Village Voice
Fornham All Saints Village Magazine



ALFRED
1872

.. YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD NEEDS

YOU..

**IF MANY PEOPLE DO SMALL THINGS
GREAT THINGS CAN BE ACHIEVED!**

April - May 2024

Issue No. 246

Fornham All Saints Officials

Parish Councillors

Martin Loveridge (Chair)	07784 225375
Cathy Emerson (Vice Chair)	01284 700550
Hugo Greer-Walker	07309 045130
Don Lynch	07557 277607
Jill Mayhew	01284 723588
Mat Stewart	01284 701099
Derek Brown	07505 762267
David Surman	07887 657815
Justin Hook (Parish Clerk)	clerk@fornhamallsaintspc.org.uk

Other Representatives

Rebecca Hopfensperger (District & County Councillor)	07876 683516
Sara Broughton (District Councillor)	07929 305787
Jo Churchill (Member of Parliament)	01284 752311

Meetings

The Parish Council meets at 6:30pm in the Community Centre, on the third Tuesday of each month, except August & December. Please check the Village Hall notice board for any date changes.

Website

www.fornhamallsaints.suffolk.cloud

The deadline for articles for the June - July 2024 Village Voice, will be 20th May 2024.

The 'Village Voice' is published by the Fornham All Saints Parish Council. Views and opinions expressed in this magazine are not necessarily accepted as being those of the Fornham All Saints Parish Council. The 'Village Voice' accepts all articles, notices and advertisements in good faith. We cannot be responsible for the content of any submissions, nor liable for the quality of goods and services offered.

From the Chair

I am really hoping that by the time you read this, the clocks will have “Spring-ed!” forward and that the rain has been replaced with something warmer and drier - welcome back sun! Having had a dreadful bout of flu that seemed to see a large chunk of February wasted, I for one will be very glad to see the back of Winter.

Sadly, and yet again, planning issues have dominated the efforts of the Parish Council (PC) over the last few weeks. We have lodged our comments to the final consultation of the West Suffolk Local Plan and have made the Village’s feelings about growth extremely clear. We were promised green-belt between us and BSE and this must be protected at all costs - and at every turn. Thank you, Councillor (Cllr) Jill Mayhew, for leading the charge with the Planning Team.

The application to insert an entrance into the golf course on the stretch of road between the new bus stop and the river Lark was rejected on 7 March with Cllrs on the Development Control Committee (DCC) voting 12 to 2 to reject the application. At a previous meeting in February one of the Cllrs on the DCC said something along the lines of: “I am inclined to listen to local people”; they did. I would also like to thank YOU! You came out in force to make your opinions heard and to ensure that democracy works.

Finally, on planning (I told you it had dominated!) I, our Clerk Justin, and Cllr Mat Stewart of the Planning Team are meeting with the West Suffolk Council (WSC) Planners on 22 March to discuss all issues of planning and to try and achieve some clarity on the way forward. Subsequently, I hope that we can have a constructive meeting with All Saints Hotel to establish an overall plan of what is envisaged by them as a final outcome and to resolve some of the issues that are causing considerable anxiety to many of you. Whilst on the subject of the Golf Course it is really good to see that trees are now being

planted to replace the poplars and in other areas; they will certainly enhance the greenbelt view we all enjoy.

Before I move on from planning I just want to publicly thank Beccy Hopfensperger and Sarah Broughton for all their support and guidance during this busy time. (Beccy has written a very interesting article on their role in the planning process which can be found later in the magazine). Having said that planning issues have dominated, we have of course been busy with other issues.

One of those was the budget. The Finance Working Group, acutely aware of the current state of people's finances, have worked very hard to provide value for money for the village whilst really trying to cut back where we can. I am sure you will have been pleased to see from your Council Tax bills that we have achieved a 2.4 % reduction this year. Well done Cllr Cathy Emerson and her team.

The reorganisation of the allotments continues apace and David Surman and the newly formed Allotment Management Committee (AMC), together with Justin, are making great strides in modernising the process of invoicing, payments, and bill paying etc. The AMC will also carry out the day-to-day running of the allotments and will report back to the Trustees (the PC) when and if required. Furthermore, the really good news is that David Surman has taken the plunge and has decided to join the PC as from our 19 March meeting. Welcome aboard David! He has now become our eighth Councillor so as of now we have a full house! (Note: As David is a plotholder he cannot be a Trustee).

There are a number of other mundane but vital tasks that are being pursued. All our documents will be reviewed and updated over the next couple of months, our finances and practices will be audited both internally and externally, and we are in the process of trying to update our banking practises - out with cheques and in with Direct Debits and internet banking. Banking is being led by Councillor Mat Stewart who

despite running his own business dedicates a lot of time to the PC.

Traffic through the village is a constant source of aggravation - be it speeding, overweight lorries, or just sheer volume of traffic and the inability to cross or join the road. Cllr Don Lynch is on the case with his constant maintenance of the VAS system and monitoring the lorries (over 7.5 ton) that either do, or do not, have permission to use the B1106. He is heading up a small Working Group with the intention of plotting a way forward in terms of making the FAS roads safer and will be putting forward specific recommendations to Council at the next meeting. I also know that he will be arranging a "Lorry Watch" in the near future so volunteers will be most welcome. Thanks, Don, for your tenacity on this issue!

You will all be aware that Councils throughout UK are struggling with adult social care, Special Educational Needs (SEN), housing provision, and of course the ubiquitous potholes!! These vital requirements are taking a large chunk of the budget, thus leaving less and less for other services.

To that end we are trying to fill the gap in some of the other services with volunteering and Cllr Hugo Greer-Walker is still negotiating with Suffolk County Council in terms of tool and equipment provision, and yes hi-vis jackets! The paperwork is now in place and we just need the better weather. Thank you, Hugo, for all your efforts on this - I know it has been a slow process but we are getting there! As for volunteers - best you be on the watch out for the Press Gangs roaming the village with the Queen's shilling!!

Before I go, I would like to thank Cllr Derek Brown for all his efforts since joining 2 months ago. He has taken on the liaison role of assisting the Community Centre with their improvement projects and has hit the ground running with a number of other issues. He has also agreed to take on the facilities / assets responsibilities for which I am eternally grateful.

Finally, I have to say a huge THANK YOU to Justin Hook, our new Clerk and Proper Officer. He has worked extremely hard since joining and has had to grapple with some very complicated and outdated practices and is proving to be incredibly capable and agile.

Well, that's more than enough from me - so enjoy the climb out of Winter and I hope to meet up with you in sunshine and longer daylight hours whilst out walking our dogs!

Martin Loveridge

Martin Loveridge, Parish Council Chair

STOP PRESS:

1. We had a very beneficial meeting with West Suffolk Planners (as detailed above) and are now in a much better position to take forward the issues that affect the village with All Saints Hotel.
2. We now have clearance from Suffolk County Council to buy tools etc. for the volunteers and will be making up a shopping list over the next few days.
3. The flower bed under the village sign is looking beautiful! Thank you to the person who has been caring for that.

For all enquires or questions for the Parish Council,
please in the first instance email the Parish Clerk
clerk@fornhamallsaintspc.org.uk

Dates For Parish Council and related meetings 2024

Apr 16	PC
May 21	PC & Annual General Meeting (TBC)
Jun 18	PC & Annual Parish Meeting (TBC)
Jul 16	PC
Aug	(Nil unless planning)
Sep 17	PC
Oct 15	PC
Nov 19	PC
Dec	(Nil unless planning)

All meetings will be held at 18:30 in the Community Centre unless otherwise advised on the Agenda which will be posted on the Village Hall notice board at least three full clear days* before each meeting.

