

# *Fynn - Lark News*

**FEBRUARY 2025**



*Photograph by Gary Farmer*

## **BACK INTO ROAD MODE**

Please treat this as an editorial stop-gap item: in the absence of anything else as lead item, this is a re-focusing on two local issues. One strategic, the other local, and so often personal: 1/ The Northern bypass and 2/ Potholes. Both are very much matters of local concern.

### **THE NORTHERN BYPASS**

This seems to be very much back on the agenda. Repeated hold-ups around the Orwell Bridge have been producing

**Magazine for the Parishes of Great & Little  
Bealings, Playford and Culpho**

repeated snarl-ups in and around Ipswich. Our MP, given the dual nature of his constituency – Northern Ipswich and the rural South of the county, finds himself caught in the middle, caught in the cross-fire of strategic economic thinkers concerned about the impact of repeated snarl-ups on industry and the local economy, versus the concerns of those living in the countryside with predominantly ecological worries about the impact of any new major road on large swathes of local countryside. All this within the wider context of the impact of ever more traffic swallowing up ever more of the space available, killing off ever more wildlife and green spaces. Those who thought that the campaign, some years ago, to kill off the idea of a Northern by-pass was terminally successful, will probably have to think again, and refurbish their weaponry.

The editor is no engineer, but he has heard talk of the alternative of a tunnel. The Dartford Tunnel was found to be inadequate for the volume of traffic, so they built the Queen Elizabeth Bridge. The Orwell Bridge may be proving inadequate for the volume of traffic and for dealing with hold-ups, so why not reverse the process and give the Orwell Bridge a back-up companion, the Orwell tunnel, running close by, just as at Dartford? Up will rear the thorny question of cost, as with the burying of cables versus the alternative of pylons. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we made up our minds to do the right thing for the long-term future, and find the money to do whatever IS the right thing!

## **POTHoles**

The French for a pothole is “un nid de poule” – a chicken's nest, those cosy little straw-lined dents in which chickens lay their eggs. This is a far cry from the brutality of some of our British potholes, deep and jagged, certainly not the kind of place a broody chicken would find comfortable. Your editor has recently had first-hand experience of these, while taking part in the SHCT Ride and Stride event. Not only the potholes, but also those edge-of-road nine-inch-deep tarmac cliff edges, which can be equally lethal and damaging, both for cars and cyclists. What can we do? Just make sure these hasards are reported to the Council. Keep nagging away until there is action. The state of all too many of our roads is a national disgrace. (I'll not pile it on by talking about the litter, the uncut verges and hedges). The state of our streets and roads tells visitors something about the pride we take in where we live. We could do better.

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## ***NEWS & GENERAL INTEREST***

### **FINANCING THIS MAGAZINE**

As you will see from the accompanying flier it costs £4000 a year to keep this Magazine going. As ever, we are dependent on, and hugely grateful to advertisers, Parish Councils and other local organisations for their support, together with a significant number of individuals.

If you support everything that this Magazine stands for – community cohesion, above all else, together with the good communications that go with that, then we invite you to respond to the appeal, as outlined in our flier. Thank you.

### **ADVERTISEMENTS**

We now have something close to three dozen advertisers. Their support is crucial to our operation. It is so heartening that most of them are again signing up for another year and we thank them for that. They are more likely to continue advertising with us, if they find new customers amongst our readers. Over to you, our readers!

### **MARGARET ANN THEODOSIUS**

Margaret Ann Theodosius formerly of Camelot, Beacon Lane, peacefully passed away at home in Felixstowe, on the 1/1/2025 at the age of 93. Ann, as she was always known, had been an active member of the local community as a church warden for 32 years, school governor and member of the WI.

Funeral on Monday 10th February at 12.45 at Seven Hills Crematorium. A colourful celebration no black to be worn. Family flowers only. Donations to Woodland Trust.

### **NEWS FROM OUR LOCAL MP**

We have been asked by the Constituency Office of our local MP whether we are prepared to publish non-party-political news from our MP. Insofar as it will be informative, that it should be of interest to our readers, and that we retain the editorial right to select items relevant to our own area, we think this is something that we should agree to. If there is a mass readership revolt against this decision, we will reconsider our response.

### **HISTORY CORNER**

#### **– SECKFORD GOLF CLUB**

It is easy to forget that Seckford Golf Club, situated, as it is, close to the Woodbridge bypass, is, in fact, in Great Bealings, very close to Seckford Hall, a property similarly set in Great Bealings, not in Woodbridge, as is often thought. So, we have two of our major businesses sited side-by-side.

Many older residents will remember when the Golf Club was first set up. The land was all part of Lord Belstead's Rosery Farm, and was "set-aside", uncultivated, not of high cultivable quality, as part of a grand European initiative to prevent over-production of food. It made sense to look for more productive usage, and the



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Wakefield family, then very much an Estate Agency, came up with the idea of converting the land into a golf course. The Club was set up as recently as 1991. The first nine holes, designed by Johnny Johnson, were created off Seckford Hall Road, with a huge amount of landscaping and the planting of hundreds of trees. It was extended to 18 holes in 1993, with holes on both sides of the road. The course was set up initially as a Pay and Play course, then as a membership Club. In 2000 it was purchased by Guy Robson, nephew of Sir Bobby, of Ipswich Town. In 2009 it was sold to the members. For much of this time development has been overseen and initiated by Simon Jay and Tony Pennock. The two of them are still very much part of the scene.

transformed the sparse, sandy landscape into a tree-rich environment. The course has been visually enhanced. Wildlife has thrived. By 2019 close on £250,000 had been raised for various charitable causes by non-golfing activities. The Club has achieved national status through its championing and pioneering of “Fore” get -me-not Golf – golf as a beneficial therapy for those afflicted with dementia. In 2023 it won the Club of the Year Award for its work with this initiative.

Though sharing a name, the Club has never been commercially linked to the Seckford Hall Hotel. It does, however, liaise with local schools. It has some 500 members, and is a major business operation in the parish of Great Bealings. It is a Club whose achievements deserve to be locally celebrated.



