

VILLAGE VOICE

Fornham All Saints Village Magazine



October 2023 - November 2023

Issue No. 243

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
Christine Mason (Parish Clerk)	07545 783987

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 6:30 pm on the third Tuesday of the following months: January, March, May, July, September and November.

Website

www.fornhamallsaints.suffolk.cloud

The deadline for articles for the December 2023 - January 2024 Village Voice, is 20th November.

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

Well, they say that “a week in politics is a long time” and as far as I was concerned the week beginning 7th August certainly was!

I moved to the village under the cover of Covid in 2020. Having settled in to retirement (not!) I looked around for gainful employment of the volunteering sort and decided to join the PC in the Autumn of last year; subsequently, I volunteered to be Vice-Chair at the May meeting. The rest as they say is history - when the Chair decided to stand down, I took up the roll as acting Chair - this was confirmed (chosen from a cast of one!) at an Extraordinary Meeting held on 16th and I officially, and legally, became the current Chair.

Before I go further, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Enid Gathercole for all her work on the Council both as the recent Chair and for all the years she has been a Councillor. We all know that the job is not easy and requires dedication and the ability to find time in an otherwise busy life but, Enid, of all people, has given of her time altruistically and enthusiastically.

I would also like to thank her for all the other charitable and voluntary roles and tasks she fulfils both for the village and beyond. It is people like her that are the backbone of any community and without her this village would be a much less pleasant place to live.

I know that our paths will cross on many occasions as I take the Chair and as Enid continues with all her other roles in the village and I will be delighted to work alongside her over the coming months and years.

So a big “THANK YOU” Enid and we hope you enjoyed the flowers.

Sadly, I also have to report that Alex and Jane - our stalwart magazine editors of the last year or so are also hanging up their proverbial boots. As you can imagine, the design, collation, preparation, and production of such a magazine can be time consuming - especially the collecting / receipt of all the inputs together from numerous sources in time to meet the publication date (nightmare!). And all done on a voluntary basis. We are all sorry to see you go and again I am sending another big "THANK YOU" from all us "FASonians" for your time and effort – it has been much appreciated.

The good news is that Justin Hook, who lives just over the "border" has agreed to take on the responsibility of production of the Village Voice on a professional basis. The next edition (with this report in it I hope!) should hit the streets in October – thank you Justin and "welcome" to the team.

Whilst on the "Thank You Train" - I would also like to thank my fellow Councillors and Clerk for all their help and support during my transition period. It is, I assure you, much appreciated.

And now... to the future - a quote from The Good Councillor Guide:

"The best local councils want to foster vibrant and flourishing communities to improve the quality of life for people living in their local area"

Hopefully the PC will engage more with parishioners over the coming months to ascertain a strategic view of what we, as a village, want to achieve. This will take time. FAS is a satellite village to BSE and the demographics are such that most people have little spare time to give to the community. What spare time there is, is even more precious and must be nurtured. Nevertheless, engagement is the key. There is

a huge amount of good work going on in the village already and the PC must support it where we can and expand it where it is needed.

My vision is to get the fabric of the village back to where it should be from War Memorials to skate parks, bus stops to litter bins and everything in between - once achieved it will take a lot less effort to keep them looking sharp and cared for.

A number of initiatives are in the pipeline, such as the formation of a Volunteer Working Party under the auspices of the County Council (chance to wear hi-vis!!), but I am very aware that they will take time and effort to come to fruition; I am also very realistic that our personal spare capacity for community work is limited. So... all I ask of you is your support when and where you feel able to provide it.

I am looking forward to the future - thank you.

Martin Loveridge

Martin Loveridge, FAS PC Chair

Semper questus melior (always getting better)

P.S. We are two Councillors short on the PC so come along to a meeting or give me a ring if you would like to learn more - 07784 225375.

New Editor

Hello there, I'm Justin and I've now taken over the compiling and editing of your Village Voice. I actually live in St Genevieve, but obviously I still have an interest in what happens in All Saints too, so I'm very happy to be on board.

I'm keen to hear what you would like to see in the magazine... What would you like to hear more of? What's missing? What could make it even better? Equally if you have any feedback, keep it constructive, but please let me know.

This is your magazine, so if you've got ideas for articles, or a piece you'd like to submit, then please do share them. Maybe a favourite recipe, a poem or some village history?