**excludes Sundays and Bank Holidays*

Why not come along to our next meeting?

Got something to share or a question to ask? There is always time allocated for questions from members of the public.

Or just come to listen and see what goes on behind the scenes in your village.

Meetings usually last about an hour and a half, but you don't even have to stay til the end if you don't want to (or you get bored!)

email clerk@fornhamallsaintspc.org.uk for more information

Introducing Your New Parish Councillor David Surman

I am married to Sarah and our large family of three daughters and seven grandchildren keep us happily busy.

I originally hale from Gloucestershire and upon leaving school I trained as a chef at Birmingham's college of food and art.



After many years working at prestigious racecourses Royal Ascot, Aintree and Cheltenham I moved to Suffolk to work at the newly opened Elveden Forest Center Parcs as the Head Chef.

As a family, we originally lived in Ixworth where we stayed for fifteen years. During that time I joined the Suffolk Fire Brigade as a Retained Fire Fighter.

Eventually we decided to move into Bury as my wife was working in town and our youngest daughter was at King Edwards. I left Center Parcs after 16 years to fulfil an ambition to work in London taking on the Head Chef position at Fulham FC.

After 10 years of commuting from Bury to London we decided on a complete change. We moved to Fornham All Saints and started our own business providing corporate flower rentals (many of you will have seen my psychedelic van around the village) to a wide reaching area including Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and parts of Hertfordshire.

As I have always enjoyed gardening and growing things, I went on a waiting list and was lucky enough to acquire an

allotment in the village 18 months ago. I was subsequently elected chairman of the newly formed Allotment Management Committee.

I joined the Parish Council this year with responsibility for the allotments. I look forward to doing the best I can for Fornham All Saints and its residents.

David Surman

David Surman, Parish Councillor & Chair of The Allotment Management Committee



Would you like an allotment?

Contact the clerk to get your name on the waiting list for a plot
clerk@fornhamallsaintspc.org.uk

Image by macrovector on Freepik

Facilities Update

The jobs list this issue are all mostly Spring related so that is great news!

The village green has been cleared of leaves and debris and has now been mowed for the first time this year.

The memorial garden has also been cleared and weeded and the bus stop flowerbed has been prepared for Spring with the addition of a number of small offspring plants added from our garden. We have also put three pyrocantha against bus stop walls.

The skate park has finally had its missing screw added and all is now in order! The play area requires some attention in terms of weeding / tree works etc. and that will be accomplished in the next few weeks (see article on “volunteering”!).

The base of the lamp posts outside the Village Hall have been repainted.

I am in the process of handing over facilities / assets to Cllr Derek Brown so this will be my last report on these issues.

So, please, allow me one last request: **CLEAR UP AFTER YOUR DOG** – There is still dog excrement being left on the village green! Which is very unfair on the “mower man”.

Cheers,



Martin Loveridge, Facilities



NEXT RURAL COFFEE CARAVAN VISITS

Wednesday 3rd April , 10am - 12pm
Thingoe Lodge

Wednesday 1st May, 10am - 12pm
Village Hall

5th June	Thingoe Lodge
3rd July	Village Hall
7th August	Thingoe Lodge
4th September	Village Hall
2nd October	Thingoe Lodge
6th November	Thingoe Lodge
4th December	Thingoe Lodge
January	NO VISIT

Everyone welcome for a coffee, cake and chat

LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!!

www.ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk

Fornham All Saints

**JOIN
HELP!**

VOLUNTEER

YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD NEEDS YOU

YOU

ALFRED
LEEYE

**TEXT
MARTIN**

07784 225375

email: clerk@fornhamallsaintspc.org.uk

Volunteering

IF MANY PEOPLE DO SMALL THINGS - GREAT THINGS CAN BE ACHIEVED!

I am pleased to say that we now have the go ahead for starting our Fornham All Saints Volunteer Group. Mat Stewart and I completed the “training” in January and we have now been signed up with Suffolk County Council and given the go ahead to purchase tools and safety equipment to support our activities.

All we need now is volunteers and some decent Spring / Summer weather and we can make a start. Litter picking, cutting back pavements, cleaning street furniture and road signs are all on the list; as are a number of tasks in the playground.

Sooooo - if you would like to join us then all you have to do is e-mail Justin our Clerk - clerk@fornhamallsaintspc.org.uk or text me (07784 225375) with your details.

We will need your: first name; surname; e-mail (if you have) mobile no. and address. These details will be securely held by just the Clerk in accordance with GDPR guidance.

The volunteer list has already started to grow by word of mouth so if you would like to be part of the group and kept informed of where / when we are going to meet then please let us have your details.

Don't be shy - it will be fun! Thank you in advance.

Martin Loveridge

Martin Loveridge, Facilities

The Planning Application Process

Article by Cllr Beccy Hopfensperger and Cllr Sarah Broughton

As District councillors the large part of our role is taken up dealing with planning applications pertaining to the parish.

Therefore we thought we'd write an article explaining our role and how we can assist residents when it comes to planning.

Firstly as councillors we are statutory consultees and are notified of any valid planning applications which are in our ward, this includes applications for dwellings, Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's) and appeals to applications. There are a number of other statutory consultees including the Parish Council, the Highways Authority, Environment Agency, the Flood Authority etc. to name but a few.

All planning applications are posted on the West Suffolk Council planning portal and notices will be given to neighbouring properties, in some circumstances for example large developments, applications not in accordance with the development plan and applications in a conservation area are published in the local newspapers.

Ordinarily we are notified by residents and or Parish Councils when they have concerns over a planning application when it has been brought to their attention and they have concerns. All planning applications can be viewed on the planning portal. Ordinarily there are 21 days from the date of publication to comment on the application. We will also look at the list of applications and if there is one that we feel needs looking into further, we will also look at the plans. Anyone can comment on planning applications however you can only object on material planning concerns i.e. how it will affect the surrounding area, highway safety, the design and how it will affect neighbouring properties.

It is at this point that our role as District Councillors come into play as ward members. If asked we will look into the applications including any comments that have been submitted and discuss options with the Planning Officer, we may make site visit if that helps us understand the concerns better. After this initial investigation and discussion we will then make a decision on how to proceed further through the planning process, if we feel that the concerns are substantiated we will call the application into West Suffolk Councils delegation panel. This panel consists of three councillors where we can attend and speak on the application, the decision at this point will be whether to accept the recommendation made by the planning officer or refer the application to the full Development Control Committee (DCC).

If a planning application gets referred to the Development Control Committee, the Planning Officer will present the application to the committee and ourselves as ward members can speak, along with the applicant and representatives of the Parish Council and or residents. Speaking is time limited. The committee will then make a decision on the planning application.

We are both experienced in the planning process and indeed on representing the ward on applications, we are more than happy to help with representations if asked. We hope this article is useful in explaining our role in the planning process and when we need to be contacted in order to assist, please do not hesitate in contacting us.

Becky Hopfensperger

Becky Hopfensperger

Sarah Broughton

Sarah Broughton

Cost Of Living Crisis Hitting Hard?

Many of us are finding it hard with the rising costs of fuel, bills, mortgages and food, but there is help available.

Foodbanks

If you are having trouble affording food, you can contact your local food bank. They supply emergency food and support.