*The pictures show the barrenness of the golfscape in the early days and the rich green landscape of today.*



It is so much more than a Golf Club. The extensive tree-planting policy has

## NATURE NOTES

### BARN OWLS – spotted in Bealings

Bird watchers and country lovers always enjoy sightings of barn owls, mostly emerging at dusk, cruising at hedge-top level around the edges of fields, watching and listening for possible prey. In recent times these extraordinary birds seem to have become much rarer, so it was a delight to hear that one had been sighted around the centre of Great Bealings, perched strategically on a post, and scanning an expanse of grass on the look-out for potential food.

Most people share this pleasure at sightings, but, for the uninitiated, here are, thanks to the internet, a few facts about barn owls in general, confirming their status as very special birds:

Barn Owls are the most widespread terrestrial bird species in the world. They are found on almost every continent, except Antarctica. Barn Owls are exclusively nocturnal and are responsible for the origins of the term; “night owl.” These silent predators are found year-round in their natural habitats, hunting at



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night through open fields and meadows while nesting in abandoned buildings and barns. Their fondness for nesting in barns explains how they got their name. These birds are unique compared to other owls. They do not hoot like owls do. Instead, they let out a raspy, hoarse cry while they hunt. Their wings enable them to fly without making a sound, a useful trait as it does not alert their prey or predators. Barn Owls swallow their food whole. They do not clean or chew on their food, but prefer to swallow it whole, complete with skin and bones. As a result, they cough out pellets of indigestible matter which is made up of the skin and bones of their prey that they just consumed. These pellets are created in a special organ called the "gizzard" which contains compounds that are too hard to be broken down by the stomach such as the skin and bones. Pellets help scientists that want to learn more about their diets!

Barn Owls use pellets to build their nests. The pellets that the female coughs up are shredded with her feet so that she can mould it and then arrange it into the shape of a cup. These nests may be used for several years, not necessarily by the same owls.

Barn Owls are nocturnal hunters. They have evolved to hunt in total darkness. They are able to do this because their wings don't make any noise while they fly, and they have remarkable hearing. They can pick up the faintest of noises due to their uneven ears. Barn Owls can find prey underneath coverings like grass and snow whilst flying in the air. Barn Owls have uneven ears. Their ears are placed at different levels on the side of their head. Since their ears face different directions, they can locate the source of a sound accurately without having to turn their head. Inevitably barn owls have excellent night vision. Their eyes have adapted to centuries of hunting in absolute darkness. Amazingly, perhaps, they can also memorise sounds. They

can remember different vocalisations that prey make and know exactly what they are doing. This gives them a significant advantage while hunting. The prey of barn owls consists of other creatures, some considered to be pests, others more loveable. The menu includes small mammals like rats, mice, bats, rabbits, and other rodents, but also birds like starlings and blackbirds. They can survive in a wide range of habitats – grasslands, fields, marshes, deserts, forests, even suburbs, and cities. Wildlife programmes delight in showing us courtship behaviour. The male barn owl is adept at carrying out a range of mid-air performances, all aimed at impressing the female of the species. Barn Owls are usually monogamous and mate for life.



*Our local owl, and studio close-up*



Barn owls are a prominent part of British culture and have been featured in many

works of art and literature. They are associated with superstition, evil and the supernatural., as harbingers of change, both good and bad. They were also believed to protect farms and villages from evil spirits. William Shakespeare often referred to barn owls in his plays. In *Macbeth*, a witch is transformed into an owl, and the shrieks of an owl are heard off-stage during the murder of Duncan. Hedwig in J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series helped cement the barn owl's place in popular culture.

## VOLUNTEERS' CORNER

### THE SELIG (SUFFOLK) TRUST

This is a charity that provides accommodation for homeless people. It started by setting up the Winter Night Shelter Project in Ipswich working with local Churches to use their halls to provide overnight accommodation and food for those sleeping rough.

Later it acquired its own building in the town and converted it to provide longer term accommodation. Selig Springboard provides supported accommodation for those who would otherwise be homeless but unlike other homelessness accommodation this is focused on personal support and empowering residents to secure employment to end their homelessness.

Volunteers and links with local Churches provide company, a helping hand with life skills, communal meals, social events and activities, job and training applications and assistance with personal finances and health issues.

With space for seven residents (each with their own en - suite bedroom) who share a lounge, kitchen and dining room, Springboard provides a foundation for residents to build their confidence and then rebuild their lives.

Selig is currently working to extend the hostel facility to provide a further three places by converting a nearby Church Hall into accommodation units.

In addition, acting in collaboration with Hope into Action (a larger similar charity) Selig currently has four houses that have been adapted to provide longer term accommodation for those who move on from the hostel. These multi-occupied houses provide a base for up to two years for those who have obtained or who are seeking work but require subsidised housing with continuing personal support. These are people who would not qualify for or be able to afford social housing. The houses are privately owned by donors and leased to Selig for a nominal rental. Selig adapt, maintain and manage them.

Applicants for Selig accommodation are referred from a variety of sources including Social Services, the Probation Service, DWP, Suffolk County Council and other Charities. Selig is funded by grants and donations, and they (usually) just manage to break even.

If you are interested in supporting this work - as a volunteer, donor, investor, landlord or trustee please contact Selig via their website [www.selig.org.uk](http://www.selig.org.uk) - or you can speak with me.



*Anthony Sheppard. Trustee.*

*Tel; 01473 735850.*

*Email; [anthony.sheppard@googlemail.com](mailto:anthony.sheppard@googlemail.com)*



## BEALINGS VILLAGE HALL

Thank you to all those who came along to the "Grand Opening" on December 13th and stayed on for the Pop Up Pub afterwards, it was heartwarming to see such support.



Our District Councillor, Mr. Colin Hedgley, who has long been a supporter of the Village Hall did the honour of cutting the ribbon for us:

The Hall is now fully operational and new bookings have been scheduled, please see our Bealings Village Hall Events page for dates and times.

The Trustees have now decided to concentrate all fundraising efforts on revitalising the interior, starting with replacing the curtains with new blinds.