There's more availability for local businesses to advertise in the magazine too, so if you or somebody you know might be interested in placing an advert, then please get in touch.

And of course if you are involved in a local group, club or organisation that isn't currently being represented in the magazine, we'd love to hear from you too!

Please note the new email address you'll need to use is;
fornhamvillagevoice@gmail.com

Anything for the December 23 - January 24 issue, will need to be submitted by 20th November.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions, and I look forward to working with you all. In the meantime, please enjoy this issue!

Justin Hook

Justin Hook, Editor

Facilities Update

For those of you that regularly “walk the village” I hope that you may have noticed a few changes since I last wrote. The findings of the bench survey were approved and they have now all been “upgraded.” Some will need continuing TLC but are now out of intensive care. The icing on the bench cake was the installation of the King Charles 3rd Coronation bench near the village sign (*see article on page 10*). The previous bench lasted over 31 years so with any luck this one should see me out!!

The damaged planter by the Three Kings was repaired within the week – thanks to Harvey Frost for his very rapid response. I suspect that someone now owns a very badly damaged car as there were quite a few parts left at the scene! Harvey has also, very sympathetically, repaired the church gate and the supporting wall by Lucy’s.

Lee Hurrell has repaired the flint and lime churchyard wall in a number of places and all is now in order. Whilst on the subject of the churchyard you will notice some tree works being carried out this autumn as we have an ash tree seriously overhanging a neighbouring property and a sycamore muscling in on the electric and telephone cables.

As I write, we have just received an estimate for repairing the War Memorial’s wire fence that was hit by a car some years ago. Once repaired we will paint it to stop further deterioration – helpers welcome! Sadly, due to the current PC approvals process we will not have it repaired by this year’s commemoration on the 11th November - but hopefully before Christmas.

The skate park has started to show definite signs of wear and tear and we have recently awarded the contract for the replacement of missing screws, vents etc. and the repair of

panels – this should be carried out in the near future – and may have even been completed by the time you are reading this.

I have also had the opportunity to put new anti-pigeon strips on the swings. Hopefully, this will make the seats a bit more “user friendly.” The good news is that on the packet it also said they protect against raccoons – so we need not worry further!!

The new litter/poo bin by the new bus stop at Pound Meadow seems to be proving a success – we just need to now ensure it is emptied a little more frequently.

I now have the village green bus stop in my sights as the wood is unprotected and starting to deteriorate – I am hoping to get on to it before the winter sets in.

Finally, West Suffolk Council have a sum of money for the refurbishment of any damaged or missing road signs so we will be replacing a couple of 30 mph signs that need sprucing up. I also hope that as we get the Volunteering Group started, we can add washing road signs onto the list at some juncture (or should that be junction!).

Remember, if you see any problems with any of the assets in the Village then please do not hesitate to inform me – 07784 225375.

Cheers,

Martin Loveridge

Martin Loveridge, Facilities



- DATES FOR THE NEXT VISITS -

THINGOE LODGE, IP28 6JU

WEDNESDAY 4th October 10.00 -12.00 noon

WEDNESDAY 1st November 10.00-12.00 noon

Everyone welcome for a coffee, cake and chat

www.ruralcoffeecaravan.org.uk

As many of you are aware, Alex & Jane are no longer our editors, a huge thank you to them. Now handed over to Justin Hook, so WELCOME Justin.

Articles you would like to go into our magazine please email fornhamvillagevoice@gmail.com

Don't forget our websites!

www.fornhamallsaints.suffolk.cloud

www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100076158155858

Jill Mayhew

Jill Mayhew, Parish Councillor

New Village Bench

King Charles 3rd Coronation Bench

Official Handover To The Village



*Photograph of members of the WI, the CC, the PC, & the PCC,
who all contributed to the new bench.*

As you will have noticed by now, a new bench has replaced the old one between the church wall and the village sign.

The new bench, to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles 3rd, was the brain-child of the WI. They set about the fund raising and quickly received a very kind donation from Beccy Hopfensperger's (West Suffolk Councillor for the Fornhams and Great Barton) Locality Budget. The Community Council, Parish Council, and the Parochial Church Council chipped in the remaining 3/4s and voila!, the new bench was ordered. We all hope you enjoy it!