Our local foodbank is Gatehouse, and can be contacted on;

01284 754967 or email: info@gatehouse.org.uk

www.gatehouse.org.uk

Another great local resource is Still Good Food, based in;

Elsey's Yard, Risbygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 3AA

&

Freedom Church, Mill Road, Great Barton, IP31 2RU

email: hello@stillgoodfood.org

www.stillgoodfood.org

Mobile Library

Dates & Times for 2024:

April 23rd
May 21st
June 18th
July 16th
August 13th
September 10th
October 8th
November 5th
December 3rd

Thingoe Lodge
12:35 – 12:55pm

Parish Church
13:00 – 13:20pm

For more information, visit the Suffolk Libraries website:

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk



Would you like to become more active locally?

Fit Villages are working with Fornham All Saints to find out what activities the local community would like to take part in. Previously popular activities have included; Yoga, Pilates, Swimming, chair-based exercise, keep fit, dance and low impact circuits but we are open to new ideas and welcome your suggestions.

Why get involved?

- Get active locally and try something new
- Meet up with friends and others in the community
- All ages and abilities welcome

How to get involved?

If you live in Fornham All Saints or a surrounding village, tell us what kind of activity you would like to participate in by completing our short survey
by Friday 19th April 2024



<https://www.activesuffolk.org/forms/view/fornham-all-saints>

Any questions please contact; Tyler Beales
tyler.beales@eastssuffolk.gov.uk, 07748 181434

connecting **Communities**

rural transport



What is Connecting Communities?

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

What could it be used for?

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

For more information or to book a journey

01638 664304
www.suffolkonboard.com/CC

Cheap

Fares are based on what a normal bus journey would cost

Flexible

Journeys can be booked online or by phone around your schedule

Convenient

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

Modern

Clean, comfortable and well maintained vehicles

Fornham All Saints Parish Council

February Meeting

Approved Minutes from Parish Council Meeting - Excluding Closed Items

Tuesday 20th February 2024

Present:

Councillor Cathy Emerson (CE) (Vice Chair) along with Councillors, Jill Mayhew (JM), Mat Stewart (MS), Don Lynch (DL) and Derek Brown (DB).

Clerk Justin Hook (JH) and 4 members of the public.

1. Chairman's welcome, opening remarks and to receive apologies for absence

Thanks given to those attending from the other Fornhams.

Thanks given to those who attended the planning development meeting on the 7th. The Council will notify residents when date is set for site visit.

Welcome to JH for his first solo meeting as Clerk, and special thanks to Linda Harley (LH) for her help & commitment over the past 3 months as Locum Clerk.

Apologies received and accepted from Cllrs Martin Loveridge (ML) and Hugo Greer-Walker (HGW)

Apologies received and accepted from County and Borough Cllrs Rebecca Hopfensberger (RH) and Sarah Broughton (SB).

2. (i) To receive members Declarations of Interests

None received.

(ii) Council to consider any new written requests for dispensation and/or requests which have been received

None received.

3. To approve & adopt two sets of minutes (full and closed) from the Council meeting held on the 16th January 2024.

CE proposed to approve minutes, JM seconded, unanimous decision.

4. Review of actions from previous meeting if not covered on the agenda

All items to review included in February agenda.

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

None received.

Action: CE to ask ML to seek update from RH on ongoing Compiègne Way issue, as continuing to put extra strain on highways through the village.

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

None received.

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

FSM residents agreed good turn out at planning development meeting on 7th February. Subsequent meeting with David Harris (DH) in their home DH highlighted his request to meet with both Councils and lack of date being proposed. CE stated Council is keen to meet with West Suffolk Council (WSC) before meeting with DH. It was noted there have been four new planning applications since the planning development meeting. RH still chasing WSC for date for a meeting with planning team.

Action: CE to ask ML to chase RH on meeting date.

ITEM BROUGHT FORWARD

15. Community Centre Car Park Update

Paul Purnell (PP) has received response from planners to suggest Parish Council can authorise own permitted development, specifically 'people barriers.'

Action: PP to forward this response to Council.

Proof of land ownership is required for EV charging. PP suggests land is not registered.

Action: CE to obtain land registry detail, Alwin to send

any necessary details to Council. Council to review the information on planning for the car park.

DB reported following site visit meeting and Council agreed that car park and community centre improvements acceptable in principal. CE reiterated need for community centre to seek funding. PP waiting on better indication of what is required before seeking funding. MS suggested use of security cameras on new parking area.

Action: PP to send plans for community centre development to Council.

8. To receive reports from Councillors:

a. Traffic / Roads / VASs / Signs - Don Lynch and Hugo Greer-Walker

DL reports Stennetts not really an issue, Eastern Concrete, Collins and Northfield Farms worst offenders for overweight vehicles.

Spoken to David Lloyd contractors regarding lorry issues and seen marked improvement. Suggest personal approach with offending companies is best approach. Suggestion that vehicle movement be taken into consideration when approving / rejecting planning applications.

Most pressing need is to meet with the team issuing permits.

Action: Arrange meeting with WSC - DL to take lead.

Old video was successful in helping acquire new VAS equipment. DL suggesting a new video be created to use to further improve road safety and traffic calming. £700 likely cost for days shooting / compiling.

Action: JH to add Agenda item for March meeting, DL to research further prior to consideration.

Lorry watch suggested for spring time.

b. Volunteering - Hugo Greer-Walker

None received:

c. Facilities / Assets Management / Allotments - Martin Loveridge

Play area & skate park listed separately, see agenda item 14.

Some vandalism reported behind community centre. DB attended and following up with resident.

- d. Local businesses & residents / Active travel / Defib - Cathy Emerson

Working on GDPR, especially in relation to allotment holders directory.

Had meeting with James Pickering re: Lark path improvements from Fornham to Hengrave, no current budget for repairs.

Footpath from Hengrave to Fornham is ongoing.

Spoken to Enid Gathercole (EC) re: defib. Currently there are no issues.

Meeting with Anglian Water held.

Thingoe Lodge / Havebury meeting held re: residents issues.

Comment received about having a boules court on the playing field - possible use for sports funding.

- e. Social issues / Rural Coffee Caravan / Village Voice - Jill Mayhew

Thingoe Lodge / Havebury meeting held re: residents issues.

JM stepped back from Rural Coffee Caravan & team will liaise direct re: dates, flyers etc.

Village Voice - all happy, going from strength to strength.

Community Action Suffolk is a voluntary organisation gathering folk together in local villages. Not much uptake/engagement in FAS. Will continue to raise awareness.

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

Nothing new from Marham Park - still waiting on RH to arrange meeting.

Contact from Oliver Wastell (OW) re: S106 monies. MS suggested delineating old Tut Hill road surface, vs new path in field. Awaiting decision from OW.

Meeting with Anglian Water (AW) held to ask what do they mean by flagship river and what are they actually doing? Huge positives, with better reporting and AW now looking at investment to removing Phosphates in the next budget cycle. Good relationship building, but not going to be any quick fixes.

9. Planning:

Council to discuss the following planning applications:

i. **DC/24/0051/FUL**

**Plot Moseleys Farm Business Park The Green
Fornham All Saints Suffolk**

Construction of office unit with associated parking and landscaping

CE proposed support of application, based on submission of full lighting report and proposal to mitigate any potential light pollution to residents/wildlife. JM seconded, unanimous decision.

ii. **DC/24/0181/TCA**

2 Dairy Drive Fornham All Saints Suffolk IP28 6LN

Trees in a conservation area notification - one Willow (X on plan) pollard to five metres above ground level

CE proposed support of application, MS seconded, unanimous decision.

iii. **DC/24/0156/FUL**

**All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve
Suffolk IP28 6JQ**

Planning application - a. two open canopy porches over existing entrances to front elevation b. render to front elevation with lettering signage c. statue to front elevation

CE proposed objection to application, on the basis of lack of detail, information and clarity in the application.