If you would like to book the Hall for your special event or like to take part in those already scheduled, please contact Margaret Wilson our bookings secretary : [bookings.vh.bealings@btinternet.com](mailto:bookings.vh.bealings@btinternet.com) or mobile: 07769 195132

### MOBILE LIBRARY

The Suffolk Mobile Library Van  
Bealings Village Hall car park  
13 February 13:45 - 14:30

## POP UP PUB AND QUIZ

**BEALINGS VILLAGE HALL**

**FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY**

**6.00 p.m. - 11.00 p.m.**

The quiz starts at 7:30 p.m.

£10 per team table, max. 8 per team

Single entry £2

Nibbles provided on each table.

Don't be disappointed - Book your team table now please email:  
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*All profits go towards the new blinds*

There will be a raffle, so if you have any donations please drop them in the porch at

Church Lodge, The Street, Little Bealings or bring them on the night

*Raffle draw at 8:30 p.m.*

## BEALINGS VILLAGE HALL – FEBRUARY 2025

MONDAY PILATES WITH DIDI FEB: 3rd, 10th, 17th	19:30 – 20:30	Helen: 07889 907615
TUESDAY PILATES FEB: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th	09:30 - 10:30	Caroline Boggon 07850683196
TUESDAY BALLROOM DANCING FEB: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th	18:00 – 20:00	Teresa Jay: 07929 310480
WEDNESDAY DANCE CLASS FEB: 5th, 12th, 25th	09:30 – 12:30	Debbie Watkins-Jones: 07711 161522
WEDNESDAY CARPET BOWLS FEB: 5th,	14:00 – 16:00	Kathy Price: 01473 621419
FRIDAY DANCE CLASS FEB: 7th, 14th, 28th	09:30 - 12:15	Debbie Watkins-Jones: 07711 161522
FRIDAY PILATES FEB : 7th, 14th, 28th	12:30 - 15:15	Kelly Steventon: 07919 377855
FRIDAY CHILDREN'S DANCE FEB: : 7th,	15:30 - 18:30	Faye Stockdale 07881360191
SATURDAY YOGA FEB: 1st, 8th, 15th	10:00 - 11:15	Caroline Boggon 07850683196

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#### SNOOKER ROOM

The snooker table has had new lighting installed. It is only £15.00 for up to 4 hours  
and can be booked via: [bookings.vh.bealings@btinternet.com](mailto:bookings.vh.bealings@btinternet.com)  
or mobile: 07769 195132

## PLAYFORD ART CLUB

We concluded 2024 on the 28<sup>th</sup> November with our annual social meeting. Firstly, a short AGM to plan our programme for 2025 followed by our annual competition with each member displaying one work of art completed during the year, and for each member having one vote to choose their preferred exhibit. All works of art this year were paintings in various mediums. The winner of the cash prize was Mavis Beecroft. The next cash prize is donated by our tutor for the student she considers made the most improvement during the year. This prize being won by Anne Gardener. These paintings can be viewed in the gallery on our 'Playford Art' Facebook page. The meeting was concluded with our customary buffet and refreshments.

We now have a break until the start of our Spring term. Our 11 weeks term sessions for 2025 are as follows:

- Spring from 9<sup>th</sup> January to 27 March, with no class at half term on 20<sup>th</sup> February
- Summer, 24<sup>th</sup> April until 10<sup>th</sup> July, with no class at half term on 29<sup>th</sup> May
- Autumn, 11<sup>th</sup> September until 28<sup>th</sup> November with no class at half term on 30<sup>th</sup> October.

At our AGM we agreed to keep our subscriptions at £35 for each term. We are small club formed in 1972 and meet at Playford Village Hall on Thursdays at 09.30, finishing by midday. Our progress is guided by our tutor with the addition of a complete session taken up by a tutorial for all members wishing to take part. These tutorials take up a whole session. Last year tutorials were all based on different watercolour techniques. For 2025 our tutor expects to prepare us for painting in either Oils or Acrylics. Beginners are welcome. If you are not

sure why not visit us one morning for a cup of tea or coffee, we will be delighted to see you.

If you would like further information please contact Barry Fox: [foxb963@gmail.com](mailto:foxb963@gmail.com), we look forward to hearing from anyone wishing to learn how to paint.

## LOFT INSULATION OFFER

I work for the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership which is made up of all Suffolk's local authorities (Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils, East Suffolk Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Suffolk County Council and West Suffolk Council) and we have teamed up with [High Loft](#), the UK's leading eco loft insulation brand, to create a fantastic offer that allows anyone in Suffolk to get 50% off their loft insulation rolls (up to £200) with free delivery.

Here's the link for people to order: [www.bit.ly/suffloft](http://www.bit.ly/suffloft)

We have created this Offer so that everyone in Suffolk can have a warm house and reduce their energy bills because, did you know, an uninsulated home can lose up to a quarter of its heat through the roof? This is why it's key that everyone hears about the offer so that residents can make their homes warmer, reduce their energy bills, and make a positive environmental impact.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Many thanks

**Jess Miller**  
Project Officer,  
Suffolk Climate Change Partnership  
(hosted by Suffolk County Council on  
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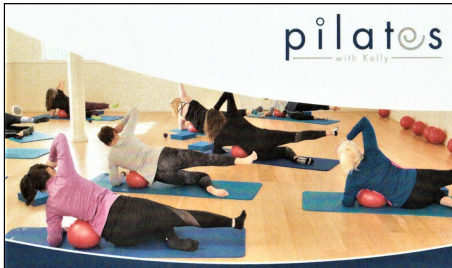
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Get in touch for more information & alternative venues

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## 1<sup>ST</sup> GRUNDISBURGH RAINBOWS

– GIRLS AGED 4 – 7 YEARS

During the Autumn term all the girls achieved their Nature Badge by making pictures of the four seasons, planting bulbs ready for Christmas and going on a walk around the village surveying where and what nature we have right on our doorstep. This outing ended at the Fish & Chip van for some chips! They all had a go at indoor archery, kindly organised by Jo, our Guide Leader, and at Christmas we made some Christmas decorations and had a party. This term we will be working towards our Animal Lover badge, baking, creating some Easter crafts and making potions!!