Martin Loveridge

Martin Loveridge

Mobile Library

Dates & Times for 2023:

October 10th

November 7th

December 5th

Thingoe Lodge

12:35 – 12:55

Parish Church

13:00 – 13:20

For more information, visit the Suffolk Libraries website:

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk



Traffic In The Village

Dear Villagers,

I share the portfolio of 'highways' with Hugo. Part of my role is to ensure the batteries are charged and changed twice weekly so that our 3 VAS units continue to display 30 mph. The VAS units help to regulate road users to comply with the village speed limit. However, what is not been monitored is the weight of traffic coming through the village i.e. vehicles in excess of 7.4T and there is increase in those and not all have exemptions.

There is an ever-changing list of those who are exempt and the process based on my understanding is that the haulage firms apply to Suffolk Highways (SCC) who carry out minimalist checks, once issued there is no monitoring or review of compliance. SCC tell me they rely on members of the public reporting any breach's i.e. Eastern Concrete are permitted to haul 35 Tonnes of concrete through our village 80 times per month.

I find that unbelievable, however what is even more puzzling is how do we know or indeed SCC know that the firm is compliant with the 80 permitted, we don't and neither do the public servants who granted the exemptions on our behalf and without any consultation.

The other issue in recent weeks was the volume and more so the speed of the tractors, who when challenged simply laugh or worse.

My ask is simple, if you notice a lorry which seem in excess of 7.5T then report it to SCC, they have an online reporting tool, or send the name of the company and the vehicle reg to me and I will report on our behalf.

P.S. I will be organising a 'lorry watch' day and if you have time to help, then send your name and contact number to the Parish Clerk who will coordinate.

Regards,

Don Lynch

Don Lynch, Parish Councillor

CAR BOOT SALES

Fornham All Saints Community Centre

Sadly, boot sale season is over now for another year, but look out for dates of next years sales in future issues.

Thanks to all those who sold, bought and supported us in 2023...

We'll see you again next year!

Winter Is Not So Far Away

Some advice and signposting for some of you:

For advice regarding allowances, healthcare, or housing please email advice@independentage.org or call 0800 319 6789 or visit www.independentage.org

To help prevent slips and falls:

- USE A NON-SLIP BATH MAT
- MOP UP SPILLS IMMEDIATELY
- REMOVE TRAILING LEADS FOR PLUGS
- IF YOU HAVE ONE, WEAR YOUR ALARM EITHER ROUND YOUR NECK OR ON YOUR WRIST
- ENSURE YOU WEAR STURDY FOOTWEAR
- BE WARY IF WEARING BIFOCALS
- KEEP STAIRS CLEAR OF CLUTTER

Remember to look out for each other too, especially those you know who are more vulnerable.

Stay safe this winter.

Jill Mayhew



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**
The MBE for volunteer groups

UPBEAT



**The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service**
The MBE for volunteer groups

HEART SUPPORT IN WEST SUFFOLK

Awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service in 2018

DO YOU NEED ... Friends who really understand?

As a self help group with professional cardiac and exercise support we offer sympathetic ear and practical help to anyone with cardiac problems, their families and carers

EXERCISE, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL EVENTS

Sessions are held at

**The Newbury Community Centre 1, Charles Place,
Westhorpe Avenue, Howard Estate, Bury St. Edmunds
IP32 6TD**

Monday and Wednesday mornings 9.15am to 12.30pm

**Also at Long Melford Old School Community Centre CO10 9DX
on a Tuesday morning 9.15 to 12.30pm**

LOCAL CONTACT for more details:-

Sylvia Baker 01449 774333

Hilary Neeves 01359 232678

Charity No. 1087415 www.upbeatheartsupport.org.uk

Affiliated to the British Heart Foundation

UPBEAT



HEART SUPPORT IN WEST SUFFOLK

Fornham All Saints Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting of Fornham All Saints Parish Council held on Tuesday 5th September 2023 at 6.30pm.

Members Present:

Cllr Martin Loveridge

Cllr Hugo Greer-Walker

Cllr Mat Stewart

Cllr Cathy Emerson

Cllr Jill Mayhew

In attendance:

Christine Mason (Clerk), Cllrs Rebecca Hopfensperger and Sarah Boughton, a representative from the allotments.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Don Lynch

DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive disclosures of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests for the agenda under discussion – none received.

To receive disclosures of gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 - none received.

To consider requests for dispensations - none received.

CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair welcomed Cllrs Hopfensperger, Boughton and a representative for the allotments to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was proposed and seconded that the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of 16th August 2023 were approved as a true statement and signed by the Chairman.

REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Criteria guidelines for when the council must intervene for fixing pavements – RH still waiting for the updated version.

Pre-payment meters – JM to receive information shortly.

S137 donation to the Computer Club – meeting at the end of September to discuss what the money will be spent on.

REPORTS FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

All very quiet due to the summer recess. Full Council Meeting in September.

PUBLIC FORUM

The new point of contact for the allotments raised issues that plot holders had brought to his attention. To be reviewed by Trustees and a meeting may need to be convened.

TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM PORTFOLIOS HELD

Cllr Hugo Greer-Walker: Attended an informative meeting in relation to the Active Travel Plan, with the net result of formulating a group of parish representatives around the area to focus on journeys in and out of Bury. Ongoing rolling permits for lorries, RH to forward a list.

Cllr Martin Loveridge: Commemorative bench is in situ; a new plaque needs to be ordered as the church would like their name added, cost to be divided into four, bench survey completed, fencing around the war memorial to be fixed, painted and cleaned, anti-pigeon strips have been attached to the swings.

Cllr Cathy Emerson: Fallen tree over the river has been reported to the Environment Agency and landowner, map of the village almost completed, new councillor package progressing, Larks Gate residents have been approached to look after The Orchard, three have already agreed.

Cllr Jill Mayhew: Coffee Caravan will be at the village hall tomorrow and to Thingoe Lodge the first Wednesday in the month. Nothing else to report.

Cllr Matt Stewart: The fence/gate on the original road is ongoing, dead trees need to be replaced as WSC will not take over unless the site is in a maintainable state, footpath also ongoing.

CLERK'S REPORT

The vacant allotment plot now let, two remain on the waiting list. An inspection has been carried out and letters sent to those tenants whose plots need attention.

FINANCE REPORTS

Payments on the schedule were approved.

PLANNING APPLICATION – DC/23/1343/FUL

Two outdoor tennis courts. Location All Saints Hotel.

By majority vote the application was approved.

ZEBRA CROSSING REVIEW INC. TRAFFIC & PEDESTRIAN SURVEYS

Following lengthy discussion, it was agreed to establish what criteria the PC would need to cross in terms of pedestrian and car surveys to be given the go ahead to have a pedestrian crossing. RH to speak with SCC.

VILLAGE VOICE – UPDATE AND TIMINGS

With immediate effect, Justin Hook will be taking over the village magazine. Deadline for articles, adverts 20th of the month.

VOLUNTEERING GROUP – UPDATE/WAY AHEAD

Training is required, first session 13 October, as long as the group remains in the scheme, they are insured, hi-vis jackets including equipment is provided to carry out the litter picking etc. To get things moving, the application form to be signed and returned. ML and MS to attend the training. Community involvement to be encouraged.

SKATEPARK REPAIRS

Two quotes were received, unanimously agreed the quotation of £400 + vat from PlayStation Solution was approved

ROAD SIGN APPRAISAL

Three 30 mph signs and four covers required. ML to action.

TO AGREE MEETING CYCLE DATES

Meeting dates as from January 2024 were approved.

PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE PROCEDURES

The Chair and Clerk to liaise.

TO DISCUSS REVIEW OF ALL THE RESPONSIBILITIES

A working group to be set up to discuss a review of all Councillor responsibilities. JM expressed an interest in being

nominated as the PC representative on the SALC board.

TO DISCUSS THE SPARE VAS

Relocating the spare VAS currently located at Tut Hill, to the post at Larks Rise was discussed. Residents of Larks Gate to be contacted for their opinion prior to a final decision being made.

TAPS AT THE ALLOTMENTS – CONFIRM ACTION

Chair to discuss with the allotment representative.

RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN VILLAGE ENTITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

To be picked up within the councillor responsibilities working group.

OVERHANGING CHURCHYARD ASH TREE

Quotation received for £450.00 to cut back 4/5 stems was accepted. Following permission from the Tree Officer, work will be carried out in the autumn.

PLANNING PORTAL – CONNECTION TO THE PORTAL AND REPORTING OF PLANNING APPLICATION RESPONSES FROM FAS PC

With the help of the planning technical team, FAS now have access to the consultee section on the planning portal.

BUSINESS DROP BOX ACCOUNT

To be closed and a simple list of local businesses kept.