MS seconded, unanimous decision.

iv. **DC/24/0146/FUL**

**All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve
Suffolk IP28 6JQ**

Planning application - extension to first floor
gymnasium

CE proposed support of application, JM seconded,
1 in favour, 2 objections. Council will approve
application.

v. **DC/24/0154/FUL**

**All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve
Suffolk IP28 6JQ**

Planning application - infill extension below first floor
gym to create seating areas and changing facilities

CE proposed support of application, JM seconded, 2
in favour, 1 abstained. Council will approve application.

vi. **DC/24/0155/FUL**

**All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve
Suffolk IP28 6JQ**

Planning application - a. first floor extension to dining
area and associated works; b. extension to external
terrace area

CE proposed objection to application, on the basis of
misleading plans and potential unlawful development
- further clarity and resubmission required. MS
seconded, unanimous decision.

10. Local Plan

Plan for FAS includes circa. 10 homes and office buildings.
DB made comment on telecoms, suggesting Council need
to identify poor signal areas.

Action: CE to establish working group for Local Plan to
include CE/ML/JM/DB, JM to take lead. Deadline for
submission 12th March 2024.

11. Allotment Update

Spreadsheet almost fully populated ready to pass to Clerk.

ML to hold meeting with David Surman (DS) and JH to formalise invoicing, rules and procedures.

ML's meeting with Charlie Brown (CB) has been postponed.

Admonishment letters sent re: state of some plots and notices placed to remind plot holders not to make changes to fabric or layout without Trustee approval.

Two parishioners have come forward for support from the charity.

Action: JH to add charity payments to March agenda where Trustees will apportion accordingly. JH to add payment of water bill by direct debit discussion to March agenda.

12. Finance Update

- i. Council to discuss updating signatories for bank accounts, and an update on the move to online banking
ML & MS meeting with bank postponed. Item ongoing.
- ii. Council to consider closing Instant Access Charities Account for simplification
CE proposed to close the Charities Instant Access Savings Account, MS seconded, unanimous decision.
Action: MS to action closure of account.
- iii. To consider and approve payment of the following accounts and outstanding invoices:

Payee & details	Total	Power to Pay*
J Hook Village Voice compilation, editing & expenses	£140.00	7
J Hook Clerks salary, January	£563.30	1
J Hook Clerks expenses, January (Microsoft, paper)	£95.43	3

M Guest Litter Picker salary, November 2023	£205.83	1
M Guest Litter Picker salary, December 2023	£205.83	1
L Harley Locum Clerk and Financial Officer	£1335.00	1
Community Workshop Village Voice printing	£237.83	7
D Surman Reimbursement from Charities Fund for NAS	£80.00	4
D Lynch VAS Battery Charging (June-Dec 2023)	£130.00	2
Total Payments	£2993.22	

CE proposed to pay accounts in full as detailed, MS seconded, unanimous decision.

- iv. To receive bank balances correct to 30 January (unless stated otherwise)

RBoS Current Account	£237.58
RBoS Gold Deposit Account	£26,279.88
RBoS Treasurers Account (Village Voice)	£929.33
RBoS All Saints Charities (statement to 30/12/23)	£1838.87
RBoS All Saints Charities Instant Access Account	£30.89

- v. Council to approve bank reconciliation for January 2024

CE proposed to approve bank reconciliation as provided, MS seconded, unanimous decision.

- vi. Audit: Council to agree up to 8 hours at Locum Clerk rate of £30 per hour to assist with audit

CE proposed to accept LH's proposal of up to 8 extra hours, MS seconded, unanimous decision.

13. Skate & Play Park Inspections

Council noted from reports that remedial work required, but all low to very low risk.

14. Community Centre Car Park Update

PP gave update in open session.

CE suggested Council be ready to make a decision at March meeting.

Action: JH to add to March agenda, DB to continue to lead on this.

15. Invitation to Register (ITR) – personal visits

Council noted that ITR visits will be taking place between 7 February and 8 March

16. Emergency Plan

Council discussed the need for a village emergency plan. JM suggested looking Great Barton example as reference.

Action: CE to ask ML to set up and lead working group, with JM/CE/DB. Working group also to identify who owns village generators, what other equipment is available and establish continued effectiveness/maintenance of these items.

17. S106 Marham Park Surface FP4

MS updated Council under agenda item 8f.

18. Fit Villages

JM in contact with Tyler from Fit Villages to engage residents in healthier lifestyles and will submit ideas.

Council noted there are many clubs/classes already available in the village.

19. B1106

DL updated Council under agenda item 8a.

20. Clerk Training

CE proposed to approve Clerks training (Clerk Basics x 3 @ £30 each, Basic Audit £30), DL seconded, unanimous decision.

21. Emails & domain name

Council agreed need to update email addresses, and possibly look for different provider. JH advised .gov.uk domains are potentially available.

Action: JH to set up working group with ML/CE to overview and present options.

22. Lloyds Shares

CE proposed the sale of the Lloyds shares for simplification purposes, MS seconded, unanimous decision.

Action: JH to speak with Lloyds re: account closure.

23. Council to review & update their Standing Orders & Financial Regulations

Action: CE to set up working group with ML/JH to review. JH to add to March agenda.

24. Council to review internal and external audit reports from 2022/23

Action: CE to set up working group with ML/JH to review. JH to add to March agenda.

Meeting closed to public 20:00

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

www.fornhamallsaints.suffolk.cloud

Fornham All Saints Parish Council

March Meeting

Draft Minutes from Parish Council Meeting - Excluding Closed Items

Tuesday 19th March 2024

These draft minutes will be approved at the next meeting of the Parish Council in April.

Present:

Councillor Martin Loveridge (ML) (Chair) along with Councillors Jill Mayhew (JM), Mat Stewart (MS), Don Lynch (DL) Hugo Greer-Walker (HGW) and Derek Brown (DB). County Councillor Rebecca Hopfensperger (RH), Borough Councillor Sarah Broughton (SB), Clerk Justin Hook (JH) and 4 members of the public.

1. Chairman's welcome, opening remarks and to receive apologies for absence
Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Cathy Emerson (CE).
2. (i) To receive members Declarations of Interests
None received.
(ii) Council to consider any new written requests for dispensation and/or requests which have been received
None received.
3. Council to consider co-opting David Surman onto the Council and complete forms
ML proposed to co-opt David Surman as Parish Councillor, HGW seconded, unanimous decision.
David Surman joined the table as Councillor and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
4. To approve & adopt two sets of minutes (full and closed) from the Council meeting held on the 20th February 2024

ML proposed to approve the minutes, JM seconded, unanimous decision.

5. Review of actions from previous meeting if not covered on the agenda

ML updated to council;

Meeting this Friday 22nd with West Suffolk Council (WSC) to discuss ongoing planning issues. ML, MS & HGW meeting to set agenda.

ML reached out to somebody who can help advise on emergency plan, awaiting call.

Compiègne Way now open. RH advised road is built below the water table and Great Barton has a generally high water table. A Section 9 notice has been issued, and meeting with British Sugar planned as a priority.