If you know any girls between the age of 4 and 7 years old who would be interested in joining Rainbows, we would be delighted to hear from you. You can register on the Girl Guiding website, <http://girlguiding.org.uk/register> or email us at [grundisburghguiding@gmail.com](mailto:grundisburghguiding@gmail.com)



Rainbow – Indoor Archery

## 1<sup>ST</sup> GRUNDISBURGH BROWNIES

– GIRLS AGED 7 – 10 YEARS

We had a busy Autumn term, conducting our own scientific experiments with an indoor zip wire, we made sock puppets, had a pirate night making up our own Sea Shanty songs and at Christmas build our own gingerbread houses. We have started to correspond with a Brownie Pack in Australia who kindly sent us a template for friendship bracelets. We had an evening making these and writing notes to our new Brownie friends. This term we are looking at engineering and how tall buildings are constructed, a wide game outside before the evenings get too light, hand bell ringing and at the end of the term a Brownie Sleepover – another busy term planned.

If you know any girls between the age of 7 and 10 years old who would be interested in joining Brownies, we would be delighted to hear from you. You can register on the Girl Guiding website, <http://girlguiding.org.uk/register> or email us at [grundisburghguiding@gmail.com](mailto:grundisburghguiding@gmail.com)



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## **Leah Hinks' Pottery Classes at The Granary**

Ever been curious to try out pottery? Artist and experienced potter Leah runs two after-school classes on Wednesdays. The classes take place in her beautiful bright studio, and are perfect for children to explore their creative side.

Leah also offers adult classes on Tuesday evenings.



***All classes are all back to normal and if you would like to join, just contact Leah for more details.on 01473 735880.***

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# GREAT BEALINGS

## RECTOR

Father Nigel Prior, St Mary's Rectory, 11 Church Street, Woodbridge. 01394 610424

## PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

Mrs Dee Knights, Dunure, 39 Avocet Lane, Martlesham Heath, IP5 3SF Ips 624240  
[clerk@greatbealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@greatbealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## PCC SECRETARY

Bridget Tanno, 2 Rosery Cottages, Lower Street, Great Bealings 0797025778

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## PARISH COUNCIL

### NEW PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE AND EMAIL ADDRESSES

Following a recommendation by the Government, via the Local Government Association, the PC made the decision to move its website and email addresses to a.gov.uk domain, which is only available to government departments, and provides assurance that the PC is an official layer of government. The Government provided funding of £120 towards the set-up costs. At the same time, the PC also decided to set up a brand new website, independent of the current Parish website. Colin Hedgley's Enabling Communities Budget provided a grant of £250. The new website can be found at: [www.greatbealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.greatbealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The website for the Parish, including the Church data, will continue for the time being and be updated. This can be found as usual at:

[www.greatbealings.co.uk](http://www.greatbealings.co.uk)

All Councillors now have new email addresses which can be found on the new website, with the exception of Colin Hedgley, who will continue to use his existing East Suffolk .gov.uk address. The new email address for the Clerk is: [clerk@greatbealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@greatbealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)

The new arrangements will commence on 1<sup>st</sup> February.

### SUMMARISED NOTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13TH JANUARY 2025

#### REPORTS

**County Councillor Elaine Bryce (EB)** – EB's report has been circulated to Cllrs and is attached to the minutes on the website. EB verbally reported that the Government's Devolution proposal was discussed at the SCC meeting last week. SCC have written to the Government stating that they want to be taken forward on the Devolution Priority Programme. They should know by the end of January if this has been accepted, and if so they will know by the second week in February if the County Council elections in May will go ahead.

**District Councillors Colin Hedgley (CH) and Dan Clery** Reports have been circulated to Cllrs and full copies are attached to the minutes on the website. CH verbally reported that ESC car park charges are to be increased from 1<sup>st</sup> April, thermal imaging cameras are currently available to borrow from ESC to determine heat loss, and the CAB is providing advice regarding Energy costs.

### .GOV.UK DOMAIN – EMAIL ADDRESSES AND WEBSITE

All Councillors and the Clerk have now set up their new email addresses and the new website is up and running. The new arrangements will start on 1<sup>st</sup> February. The Clerk will circulate this information to all regular contacts and details will be reported in the Fynn Lark News and circulated via the electronic newsletter. The current email addresses will be retained and monitored for at least one year.

### PLANNING APPLICATIONS

DC/24/4098/FUL – Fambridge House, Lower

### **Street – Detached carport and workshop**

The PC resolved to support the application in respect of the carport, but whilst there was no objection to the workshop, Cllrs felt that the applicant should be encouraged to screen the structure with some hedging plants.

**Decision Updates** - The following applications have now been permitted by ESC:

**DC/23/0319/LBC and DC/23/0363/FUL re Seckford Hall, and DC/24/3733/FUL – The Homestead**

**Quarry** – Sue Prentice (SP) outlined plans for the proposed quarry in the Fynn Valley near Westerfield. EB reported that a public meeting is to be held on 21<sup>st</sup> February in Westerfield when the plans will be presented. No application has been submitted yet. Cllrs agreed that this would impact Great Bealings with extra traffic. SP will investigate the cost of a “Stop the Quarry” banner.

**OTHER PLANNING MATTERS** –CH spoke briefly about ESC’s recent advice regarding responses to Planning Applications. All responses, whether in support or to object, should include material planning reasons

### **VILLAGE FETE 2025**

It has been proposed that this is held on the last Sunday of August i.e. 31<sup>st</sup>, which is not the Bank Holiday weekend. SP will liaise with Little Bealings

### **HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS**

**SAVID/SID** – CH advised that he had reported to SCC the faulty SID on Boot Street, but they had replied saying they no longer maintain these devices. He will raise this matter at the next SAVID meeting and ask SCC to retain the pole.