DEFIBRILLATOR IN FORNHAM ALL SAINTS

Responsibility for maintaining and servicing the defibrillator to be identified.

REVIEW OF ACTIONS FROM MEETING

Noted.

CHRISTMAS FUNCTION – LOCATION & DATE

In hand.

CORRESPONDENCE

A resident has queried why an agenda and minutes of a meeting held on 21 June 2021 were not posted on the

website. Following investigation by the clerk, the meeting was an informal Q&A session of councillors relating to the closure of Tut Hill. In response to an unfounded complaint regarding lack of communication with allotment holders, a representative from the allotments has been invited to attend Parish Council meetings to bring to the attention of Councillors any issues they may have.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be confirmed.

A thank you was expressed by all Councillors to Enid Gathercole for her many years' service to the Parish Council.



**JOIN
HELP!**

VOLUNTEER

YOUR PARISH COUNCIL NEEDS

YOU

**CALL
MARTIN 07784 225375**

Volunteering in Fornham All Saints

The Parish Council have been looking at the subject of volunteering recently. The reason for that is because the services provided by Suffolk County Council and West Suffolk Council are very stretched and consequently the fabric of the village has declined a bit.

But don't despair, help is at hand !

The plan is to form a volunteer group that meets from time to time to tackle specific tasks around the village. If you want to participate please contact us with your details and we hope to set up a WhatsApp group to co-ordinate a volunteer task force to try and help the village.

The kind of things we are considering are sign cleaning, work on the Lark river and riverbank, weeding and clearing pavements, litter picks, maintenance of facilities, hedge and bush trimming. Hopefully over time we will be able to make a significant difference to the pavements and pedestrian areas particularly for all our benefit.

This is supported by Suffolk County Council and we are in the process of setting up a scheme with them to obtain safety training for work on highways and the use of machinery. SCC issue hi-vis and protective clothing for our use as well.

It would be great if we could have volunteers to assist. In an ideal world we would have a good group of volunteers and people could choose to do one or two sessions and then let others take the strain for a bit rather than a small group that end up trying to do too much. If you are interested and want to know more please contact me or Martin.

Finally a quiz - what do these letters stand for?

MHMLW

Answers to the emails or phones below and every correct answer will win a prize.

Thanks,

Hugo Greer-Walker

Contact details

Hugo Greer-Walker
07309 045130
highways2@fornhamallsaints.org.uk

Martin Loveridge
07784 225375
facilities@fornhamallsaints.org.uk

Community Centre Diary

Activity	Date	Times
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
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
FAS Table Tennis Club Martin 07784 225375	Monday nights	7:00pm to 9:00pm

Fornham St Martin Ladies Club

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Jo Copsey from the Town Pastors was our speaker for the evening. The Town Pastors was opened in Ipswich in 2006

and in Bury in 2008. They are a voluntary independent inter-denominational church response to urban problems engaging with people on the streets to care, listen and dialogue, show concern and offer practical help in a non-judgemental way. They work alongside St Edmundsbury Borough Council, the police and emergency services. At the moment they are working Saturday nights between 10pm and 4am. For reasons of personal safety they are monitored by CCTV in the town centre and are linked to the Townslink radio system. They go out in pairs, normally four people at a time and have undergone a full training programme.

It costs about £21,000 a year to run. They are supported by a large Prayer Team. The Town Pastors represent over 30 different churches in Bury St Edmunds and the surrounding area. Funding is received from many sources, including Suffolk Police and the Crime Commissioner.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Janet Petch

Janet Petch

CLEANER REQUIRED

Fornham All Saints Village Hall
require a cleaner to work for a few
hours a month.

Hours and pay to be agreed.

If interested, please call Paul on
01284 763701

Fornham All Saints Church News

The Visit of Haverhill U3A

On Wednesday 23rd August, Haverhill U3A “Exploring Church Group” had made an appointment to visit Fornham All Saints Church, for their trip for the month. With the help of Teresa’s church guide, Gillian and I explained the history of this Grade 1 listed building from the Norman times when it was in the possession of the Benedictine monks of Bury St Edmunds through to the time when the building was heavily restored in the Victorian era. We explained the three periods of architecture within the building - Norman - door, Decorated - the Belfry of the tower and the Perpendicular – the aisles and porch.