Local Plan working party completed a response, thanks to JM who has successfully submitted the response.

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

Nothing to report.

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

Nothing to report, but acknowledged great result at the recent DCC meeting and a well done to all involved.

RH advised she would be raising the process of appeals at the meeting with WSC.

ITEM BROUGHT FORWARD

17. Community Centre Car Park Update

DB met with 3 members of the Community Council. It was agreed that the addition of EV chargers required further information, so needed to be treated as a separate project.

DB proposed to agree changes to move the fencing and increase the size of the car park as per drawings previously submitted by the Community Council, JM seconded, unanimous decision.

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

Cllr Steward from FSMSG confirmed Cllr Collier will be attending Fridays meeting with WSC.

Resident raised the issue of trees being felled at the AS caravan site and piles of logs noted.

Piles have also been noted by the outdoor gym and maintenance store.

Council noted the concerns raised.

9. To receive reports from Councillors:

a. Traffic / Roads / VASs / Signs - Don Lynch and Hugo Greer-Walker

DB submitted 2 long reports in previous meetings citing need for road safety video and potential speed restrictions.

Lorry watch to be scheduled post April - 7am-5pm, covered in 1 hour slots.

RH added she has received a request for a meeting from permit issuing team at WSC.

Action: DL and MS to liaise with RH and arrange to attend that meeting.

Broken gate at top of Tut Hill noted. Temp blockages seemed successful, but not suitable for emergency vehicles.

Action: DL and MS to look into alternative options.

b. Volunteering - Hugo Greer-Walker

Good to go with volunteering, ready to purchase tools and reclaim costs.

ML advised new database being created by Clerk.

Well done to Annabel for planting and tidying around the village green.

Actions: ML to form a working party to discuss moving volunteering forward. ML to write a piece for the Village Voice.

- c. Facilities / Assets Management / Allotments - Martin Loveridge
 ML reported village green cleared ready for mowing, bus stop planting done, village green lamp posts painted.
 DB taking over assets / facilities and completed a walk around with ML.
 ML reached out to WSC parks team for advice re: pigeon spikes on the swings.
 Filing cabinet now back in the village hall.
- d. Local businesses & residents / Active travel / De-fib' - ML
 No updates.
- e. Social issues / Rural Coffee Caravan / Village Voice - Jill Mayhew
 Complaints raised at Thingoe Lodge with Havebury - more a safeguarding issue, JM not to get involved.
 Rural Coffee Caravan (RCC) marketing handed back to RCC.
 Village Voice - useful meeting with Clerk to go through few pointers - agreed to make regular slot before each issue.
 Fit Villages - survey going out in Village Voice to see what services/classes the village would like.
- f. Marham Park / Village Hall / Anglian Water (Lark) - Mat Stewart
 No contact from Marham Park. Trees still dying and need replacing. New management company has taken over.
 RH and SB said they would not be adopting until all replanting is sorted.
 Ongoing dialogue with Anglian Water. Works planned later in the year around the Fornhams.

10. To receive Clerks report

DB and DS now on Council emails, with move to .gov.uk

domain to be reviewed later in the year.

Lots of work to be done updating policies and procedures. Allotment spreadsheet is taking shape. All plots invoiced for 2024. Waiting list of 2.

Bank research - looking at other banking providers - considering factors such as interest rates, banking charges, and auto-top up function. Will report back.

Finance: looking at spending vs budget, there was a £7.5k deficit at the end of February.

11. Planning:

i. **DC/24/0226/FUL**

**All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve
Suffolk IP28 6JQ**

Extension of existing single storey maintenance equipment storage building

ML proposed a 'no comment' response, HGW seconded, unanimous decision.

ii. **DC/24/0174/FUL**

**All Saints Hotel The Street Fornham St Genevieve
Suffolk IP28 6JQ**

Retention of outdoor gymnasium including open sided exercise shelter, moveable exercise equipment and equipment storage container

ML proposed to object, MS seconded, unanimous decision.

Based on noise problems from classes/music/instructors/equipment, requirement of the appeal to look at the impact of locals' lives, policing issues, insufficient information/proof of the efficacy of the acoustic fencing, noise monitoring, monitoring of acoustic fencing, lack of enforcement post appeal.

**Action: JM & MS to provide response to Clerk
(extended to 22/03/2024).**

12. All Saints Tree Planting Update

Council noted phase one planting has been completed

along the B1106 fence line, with phases two and three being planned and that the planting of 250 mature trees has begun across the site.

13. Allotment Update

MS proposed to the payment of the water bill by direct debit, JM seconded, unanimous decision.

DS hand delivered some allotment invoices with positive response.

Rotavator listed in assets register likely to be located in community centre shed - would be useful on site, if found.

ML thanked DS for all of his work to date, and noted that DS cannot be a Trustee of the Fuel Charity as he is an allotment holder.

14. Finance Update

i. ML proposed moving away from RBoS, to more suitable banking arrangement, DL seconded, unanimous decision.

Action: JH to research and report back.

ii. JM proposed to approve the payment of all accounts and outstanding orders, HGW seconded, unanimous decision.

Payee & details	Total	Power to Pay*
J Hook, Clerks salary, February	£563.30	1
J Hook, Clerks expenses, February	£15.12	3
M Loveridge, Chairs expenses, 4/1/24-6/3/24	£57.04	3
Beneficiary One, Charity Fuel Payment	£300.00	9
Beneficiary Two, Charity Fuel Payment	£300.00	9
Beneficiary Three, Charity Fuel Payment	£300.00	9
Total Payments	£1535.46	

- iii. To receive bank balances correct to 29 February (unless stated otherwise)

RBoS Current Account	£282.19
RBoS Gold Deposit Account	£27303.29
RBoS Treasurers Account (Village Voice)	£691.50
RBoS All Saints Charities (statement to 05/03/24)	£1758.87
RBoS All Saints Charities Instant Access Account	£30.93

Council noted bank balances.

- iv. ML proposed to approve bank reconciliation for February 2024, DB seconded, unanimous decision.
- v. ML proposed to pay three applicants a fuel charity payment of £300 each, HGW seconded, unanimous decision.

15. **ERROR- THERE WAS NO ITEM 15 ON THE AGENDA**

16. Skate & Play Park Inspections

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

Action: ML and DB to look at some of the more pressing issues.

17. Community Centre Car Park Update

ITEM WAS MOVED FORWARD

18. B1106 Safety Video

DL suggested last video was influential in getting the improved VAS units and would be a useful tool in combination with traffic data, to push forward road safety, potential crossing, possible speed restrictions and help with reducing traffic weight issues in the village.

Council agreed in principal, but showed concern for cost vs benefit, and noted that the video spend was not in the budget.

ML proposed a working group of DL, MS and HGW to build a solid case, with cost/benefit analysis and an action

plan of how to use the video and for what purpose, to review at the April meeting. HGW seconded, 4 in favour, 1 abstained, proposal carried.

Action: JH to add item to April agenda.