**Damage to Triangle** –. a large vehicle has driven across the triangle near Rosery Farm and caused substantial damage, nearly taking the tree out. Since then, EAOne have put a post there which may

solve the problem. Cllrs agreed to use the funds remaining in the Parish Planters fund to purchase four reflector post

**Claimed Public Footpath** – SCC have considered this matter and decided that the claim should be rejected

**Other Footpath matters** – Regan Scott reported that there is no longer a date for finalising a definitive footpath map for England.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

**Trees** – all spare trees have now been collected

**Bealings Community CIC Flood Group** – The Clerk reported that this fund is now active and donations have been received including a £2000 grant from CH’s Enabling Communities Budget.

### **AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS**

Six payments were authorised for office expenses, Clerk’s salary and PAYE for January and February and annual payment to SAVID.

**MOBILE PHONE – update by Rachel Lamb (RL)** – RL has investigated this matter and said that it should be possible to create an Emergency Alert System by putting WhatsApp on a laptop. The PC purchased for the SID data could be used for this. She will do some more research.

### **BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2025/26**

A draft budget for £8685 and provisional precept amount had been previously discussed at the PC meeting in November. It was proposed by SP, seconded by RL and unanimously agreed that this budget be adopted for 2025/26.

It was resolved to implement a precept of £8600, which would cover the budget, including the annual transfer to Reserves. This represents an increase of 7p per week (£3.41per year) for a Band D property



## **BANK RECONCILIATION**

Approved and signed

## **PLANT SALE 2025**

Caroline Saunders confirmed that this will take place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> April

## **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 6.30 p.m.

The public are welcome to attend any Parish Council meeting and may speak for a maximum of 3 minutes on any item on the agenda in the Public Participation session. Full draft and approved minutes of the Parish Council are available on the Council's website. The agenda is published approx. a week in advance of a meeting.

*Dee Knights – Clerk 01473 624240*

*Email:*

*clerk@greatbealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk*

*Website:*

*www.greatbealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk*

## **ST MARY'S**

### **Churchwarden's Notes**

The beginning of 2025 sees us still in a state of uncertainty. Congregation numbers were good over Christmas. Attendance at last year's special events was very encouraging. It is the "bread and butter" weekly/monthly support which leaves us in something of a limbo, trying to find the right solution, the right formula for going forward, and, not least, the finance to support it all. That right formula includes the status of the church, the number and type of services, how we proceed with internal re-organisation .... so many uncertainties. Let's hope that the New Year will bring some of the answers. St Mary's is your church. It is deeply rooted in our village history. If you have views about its future do not hesitate to share them with members of your PCC.

### **LOOKING BACK**

### **PCC MEETING 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

This may seem a long time ago. It was, but important matters were discussed at this meeting.

It was decided that our re-organisation plans should be limited to the back of the church, and that any broader re-organisation would be a step too far, in present circumstances. Also, given the small congregations that attend services nowadays, it was agreed that we kept open the possibility of applying for Festival Church status. Such a status involves the loss of regular church services and leaves it more to the parish and community to arrange such services and events as they think suitable. St Mary's certainly has the reputation of being able to organise a range of community events way beyond the regular but currently infrequent services. There is still much to be clarified before we go down this route. Hopefully, a successful carrying-out of the re-ordering plan will make the situation clearer.

### **REDEVELOPMENT PLANS**

There are no new developments to report. The wheels of change turn slowly! But the intentions remain solid and focused. We do now have the architect's drawings to consider as the starting point for seeking permissions and funding.

### **CAROL SERVICE**

This took place on the evening of 20<sup>th</sup> December, with a sizeable congregation,





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led by the 20-strong choir of St Mary's, Woodbridge. The spirit of Christmas was duly articulated and captured, both by the carols and readings, as by the seasonal mulled wine and mince pies available to all at the end of the service.

We were very grateful, five days later, to Rev Peter Wintgens for officiating at our Christmas Day Service, with a couple of dozen people attending, despite the unusual starting time of 9.00 a.m. All the seasonal trappings were there, including the St Mary's Christmas Tree and Crib.

#### **CHURCHYARD**

Over-wintering, but the grass still seems to grow. The snowdrops are peeping out.

#### **SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY**

Sunday 2<sup>ND</sup> February 9.30 a.m.  
Holy Communion  
(*Rev Peter Wintgens*)

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February 10.30 a.m.  
Morning Prayer  
(*Norman and Virginia Porter*)

Do check up on the Woodbridge website for other possible services.

*Parish Office: this is the hub of activity and communications for the United Benefice.*

*Linda is our Parish Administrator. The Rector too, can be contacted through this office. Tel: 01394 388820.*

*Linda's office hours are: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays 9.00 a.m.*

*St Mary's House, 11 Market Hill, Woodbridge IP12 4LP.*

*Norman Porter. Churchwarden  
nhp@rillcott.co.uk*

## CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS

Nothing to report this month. The January gloom has not been mitigated by any floodlight worthy events.

*If you would like the lights to shine forth for personal celebrations/ commemorations please drop a note in to Norman Porter, Rill Cottage, Kiln Lane with payment, explaining why you would like the church floodlit, so that it can be recorded in the FLN, for posterity's benefit. If urgent, a holding email [nhp@rillcott.co.uk](mailto:nhp@rillcott.co.uk) will do the trick, with payment to follow.*

## FRIENDS OF GREAT BEALINGS CHURCH (in partnership with Friends of St Mary's Church, Woodbridge)

### BEALINGS SPRING PLANT SALE 2025

#### – A BLOOMING GOOD CAUSE!

We are getting ready to dig into spring as the much-loved Plant Sale returns on Saturday, April 26th. Taking place at the Bealings Village Hall from 10am -12pm, this annual event is a highlight of the community calendar, and promises to be a wonderful day for gardening enthusiasts and green-minded families alike.

Whether you're an experienced gardener or a budding, green-fingered beginner, there will be a wide selection of plants on offer, from vibrant perennials to hardy shrubs, vegetable seedlings and more – all at great prices. Proceeds from the sale will go directly to support the two village churches, making your purchases even more meaningful.

We will be running a café stocked with home-baked goods, teas and coffees, so you can refresh yourself before, during or after shopping. Tickets for the hugely popular raffle will be available to buy via this paper, and at various sites in the run-up to the sale, and the winners will be

announced at the sale.