We showed the continuity of craftsmanship within FAS from the medieval carving of the Green Man in the porch to the more recent superb lectern created by Malcolm Johnson in memory of the local wartime pilot Eleanor Wadsworth.

After bringing the history up to date by referring to the many recent improvements to the church over the last 35 years - the heating, the floodlighting, the toilet extension, the new kitchen, a total redecoration of the church and the re-plastering and redecoration of the ceiling - we then set the group the task of finding several unusual features. As the group dispersed seeking out various items, one of the group, David Hart, asked if he could play the organ. Of course, as I had worked in Haverhill for 36 years I knew quite a few of the group by name having taught many of their children! David I knew well as he was the editor of the Haverhill Echo and I also taught his son. We learnt that he had been playing the organ at Hundon Church for 50 years! It was fun being with the group looking around the church with the organ producing some well-known tunes!

It was so great to meet up with such an enthusiastic group and in the process discovering new facts for ourselves and catching up news with my connections with Haverhill.

Gillian & John Grinham

Ride and Stride and Coffee and Cake day

For the first time for a few years, we at FAS combined the SHCT Ride and Stride day with a coffee and cake day, along with music provided by three members of our Church band, all this to honour 50 Years of Ride and Stride in Suffolk. Julie Barford had prepared a magnificent spread of cakes and savouries and organised the day with some sterling help from Roberta and the youthful Skye. Their efforts raised a magnificent total of £203.10. Thank you Julie for all your hard work in putting this event on and thank you to all who supported this day.



Meanwhile, on the hottest day of the year, cyclist and walkers from FAS had allowed more time to get round their chosen routes with some longer breaks in the cooler church buildings. Catherine and Peter decided a walk around the

12 Bury churches and visited the Heritage Open Day of the Norman Tower. I took my time in visiting 27 churches. I always enjoy the country circuit in the morning and then strolling around the town churches. I like to stop and chat at each church: meeting Bill at Northumberland Avenue Methodist Church and Clive Paine at St Mary's were particularly rewarding. Our combined riding and striding efforts will raise over £400 to be shared with SHCT and FAS church. A big thank you to all sponsors and stewards in the church as well as those taking part.

John Grinham

Cathedral Service 17th September 2023

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust celebrated their 50th Anniversary on Sunday 17th September.

Representatives from every Church and Chapel were invited to attend. So, three from Fornham All Saints attended a service at a packed Cathedral, everybody wearing badges to indicate which Church they represented. We thoroughly enjoyed the grand ceremony to celebrate the work done by the trust to keep restoring the churches throughout Suffolk and to celebrate the efforts of the PCC's up and down Suffolk, to keep the church buildings in good order. 300 churches were represented, 400 Vicars, Church Wardens, Treasurers and many others who care for the various buildings, whether Anglican, Catholic, Baptist, Methodist or Unitarian.

Judith Scott

Services in the coming weeks in our church:

October 1st: Family / All Age Service	10:00
October 15th: Parish Communion	10:00
October 29th: Benefice Communion	10:00
November 5th: Family Service	10:00
November 12th: Remembrance Service	11:00
<i>There will be our short annual Remembrance Service at the War Memorial: meet at 10:50, to be followed by refreshments in the church.</i>	
November 19th: Parish Communion	10:00

All are warmly welcomed to our services.

Judith Scott & John Grinham

Acting Church Wardens

Friends Of The Village Hall News

Fornham Footers

We've been walking near and far during the last four months. Twice to Cambridge with shared lifts, once on the bus way up to Fen Drayton Lakes with a walk around the "Lagoon Trail" and onto St Ives for lunch. The other, a walk to Grantchester partly along the River Cam, lunching at the Blue Ball, bus back to Cambridge then walking past the University Library. Followed by hiring two punts subsidised by the club and a trip on the Upper Cam partly back to Grantchester. Our other two walks were at West Stow and a circular walk around Hopton.

Next walks are Friday 6th October starting in Nowton Park and Friday 3rd November, which will be our Children in Need walk finishing at the Village Hall for a shared lunch, where we give donations to the appeal. Please join us for the lunch if not the walk.

Film Club

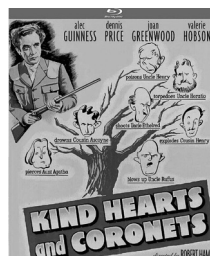
Films for the last four months shown below, August is a non-film month.