19. Updated Standing Orders & Financial Regulations
ML proposed to adopt updated standing orders and financial regulations, HGW seconded, unanimous decision.
20. Other updated policies
Council noted some work to be done to get policies up to date and that potentially there will be negative comments in the audits.
21. Internal and external audit reports from 2022/23
ML proposed to accept the internal and external audit reports and the recommendations within, HGW seconded, unanimous decision.
22. Updated Code of Conduct
ML proposed to adopt the LGA Code of Conduct as opposed the Suffolk Code of Conduct, HGW seconded, unanimous decision.
23. Review of insurance policy against asset register
This item was unfortunately missed from the minutes of September 2023 when the new insurance policy was approved against the asset register.
ML proposed that the review of insurance against the asset register was carried out, JM seconded, unanimous decision.
24. Updated asset register
ML proposed to adopt updated asset register, DB seconded, unanimous decision.
25. Council to discuss destruction of old sensitive documentation
ML and CE sorted through old paperwork for proper destruction.
ML proposed to pay £90.00+Vat for the proper destruction of sensitive documents, DB seconded, 4 in favour, 1

abstained, proposal carried.

26. Authority for councillors to carry out inspections to play park, skate park and village furniture

ML proposed to give authority for councillors to carry out inspections to play park, skate park and village furniture as required, DB seconded, unanimous decision.

27. Correspondence

Council noted the following correspondence:

Letter from resident concerning All Saints Golf Club - dated 29 Feb 2024

Action: ML to respond.

Email from resident concerning traffic through village - dated 6 Mar 2024

DL responded.

28. Date of next meeting

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Tuesday 16th April 2024, commencing at 18:30 in the Community Centre

Meeting closed to the public 20:07



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

www.facebook.com/fornhamallsaintspc



Fornham All Saints Open Gardens

Sunday 9th June, 2024

We are organising an Open Gardens event to raise money for the upkeep of your villages' three public buildings, the Church, the Village Hall and the Community Centre.

It is a one day event. Visitors will park in the Community Centre, pay an entry fee and be given a program listing all the gardens that will be open together with a sticker to display prominently on their clothing to indicate they are legitimate visitors.

On the day there will be a classic car display on the green, a flower display, an art show, pictures of the village through the years and a "spot the animal" competition for the children, amongst other events.

If you would like to join us, please give us a call.

Mary or Paul Purnell - 01284 763701

Fornham All Saints WI

Kevin Boardman came to tell us about the Great Plague of 1665. This sounded a horrendous subject, however turned out to be quite fascinating! We learned that Plague was an annual visitor, 1665 was the worst outbreak since the Black Death and London lost about 15% of its population. Plague probably started in China and found its way to Europe through the trade routes. Fleas and lice carried the bacteria, living on rats which were attracted to the rubbish and waste on the streets. A bite from an infected flea or louse transmitted the disease from one human to another.

This was bubonic and created swellings (buboes) on lymph nodes. Another form was transmitted by coughs and sneezes. Fatality rates were about 80%.

As Plague was a regular visitor, an organised structure was in place to deal with the victims. Those infected were shut in their homes with a red cross painted on the door plus the words 'Lord have Mercy upon us,' with a Watchman on duty outside. Others looked after the sufferer until they either survived or died, in which case they were taken away for burial. Bills of Mortality recorded the deaths in every parish. King Charles II fled the city by boat, along with anyone else who could leave by this method of transport, as escaping London by road was almost impossible.

Having lived through the Covid-19 epidemic we could appreciate how it impacted life, what it was like to have to isolate in our own homes to stay safe. Being fearful of others who might infect us and if infected, would we survive? So, pandemics are not new for mankind, we are so lucky to have science and effective medicine!

WI meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 2.00 pm in the Village Hall. Visitors are always welcome.

Please call or text Elizabeth 07311 281775 for further information as sometimes we go on outings.

Fornham Computer Club News

Since the turn of the year, we have held some really interesting and enjoyable meetings at the Computer Club. One of the more interesting topics was the adoption of passkeys to replace passwords. This was long overdue as internet security continues to be one of the most important aspects of home computing. The idea of secure access to your internet accounts without a password is a great development. The support of Apple, Microsoft, Google and Amazon will help to accelerate the use of this technology on more and more websites.

Windows computing continues to be one of the more challenging aspects of home computing and our aim is to help our members to improve their ability to get more from their technology, whilst staying secure online. It's particular hard for those with limited computer experience, having to learn about the Windows operating system as well as the software, and it requires considerable effort.

Because of this, we plan to start a new series of meetings just for Windows, just for Windows beginners and inexperienced users.

We meet once monthly on Tuesday afternoon and membership of the club costs only £10 per annum (£20 if you come to the iPad meeting as well).

So if you have the desire to improve your computer skills then please get in touch with me. You would be joining a small group of other like-minded folk with little or no experience, so don't worry that you would be left behind or struggle to understand. We try to keep things simple and easy to follow.

The club has a large group of iPad users. We are almost at our limit as our meetings are usually very well attended but we can usually find space for a few more members.

If you like to know more about our activities, please email me at fornhamcc@outlook.com or call me on 07860 117680

Bernard Grimshaw

Bernard Grimshaw, Computer Club Trainer

FORNHAM ALL SAINTS TABLE TENNIS CLUB

We play on **Monday nights, 7-9pm** in the community centre.

Now we are “home” we are looking to grow our membership. The club is run on a “for fun” basis and welcomes all levels of play.

For more information please contact either:

Martin 07784 225375 or Derek 07505 762267

Fornham St Martin Ladies Club

The Fornham St. Martin Ladies' Group met on 20th March 2024 at the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Apologies were received from K. Turner, M. Bonfield, S. Patient, G. Allen, S. Wiseman, C. Buxton, S. Hardy, M. Hockett, J. Hoggett, T. Miles.

Future outings planned:

- 19th June visit to Peter Beales Roses, cost £10 for the coach, picking up at the Village Hall or Fornham All Saints at 11am and returning at 4pm.
- 21st August visit to Granary Crafts, Buxhall, cost of coach £10, depart at 4/4.30pm and return by 9pm. Refreshments available.
- 4th September, End of Pier Show on Cromer Pier. Cost about £45, which covers cost of coach plus ticket for the show.
- May 15th Fornham St. Martin Village Hall Afternoon Tea 2-5pm. Theme "Ladies Day at the Races."

Kevin Boardman was our speaker for the evening on History Matters. He started his talk with some slides showing Native Indians at a Pow Pow in their colourful costumes and dancing.

All ages take part in the dancing. He spoke particularly about the Lakota tribe (previously ex Sioux, who are not known by that now) A great variety of Native American tribes live in a large area but do not necessarily get on. The main 3 groups split into sub-tribes and are nomadic because they choose to be.

The small groups tend not to fight amongst each other because numbers will be depleted if they did so. They live on the fringes of the Plains and plant seasonable crops and in the summer hunt buffalo. Every bit of the buffalo is used. Horses are used for trade.

Different feathers are worn in their headdresses as they represent different acts of bravery.

Women play a subservient role and do most of the work as it is a male dominated society. Marriages are arranged and a horse is given to the bride's family. Children of 4 to 5 ride on ponies and boys start hunting at 8 years. Families reside in tipis, which is a mobile tent, enabling them to move around easily. Native Americans live on reservations which are Indian owned and there are regulations for their protection.

It was a most interesting talk with lots of information and Mr Boardman was thanked.

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

Janet Petch

Janet Petch

Fornham All Saints Church News

In 1952 Oswald and Grace Sitwell visited Guildford Cathedral and were impressed by the collection of kneelers there. On returning to Suffolk they learned of the extension of the Cathedral and approached the Provost, the Very Reverend John Waddington and asked if he would like new kneelers for the Cathedral. He requested one thousand and it was decided that if each Parish made two kneelers each, the total could be achieved. The kneelers were dedicated at a Festival service in 1970 and have been used ever since. One of the kneelers that was made for Fornham All Saints was stitched by Mrs Metcalf, paid for by Reverend Peck. The other was stitched by Miss Teresa Hurst who later became Teresa Goodenough, a dear friend of the Church in Fornham All Saints.