We'd love your help to make the day a blooming success! Could you lend a hand by volunteering to man a table on the day? Or perhaps you have a surplus of plants, cuttings, or seedlings that you could donate to the sale? Or could you contribute a home-made cake or savoury treat to stock the café? Every contribution makes a huge difference and helps us ensure this event flourishes.

If you'd like to get involved, please contact

[caroline\\_saunders@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:caroline_saunders@hotmail.co.uk).

Whether you're donating, volunteering, or simply coming along to enjoy the sale, your support is invaluable. Let's celebrate the joy of spring together, and keep our community blooming.

Bring your family, friends, and a love of gardening to the Bealings Spring Plant Sale. Mark your calendars, we can't wait to see you there!



*Plant Sale 2024 – a crowded Village Hall*

Caroline Saunders,  
Grotto Farm, Great Bealings, IP13 6NW  
01394 387681 - 07789 713576

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# LITTLE BEALINGS

## PRIEST IN CHARGE

Reverend Gary Jones

[revgaryjones1985@gmail.com](mailto:revgaryjones1985@gmail.com)

07714 614095

## PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

Wendy Cook

[littlebealingspc@btinternet.com](mailto:littlebealingspc@btinternet.com)

07731 456133

## PCC SECRETARY

Toni Cornish

[lbpcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:lbpcsecretary@gmail.com)

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### LITTLE BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL HAVE A NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS AND EMAIL ADDRESS

*The website can now be found at:*

[www.littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)

*And you can email the clerk at:*

[clerk@littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## PARISH COUNCIL

Notes of matters considered at the Parish Council meeting held on 6 January 25

### DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors made declarations of interest in items on the Agenda in accordance with the Council's adopted LGA Code of Conduct and left the meeting as appropriate.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

A Resident spoke on the following item:

**DC/24/4287/ARM|Approval of Reserved Matters of DC/22/0566/OUT (Outline planning application with all matters reserved proposing the erection of a detached dwelling and garage within excess garden amenity land serving The Orchard, Holly Lane, Little Bealings, IP13 6PW) - Access, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout, Scale, and Strategy for Ecological Enhancements. The Orchard Holly Lane Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6PW**

### ESC COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Mr P Carr did not attend the last meeting however, he will be representing the Council at the next meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> February

### ESC COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP MEETING AND ROAD SAFETY FORUM

Mr M Garnham did not attend the last meeting

### VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

There was no report

### SAVID

Mr M Garnham is continuing to place the SID around the Village. All SID Information has been sent, and the Clerk is waiting for reports

### SINKS PIT COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Mr I Ransome attended the last meeting. The low frequency noise/vibration is still being felt by local residents and the previous 'fixes' have not helped the situation as had been hoped.

### LOCAL DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

A report from District Councillor Hedgley had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting. Cllr Hedgley reported that he had been to a meeting about the devolution. A meeting of the Inaugural meeting of East Suffolk's new Youth Council had commenced and that Thermal imaging camera available to borrow.

Although she was not present at the meeting, Suffolk County Councillor Elaine Bryce had reported to Mr I Ransome that she is still aware of the outstanding issues with the white lines in the Street and that this was being chased. As was the Network Rail fine.

### COUNCILLOR EMAIL ACCOUNTS

The councillors have now successfully moved over to .gov.uk accounts and these are now in use. The Parish Council website also now has a .gov.uk domain name. There will be a transition period where the old email addresses will still be used. On behalf of the Parish Council Mr, I Ransome thanked both the Clerk and Webmaster Jenny Shaw for all their hard



work updating the website with the new contact details.

## **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

### **APPLICATIONS**

**DC/24/4287/ARM|Approval of Reserved Matters of DC/22/0566/OUT (Outline planning application with all matters reserved proposing the erection of a detached dwelling and garage within excess garden amenity land serving The Orchard, Holly Lane, Little Bealings, IP13 6PW) - Access, Appearance, Landscaping, Layout, Scale, and Strategy for Ecological Enhancements. The Orchard Holly Lane Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6PW**

The council objected to the application. The Council considers the proposed design is in breach of SCLP 5.7. including biodiversity matters. This development is much larger than that was previously submitted and agreed by the planning inspector. There is a risk of neighbouring properties being overlooked. There are also concerns about access as Holly Close is a very narrow single carriageway and that the junction with Holly Road (60 mph) has poor visibility.

**SCC/0059/23SC/VOIC | Proposal: Variation of Conditions 2. Compliance with submitted details, 3. Highway access, 4. Highway access surfacing, 5. Construction traffic and site management plan, 7. Tree protection and 8. post-completion tree assessment. For planning application SCC/0059/23SC. Land off The Street, Little Bealings, Suffolk, IP13 6LN**

The Council had no comment to make on the application

*Mr I Ransome and Mr M Garnham left the meeting in accordance with their declaration of interest*

**DC/22/5004/FUL | Retention and completion of construction of 1 No building and use of land for vehicle and plant hire operator(s) comprising office, workshops, associated parking, drainage infrastructure etc to allow for the hire, storage, sale, maintenance and servicing of vehicles, paint, machinery and equipment following enforcement case ref: ENF/21/0552 in relation to previous consent DC/19/2666/**

**FUL | Kesgrave Quarry Sinks Pit Main Road Kesgrave Suffolk IP5 2PE**

The Council had nothing further to add and that their previous comments on this application still stood.