June



July



September

The films are decided by the group, with "Kind Hearts....." a big favourite with the group. Due to the licence we hold, films cannot be advertised and film goers need to be a member of the group. There is no charge each time you come to film night (except for refreshments!). We have a large screen and stereo sound... We welcome new members.

Next film nights are at 7.30pm on Tuesdays 24th October and 28th November (open to all members of the "Friends" with a wine and snack refreshment).

Group Visits



Twelve members of the group have had a subsidised visit to West Stow Hall. But no-one took up the subsidised offer to visit the exhibition "Mutiny in Colour" at Moyses Hall, now ended – a treat missed!

Mahjong

Two meetings a month, at 9.30am on a Monday morning gets the brain working at the start of the week. Experts and beginners (tuition available) are both welcome to our meetings. £2 table money inc. refreshments.

Next games on Mondays at 9.30am on 9th & 23rd October and 13th & 27th November. We look forward to seeing you.

Please contact either Lynne 766909 or Mary 763701

Traveller's Tales

In July, Howard and Lynne gave an illustrated talk on their trip to Alaska and The Yukon, where they travelled by plane, car, boat and train visiting;



Rocky
Mountaineer

Skagway

Chicken

Dawson City

In September, John & Gillian gave us a photographic look into their trip to Morocco earlier this year, when they visited;



Marrakesh

Foothills of the Atlas
Mountains

Essaouira

Shortly after that evening, Morocco suffered a devastating earthquake. The whole club thought that it was very appropriate to send a donation via the Red Cross.

Next Traveller's Tales is on Thursday 9th November, at 7.30pm when Paul & Mary will be taking us down the East Coast of Australia. Non-members £5 inc. refreshments.

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

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

Lynne Quayle

01284 766909

lynne.quayle99@btinternet.com

The joining fee is £10 pa (starting in May) to belong to the “Friends” + other club subs.



BEETLE DRIVE

In The Village Hall

**Fundraising for Children in Need
Thursday 16th November**

£6 to include Prizes & Refreshments

Reserve Your Tickets Today

01284 766909

lynne.quayle99@btinternet.com



Fornham All Saints WI

Fornham All Saints WI has been out and about this summer.

On an extremely hot day in June we visited Peter Beale's Roses, enjoying a lovely afternoon admiring their extensive gardens and having afternoon tea in their restaurant. In July we had a fascinating tour of the Yum Yum Tree Fudge factory at Woolpit. Sampling all the delicious flavours several times over, which were very Yum! Then we came home with bag loads of fudge to enjoy in our own time.



August was a social afternoon of chat over Pimms and homemade ice cream in a member's garden. In September we made a visit to the Anglo-Saxon village at West Stow, exploring the reconstructed housing, admiring the extensive archaeology exhibits and also the educational Anglo-Saxon museum. What a gem on our doorstep!!

We warmly welcome visitors to our meetings, which are always on the second Tuesday of the month at 2:00pm, usually in the village hall.

Please call or text Elizabeth 07311 281775 for further details as we like to go on visits and we certainly enjoy our food and sometimes go out for lunch!

Community Council Committee

Minutes from the Community Council Committee Meeting –
Tuesday 4th July 2023 at 6:30pm

Attendees:

Enid Gathercole (EG) (Chair)
Virginia Comely (VC) (Secretary)
Alwyn Evans (AE) Treasurer
Daphne Wilding (DW), Paul Purnell (PP), Jane Land (JL)
Kyra Turner (KT) (Committee Members)

1. Apologies for Absence
Chris Caborn & Robin Southgate (Bowls Club
Representatives)
2. Review Minutes of last Meeting – 30 May 23
 - a. Minutes were reviewed and agreed.
 - b. Brian Hardy – It was agreed that a gift will be purchased for Mr Hardy as gratitude for his long service as Treasurer of the Committee. It was agreed a M&S voucher. EG – gift given of £100 – BH said thank you and was very grateful. CLOSED
3. Hall Booking Update – EG
 - a. EG updated on current hall bookings. Bookings Going well as always. Most weekends there are functions booked for most weekends right through to October. Two bookings for next year already.
 - b. Horse and carriage funeral procession using the community centre on preparing for Crematorium.
4. Treasurer Update – AE
 - a. AE advised that the 32 day notice account now opened – now have 3 bank accounts for Community Council funds.
 - b. Free Trial on Lloyds on software now over so costs now £5 per month. All agreed expenditure.