The Cathedral has now decided to remove the wooden pews and replace them with chairs. As a result of this change, the kneelers are no longer needed. We have been offered one back to keep in our Church, whilst the other will remain. Our returned kneeler is displayed in the Lady chapel along with further information. Do take time to have a look and read further.



Fornham All Saints 101 Club Winners

January 2024	February 2024	March 2024
1 st prize No 28 - L Quayle	1 st prize No 9 - P Riches	1 st prize No 40 - K Turner
2 nd prize No 35 - M Bonfield	2 nd prize No 3 - E Turvey	2 nd prize No 32 - J Mayhew
3 rd prize No 53 - E Williamson	3 rd prize No 44 - D Mapston	3 rd prize No 55 - M Grimshaw

Kyra says....

I would like to say thank you to all those who have helped and joined The 101 Club to raise funds for the upkeep of our beautiful Church. Many years ago, when Colin Everett was our Rector, we had to take out a loan for £2000. This had to be paid back within 4 years, I think. So, I decided to start the 101 Club which raised £500 per year to pay it back. A lot of money in those days and I especially thank the members who joined then and are still members. I would also like to thank others who have helped. However, the time has come for me to hand over the responsibility and ask if someone else would like to take over.

April will be the last draw of the “year” and May would be the new start.

If you are willing and able please be in touch, tel 01284 767188. Thank you to all new members. We now have only 64, so we need more.

Hope to hear from you, if you think it is worthwhile.

Kyra

Our thanks go to Kyra for running the 101 Club for so long. Many have had the pleasure of winning and raising money for the Church. Well done Kyra!

The Baptism of Sofia Beckett

On a chilly Sunday afternoon, the family of Sofia Beckett gathered in our church for her baptism. A small group, some of whom had flown in from Germany and some from Greece, were welcomed by Reverend Andy, our Rector. It was a delightful service made all the more memorable as Sofia responded with high fives with the Rector! Such charm she certainly had!

At the font, Sofia enjoyed being splashed with the holy water and at the end, she applauded everyone especially the Rector who was delighted with her responses throughout the service.

We all welcomed Sofia into the family of the Church, more applause and then finished with the various family groups being photographed with Sofia. It was quite an occasion!

In the church we have created a jigsaw corner where as well as buying second hand books, we have now been given a variety of jigsaws. These can be exchanged for some of your own jigsaws or taken with a suggested donation of £2.00. We try and keep books changing so if you have any books no longer required and suitable for our small collection, please do leave in the church, preferably in a bag by the books.

We now have a card reader which can be used for any amount of your choice or the sums indicated on the reader. The books at present are still at 50p a book or 3 for £1.

Any donations for the church will be gratefully received.

Easter Day

There was a wonderful Easter Day service at the church, followed by an Easter Egg hunt in the churchyard.

Services in April at Fornham All Saints Church

Sunday 7th April | 10.00am | Family Service

Sunday 21st April 10.00am | Holy Communion

Hoping you all enjoyed a very joyful Easter.

Judith Scott & John Grinham

Judith Scott & John Grinham, Acting Church Wardens

Friends Of The Village Hall News

Fornham Footers

Finding walks which are not along rivers or streams and flooded fields proves difficult at times. January, we went to Ickworth Park and walked the Linnet walk and enjoyed refreshments in the café afterwards.

February, the walk was scheduled for Troston, but after two days of more rain and more forecast for the night before and during the morning walk, the walk was cancelled the night before, but the lunch went ahead! An excellent lunch at the Bunbury Arms. I'm wondering if we're becoming a lunch group rather than a walking group! We're certainly getting a good knowledge of the local inns and hostelryes!

Please get in touch with me if you would like to be included in our walks.

The history of some of our Cambridge walks can be found on a later page.

Next walks Fridays 5th April & 3rd May.

Mahjong

We meet twice a month at 9.30am on a Monday morning. Experts and beginners (tuition available) are both welcome to our meetings.

£2 table money inc. refreshments.

Next games on Mondays at 9.30am on 8th & 22nd Apr and 13th & 20th May.

Please contact either Lynne 766909 or Mary 763701.

Film Club

In January, a large number of members came to watch “Village of the Damned.”

In February, the hall was not so full as many were away on holiday. “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” was due to be shown, but for some unknown reason the disk would not play. Luckily, some of our past dvds were in the hall, so we were able to watch “Little Women” again.

March, we watched “The Wind That Shakes The Barley.”
“Two brothers fight side by side against the British forces for Ireland’s independence. When a treaty is negotiated, civil war erupts, and the brothers find themselves on opposing sides.”

Next film nights are at 7.30pm on Tuesdays 23rd April & 28th May.



The film club would like to welcome prospective members to come and watch our April 23rd film for FREE at 7.30 pm.

Just £2 to pay for refreshments, this helps to purchase the films and pay for the hire of the hall.

Contact Lynne (details below) to book your seat as numbers are limited.

I always welcome new ideas for groups connected to the “Friends.”

Contact Lynne 766909, or lynne.quayle99@btinternet.com

The joining fee is £10 pa from May to belong to the “friends” + other club subs.

Traveller's Tales

Two members talked about their different holidays on touring California and north to Yellowstone and Seattle. It was great to see blue skies and the sun shining, apart from the snow that the Californian Zephyr went through on its way from Denver to San Francisco as it travelled through the Rockies.



Excelsior Geyser



Death Valley



Grand Faithful



Yosemite

Next Traveller's Tales is at 7.30pm on Thur. 2nd May. When we will be travelling down the length of Vietnam by train and onto Cambodia to see the Bamboo Railway and Ankor Watt.

Non-members £5 inc. refreshments.

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

Fornham Footers: Cambridge Walks 2016-2024 (Part 1)

The origins of the “Cambridge Walk” date back to the wet December of 2015, and the consequent problems of (very) muddy country footpaths. A walk around historic (and not-so-historic) Cambridge seemed a good alternative.

The first walk, in January 2016, was just that - a walk - without a visit to any of the city’s galleries or museums. Starting from the now-much-missed Urban Shed coffee shop (Bush transistor radios, vinyl LPs) in King St, we crossed Jesus Green and walked the River Cam footpath and boardwalk back to Bridge St punt station. A short walk in front of the more celebrated colleges took us to Gonville & Caius College, then down Senate House passage, to look at the “Gate of Honour,” only opened during graduation ceremonies. The river was crossed on the Garret Hostel Lane footbridge before we meandered through the famous college “Backs,” crossing the river once more for a (winter!) picnic at the junction of the Upper and Middle Cam rivers. A “comfort break” at the Fitzwilliam Museum was followed by a drink in the famous Eagle in Benet St (where Watson and Crick, in June 1953, announced their discovery of DNA’s structure to bemused customers), and that was that.

The “Footers” seemed keen to do a repeat the following year (with Urban Shed once again the starting point, by popular demand!). This time, we crossed the Cam at Jesus Lock footbridge before “climbing” (by Cambridge standards!) the hill on which Cambridge Castle stands. Built in 1068, only the mound now remains, but you do get a great view looking out over Cambridge towards the Gog Magog Hills. The “descent” down Pound Hill took us towards the picturesque and ancient “Rows” of Northampton Street, before moving on to the University Library and a meander through the extensive and interesting post-war faculty buildings on the Sidgwick site. A good lunch at the Granta pub was followed by a “walk extension” across Lammas Land to the secret garden at Hodson’s Folly, before the return to the bus station.