*Mr I Ransome and Mr M Garnham returned to the meeting.*

THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN APPROVED:

**DC/24/1252/FUL | Erection of 1no. self-build dwelling and garage, land opposite former Admirals Head Inn Sandy Lane Little Bealings Suffolk IP13 6LW**

**DC/24/3542/FUL | Construction of a two-storey rear extension, replacement roof to form first floor accommodation and alterations. Solgarden Playford Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6ND**

**DC/24/3726/P3Q | Prior Notification - Change of Use of a Barn (Barn A) at Grove Farm in Little Bealings, from agricultural Barn to 1no. residential dwelling under Class Q of the GPDO. Grove Farm The Street Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LT**

**DC/24/3727/P3Q | Prior Notification - (Change of Use of a Barn (Barn E) at Grove Farm in Little Bealings, from agricultural Barn to 1no. residential dwelling under Class Q of the GPDO. Grove Farm The Street Little Bealings Suffolk IP13 6LT**

THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS ARE PENDING CONSIDERATION:

**DC/24/1776/FUL | High Rigg The Street Little Bealings Woodbridge IP13 6LT – Revised Driveway turning area due to new amendments falling outside the red line of previously approved application DC/23/3657/VOIC**

**DC/24/1800/CLE | Fox Barn Playford Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6ND Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing) – Converted Barn to for residential dwelling**

**DC/22/5004/FUL | Retention and completion of construction of 1 No building and use of land for vehicle and plant hire operator(s) comprising office, workshops, associated parking, drainage infrastructure etc to allow for the hire, storage, sale, maintenance and servicing of vehicles, paint, machinery and equipment following enforcement case ref: ENF/21/0552 in relation to previous consent DC/19/2666/**

FUL | Kesgrave Quarry Sinks Pit Main Road Kesgrave

DC/24/2759/FUL | Proposed extensions & alterations. (ground & first floor side extensions, first floor alterations & second floor (roof space proposal) | Woodside Martlesham Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LX (Previous application DC/21/4162/FUL valid until 2 November 2024)

THE FOLLOWING APPLICATION HAS BEEN APPEALED:

DC/23/2095/VOC: Variation of Condition No. 2 of DC/22/2984/FUL - Construction of one detached dwelling and garage - Change approved drawings to reflect amendments to design | Woodside Martlesham Road

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of East Suffolk Council to refuse planning permission for Variation of Condition No. 2 of DC/22/2984/FUL - Construction of one detached dwelling and garage

ENFORCEMENTS:

DC/21/4162/FUL | Woodside Martlesham Road

A site visit has been completed by ESC Enforcement regarding the potential use as a builder's yard. However, at this time there is insufficient evidence of an unauthorised use. The Parish Council have been made aware that a local resident has reported this matter to ESC Enforcement.

#### NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

No report available. Mr P Carr reported that the draft plan was 'imminent' as front cover design was being discussed. Invoice received from P4P

#### HIGHWAYS

##### SCC Feedback re Network Rail and Maintenance Reports

The white lines and roundels are still waiting to be completed and should be done in the next week.

#### FOOTPATHS

There was no report

##### Work For Footpath No1A

The footpath works to replace the

footpath has now been completed. The SCC footways officer has visited the site and has said that the new path surface is acceptable.

#### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held at Bealings Village Hall and that the Clerk would invite the Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit to the meeting to talk about Flooding risk and the Emergency Plan.

#### FINANCE

##### Budget for 2025/26

A revised draft budget had been published which proposed an increase to the precept to £13750 from £13000 in 2025/26. The Parish Council approved the amended figure of £13750. This equates to 1.98% increase.

No Income had been received. Expenditure for the Clerk's salary for January and February and payments for new .gov.uk domain, External Audit, Clerk Expenses, P4P, Parish Online, Westcotec were approved. The invoice for Footpath 1A improvements was also paid using CIL money.

##### Internet Banking update

The parish Council have now moved to internet banking and all future payments will be made electronically

The Parish Council discussed requested for CIL Money for Carpark Improvements at the Village Hall and agreed that they felt that a tarmac surface would not be an ideal surface for the carpark.

There was also a request from CIL for Flooring Improvements at the Angela Cobbold Hall. the Council were happy to approve the £3,750 in. VAT for the flooring improvements from CIL money. However, the Council asked to see all three of the quotes received for the work prior to payment. *(Mr P Carr and Mr C Cheeseman were absent from the meeting for this item in accordance with their declarations)*

#### DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be on Monday 3 March 2025 in Bealings Village

# The Angela Cobbold Hall, Little Bealings

The Hall &/or Reading Room and modern Kitchen are available to hire for social occasions, classes, charity fund raising events and private parties.

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Hall, immediately after the Annual Parish Meeting, but a meeting will be held on Monday 3 February at 7.00 p.m. in the Angela Cobbold Hall if required by the business to be transacted. Please visit our website for further information, including reports, draft and approved minutes of Parish Council meetings:  
[www.littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
Wendy Cook – Clerk to the Council  
07731 456133  
[clerk@littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## **LITTLE BEALINGS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING WILL BE HELD IN**

**BEALINGS VILLAGE HALL  
(not The Angela Cobbold Hall)**

**at 7.00 p.m.**

**on Monday 3 March 2025**

**UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF MR IAN RANSOME  
(CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL)**

Parishioners of Little Bealings are invited to attend and take part in the meeting. The parish meeting may by law discuss all parish affairs and local parish electors may pass resolutions about them.

The following matters have been placed on the agenda: -

### **Agenda**

**Apologies for absence**

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 4 March 2024**

**Any Matters Arising**

**Parish Council Chairman's Report**

**Other Reports**

**Any village organisation wishing to make a report at the Annual Parish Meeting should provide a copy of the report to the Clerk by 5.00 p.m. Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February so that it can be placed on the Agenda.**

**Any other business put forward from the floor**

***Ian Ransome  
Chairman of the Council  
website: [littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://littlebealingsparishcouncil.gov.uk)***

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### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT



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Partner/Solicitor & Mediator  
T 01473 219282  
E [denise.head@bates-wells.co.uk](mailto:denise.head@bates-wells.co.uk)



**Christopher Mason**  
Head of Dispute Resolution  
T 01473 295524  
E [christopher.mason@bates-wells.co.uk](mailto:christopher.mason@bates-wells.co.uk)

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## **THERMAL IMAGING CAMERAS AVAILABLE TO BORROW**

Would you like to see how energy efficient your home is?

Little Bealings Parish Council can access a thermal imaging camera to help you to identify if your property has too much heat loss.

Being able to identify where heat escapes from a building can be key to targeting actions to improve the retention of heat. Each winter, the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership runs the project Keep the Heat, making thermal imaging cameras available to community groups and parish councils county wide to carry out free heat loss surveys with members of their local community.

This year, in addition to that community support, the Partnership also have some spare cameras dedicated to use by the Parish Council.