- c. Total income – £14121.95 Expenses £7943.11 = £7527.34 Net Income.
 - d. Cheque from Art Club has bounced. EG will provide AE with contact details to resolve issue. ACTION: AE
 - e. David Young from the cycling club The Wheelers. EG will send invoice. ACTION: EG
 - f. Continue to try to claim for damage to the external door. Zurich have been contacted and required the incident date – 31 August 2022. Found 12 Sept 22. Need quote details. ONGOING
 - g. Non Domestic Rates – this has now been resolved - CLOSED
 - h. AE has emailed regarding the electric charging points but not had any responses. ONGOING
 - i. Meter Readings – AE will do analysis regarding this. PP updated on new deal with Scottish Power for Village Hall. Got it through an agency for 3-year deal. PP will provide details of rates to AE to compare. ONGOING
5. Hall & Ground Maintenance/Future Facilities
- a. Concrete damage has now been repaired. CLOSED.
 - b. Extending Parking Area – PP presented updated drawings for the extension of the parking and moving of bottle banks. Quote for £1000 per pair of gates. Substantial tree roots could cause problems. Need to discuss with tarmac company. Will be discussed at next Parish council meeting and PP will obtain prices. ACTION: PP
 - c. Painting of the hall is still ongoing. Having trouble getting hold of existing painter so we are going to find someone else to finish off the job. ACTION : EG
 - d. Main Door to hall needs repairing. AE has contacted Insurance Company. ONGOING – see above
 - e. Filter for the water boiler – need to order new ones. ACTION: PP

- f. The cupboards have been tidied up. All items that could be re used has been given to the school in front of the community centre. Very pleased and thanked everyone for these items. Art Club taken over the cupboard. More room for everyone else to store. CLOSED
 - g. 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
 - h. Future Facilities – Plans have been delayed due to illness – Ongoing Spoke to Malcolm Johnson. Is getting on with plans. Need to speak to planning department to discuss future plans. Agreed to pay for this consultation. MJ will sort. ACTION: MJ
 - i. EG will order new tables. ACTION: EG
- 6. Security of Community Centre
 - a. CCTV has been installed. CLOSED
 - 7. Bottle Bank Recycling – EG has contacted the bottle bank company and they agree to moving as it would make it easier for them to empty. These will be relocated once new parking area is completed. ONGOING
 - 8. Any Other Business – as there were no other items to discuss the meeting was closed.
 - 9. Date of Next Meeting:
Tuesday 3 October at 6.30pm

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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



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THURSDAY MORNINGS 11-12pm

Fornham All Saints Community Centre

for further information or to enrol contact:

Caroline Jack 07528 927572/01284 725594



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Local Services & Useful Contacts

Organisation	Details	Phone No.	Comments
Church	All Saints Parish Church www.northburychurches.org.uk	07990 834078 01284 760679	John Grinham Judith Scott
Cemetery	FAS Cemetery Trustees	01284 705029	P Elmes
Councils	St. Edmundsbury Borough Council www.westsuffolk.gov.uk	01284 763233	
	Suffolk County Council www.suffolk.gov.uk	0345 606 6067	
	Parish Council www.fornhamallsaints.suffolk.cloud	07545 783987	Christine Mason
Electricity	UK Power Networks www.ukpowernetworks.co.uk	0800 3163 105	Report Outages
EMERGENCY	Ambulance / Fire / Police	999	
Gas	British Gas www.britishgas.co.uk	0800 111 999	Report Leaks
Halls	FAS Community Centre www.suffolkvillagehalls.co.uk	01284 767688	
	FAS Village Hall lynne.quayle99@btinternet.com	01284 766909	
Medical	West Suffolk Hospital www.wsh.nhs.uk	01284 713000	
	NHS Non-Emergency	111	
Police	Non-Emergency www.suffolk.police.uk	101	
	Crime Stoppers www.crimestoppers-uk.org	0800 555 111	
Samaritans	Bury St Edmunds Samaritans www.samaritans.org	01284 750000 116 123	Local Rate Free
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	Travel Line www.suffolkonboard.com/buses	0871 200 2233	
Village Voice	fornhamvillagevoice@gmail.com		Justin Hook
Water	Anglian Water www.anglianwater.co.uk	0800 771881	Report Leaks