Community Centre Diary

Activity	Date	Times
Table Tennis Club Martin - 07784 225375	Monday nights	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Upholstery Cindy: 07969 863616	Every Monday & Wednesday	9:00am to 3:00pm
Pilates Sarah: 07791 330924	Every Tuesday	10:00am to 11:00am
Art Club 01284 767339	Every 2nd Tuesday in month Every 4th Saturday in month	1:45am to 4:45pm 10:00am to 4:00pm
Garden Club Ian: 07876 644611	Every 2nd Tuesday in month	7:00pm for 7:30pm start
Computer Club	Every 3rd Tuesday in month	2:00pm for 4:00pm
iPad Club	Every 4th Tuesday in month	2:00pm for 4:00pm
Bowls Chris: 01284 703024	Every Wednesday	7:00pm to 9:00pm
Exercise Caroline: 07528 927572	Every Thursday	9:30am to 11:00am
Stars Stitch & Textile Teresa: 07946 523282	Every 1st and 3rd Thursday in month	10:00am - 4:00pm
Drumming Moira: 07949 253917	Thursday nights	7:00pm to 8:30pm
Out of the Fold (Textiles) Tereasa: 07968 312680	Every 2nd and 4th Friday in month	contact for times

Community Council Committee

Minutes for Community Council Committee Meeting –
Tuesday 30 January 2024 at 6.30pm

Attendees:

Enid Gathercole (EG) (Chair), Virginia Comely (VC) (Secretary),
Alwyn Evans (AE) (Treasurer), Paul Purnell (PP), Kyra Turner (KT)
(Committee Members)
Chris Caborn (Bowls Club Representative)

1. Apologies for Absence
Robin Southgate (Bowls Club Representative), Jane Land (JL) (Committee Member), Daphne Wilding
2. Review Minutes of last Meeting – 28 November 2023
 - a. Minutes were reviewed and agreed.
3. Hall Booking Update – EG
 - a. EG updated on the hall bookings. The hall is still very popular. There is a new group who require the hall once a week but this may be referred to the Village Hall due to capacity.
 - b. The Computer Club dates have been agreed and put in the diary.
4. Treasurer Update – AE
 - a. Total in the account £67023.38 at 30.01.24. Income = £8114.10 Expenses = £3223.98. An annual increase of £3707.36 in income due to the increased use of the hall and car boot sales. Interest has increased from last year. Expenses have decreased.
 - b. Card Reader – SumUp Reader to be obtained prior to start of Car Boot season – ONGOING.
 - c. Electric Charging Points – The application submitted has got through to next round of application. AE will submit the further application form by 19 February 24. It was agreed the hall would need two charging points. Discussion held regarding the ownership of the

land - Land is owned by the Fuel Allowance Charity of Fornham All Saints – run by the Parish Council, who are all Trustees. Confirmation of this is being checked in the archives. There will be 24/7 access to these new chargers. Need to tie in installation with new car parking area.

- d. Meter Readings – A reading needs to be done and then an analysis and report back next time – ONGOING.
- e. Charity Commission – VC to pass information and access to AE – ACTION: VC
- f. Defibrillator – money was being set aside for this. EG to investigate this - ONGOING.
- g. Cost for Provisional Planning Meeting has been paid. (see later for further information on planning).
- h. Electricity – Eon Next – Electricity meter needs to be replaced as at end of life. Book for change to a Smart meter. AE will sort. ACTION: AE

5. Rent Increase for Hiring of Hall for 2024

- a. The current hourly hire rate is for Village Residents pay £12 and Non Village Residents pay £15. It was agreed due to inflation and current cost of living the hourly rates are to be increased by £2 per hour for all hirers. A discussion was held as to whether all regular hirers of the hall will pay an increase of £2 per hour and then an extra £1 to catch up to standard rates as all appear to be paying different amounts. Agreed to just increase all rates by the £2 at this time. AE and EG to liaise regarding contact details for regular hirers of the hall. A letter to be sent to all regular hirers regarding the new hourly rate. ACTION: AE/EG
- b. AE will liaise with Art Club regarding a payment schedule – ACTION: EG

6. Hall & Ground Maintenance/Future Facilities

- a. Maintenance is up to date.
- b. Future Facilities – EG updated the Committee

regarding a meeting at the Council Office with the Planning Officer. PP had already sent drawings with the changes. The Planning Officer agreed there was a valid reason for these facilities in the village and gave guidance on how to apply for planning permission when ready to do so. PP briefly explained the plans and how the hall will be changed.

- i. Before building work commences a steel frame with a pitched roof will be installed covering the whole of the existing building so that work can commence but the hall can still be used. The pitched roof will have roof lights/panels along the ridge to let more natural daylight in. Malcolm Johnson will be modifying drawings for metal frame.
 - ii. New storerooms will be created as each back window becomes a double door into a new store room.
 - iii. The two columns within the hall will be removed along with the beam.
 - iv. Existing ceilings will be removed.
 - v. The current entrance hall will be taken out completely and the Ladies, Gents and Accessible Toilets will be repositioned.
 - vi. Solar panels will be installed.
 - vii. There will be enough height and room for a badminton court.
 - viii. The approximate cost of this future facility is thought to be £200,000. Grants will be applied for to help fund this. Countrywide/Marham Park to be approached.
 - ix. An article will be put in the village magazine asking for thoughts and ideas for the future of the hall. Users of the Community Centre will also be asked for their opinions on the plans. ACTION: EG/PP
- c. New Car Parking area – include in the planning application – not actually needed so this could go ahead. This is still waiting for Parish Council approval

and a meeting is being arranged between PC members and CC members to discuss the proposed plans and costs. Bottle banks will be relocated.
ACTION: EG/PP

d. Painting of the hall is still ongoing. The existing painter has now moved away so it was agreed that a working party of the committee will be set up to paint the hall.
ACTION: EG

e. Main door to the hall was repaired but has since been damaged again. PP to contact the repairer to come to site to review and repair again. ACTION: PP

f. A request has been made for two goalposts. Keen to leave at one at the moment to stop too many footballers coming onto the field. EG to contact Five Acres to see if any stray balls are still heading in their way. ACTION: EG

g. New tables have now been purchased and received -
CLOSED.

7. Car Boot Sales 2024 – The following dates were agreed, starting at 7am. Volunteers to help with parking and the kitchen as normal.

a. 28 April

b. 30 June

c. 28 July

d. 25 August

e. 29 September

8. Any Other Business

a. Electrician will be coming to repair heaters, check sensors on the lights and other electrical maintenance on 31 January 24. Plumber is coming on Friday 2 February 24.

9. Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 26 March 24 at 4.30pm



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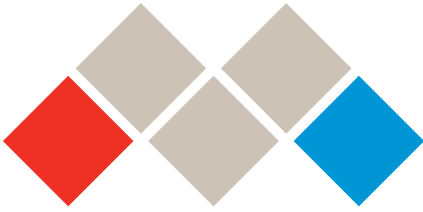
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Cemetery	FAS Cemetery Trustees	01284 705029	P Elmes
Councils	St. Edmundsbury Borough Council www.westsuffolk.gov.uk	01284 763233	
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	Parish Council www.fornhamallsaints.suffolk.cloud		Justin Hook
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