The cameras are available until the end of March. If you live in Little Bealings and would like a visit with a camera, please email Daniel Wareing at East Suffolk Council [daniel.wareing@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.wareing@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

See the heat, keep the heat!

### **ALL SAINTS**

Here is a summary of the services and events at All Saints Church, Little Bealings -

Second Sunday - Morning Prayer, followed by refreshments

Fourth Sunday - Family Communion, followed by refreshments

Every Wednesday 10.00 a.m. - Said Morning Prayer

The Cafe is open from 10.45 a.m. until 2.00 p.m. for sandwiches, sausage rolls, jacket potatoes etc.

Please do come and join us.

The walking group meets at 10.30 a.m. on a Wednesday, following Morning Prayer

**Every five years, the Electoral Roll has to be reviewed, and everyone's name has to be removed and put back on.**

**Further details of this will be available in next month's Fynn Lark News.**

## WORD FROM THE STUDY

Two television aerals got married, the service was okay, but the reception was brilliant. I know, I've probably spent too much time with Christmas cracker jokes. Talking of receptions, the reading set for last Sunday was The Wedding in Cana, what a wonderful occasion that must have been. The host would have been pulling his hair out; I have laid on this banquet and I am running out of wine. Whatever will my guests think, I will be the laughing-stock of my village. To be fair, most weddings in Jesus's time would have lasted three days or more due to the journeys people had to make. I have some sympathy with the host and having a daughter of my own, I am glad I didn't have to foot the bill!

This story has so much richness and is a story that a lot of people know. (Every time people see a jug of water, they remind me!). But there is so much more; if you read it again (John 2, 1-11) you will notice it was the servants who changed the water to wine, "Do whatever He asks you" Jesus's mother said to the servants.

So, if we just think about that for a moment, that our Lord, through others changed lives, think of how much He could do, if only people would let Him in. One thing our Lord is not a magic wand, but the peace, tranquillity and direction He can bring into our lives daily is there for you, me and every reader of The Fynn

Lark News to have. Christ really knows us for who we really are, we don't have to put a mask on. Jesus could have said "You've all had too much to drink. Go home", the Master of Ceremonies comments "this wine is the best", normally people serve the best and keep the cheap plonk for afterwards, but in this case, it was the other way around. The jars of water that were converted were ones that the Jewish community used for purification, just think if Jesus could change water into wine, what could He change in our lives if we let Him in?

In our Chapel in Kesgrave Church, there is a stained-glass window, and it is Jesus with a lamp in His hand, knocking on a door. The invitation today and every day, is to open the door and let His love flow in.

If you would like to book a wedding at any of our Churches, we would love to welcome you. You can have the music of your choice – as long as it is not Mariah Carey singing "All I want for Christmas is you"! I can't guarantee that we will turn water into wine, but we can change your special day to a spectacular day.

Please contact myself by email [revgaryjones1985@gmail.com](mailto:revgaryjones1985@gmail.com) or Reverend Andrew Dotchin, email [revdotchin@gmail.com](mailto:revdotchin@gmail.com).

*Reverend Gary Jones*

*Local Minister*

It is lovely to report that our Christmas services throughout both our Churches saw an increase in people attending. It was a pleasure to welcome you all, whether you are young or old, new to the area, you are most welcome at any of our services.

A warm welcome awaits you.

Kind regards. *Gary*

## ACH News

The refurbishment of the entrance porch has now been completed with the replacement of the glass panels over the front door. This had been boarded up for many years after being a 'target' for local lads. The glass was restored by Robert Tanisha and the initials ACH have been painted on the central panel by local sign writer Anna Hart. Grateful thanks to them both for their skillful work.

The next project will be to restore the main hall floor.

### COMMUNITY LUNCHES

'Sense' was the charity chosen to benefit from the Christmas Community Lunch. This is a charity supporting those born deaf/blind. Liz Royle spoke of her own son who had greatly benefited from the charity's work and support. This included demonstrating 'hand on hand' communication as a way of reaching those who can neither see nor hear.



The event was a 'feast' for all the senses. The food, especially Sandra Banham's Christmas pudding, appealed both to

smell and taste. Gill Peck's beautifully folded napkins and individual origami figures, illustrating the Twelve Days of Christmas were 'eye catching' and the chocolates enclosed were delicious. Gill, together with the 'Hummingbirds' who performed 'solo' and led the diners in singing Christmas songs and carols, providing 'music to the ears'! Red check tablecloths and table decorations donated by Betty Slim, with Christmas decorations organised by the Knit and Natter group, made the hall festive and welcoming. £150 was donated to Sense as a result of this event.

The following lunch, in January, was the 'Leftovers Lunch with Turkey soup, and baked apples. Tracy Herrington supplied some spring flowers for the tables and Alan Robinson added a big tub of Celebrations to complete the meal. Grateful thanks, as always, to everyone who helped in any way and especially Liz Royle who kindly took home the tablecloths for a good wash!

### THE NEXT COMMUNITY LUNCHES

4th February

Beef Cobbler and Poached Pears

4th March

Purely Pancakes

Bookings and Enquiries 01473 620213.  
[pandvcarr55@gmail.com](mailto:pandvcarr55@gmail.com)

### GARDENING CLUB

At the meeting in December everyone really enjoyed making beautiful table decorations with a variety of greenery, roses, and candles all provided by Tracy Herrington and Margaret Roseboom. Thanks to both Tracy and Margaret who shared their experience and expertise.

The next Gardening Club meeting will be a Quiz at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 19th February.

## **FIND**

Throughout Advent the porch at ACH was open for donations to the local food bank. As a result, a number of carrier bags and boxes of supplies were collected and kindly taken to FIND headquarters by Keith and Anna Beaumont. Thanks to everyone who contributed



## **WARM WELCOMES**

A warm place and refreshments funded by the Government/Local Authority continues to be available.

Every Monday Knit and Natter 1.30-4.00 p.m.

Every Friday Social 7.00-10.00 p.m.

Time for Tea 3.00-5.00 p.m. Third Sunday of the Month

Friday Coffee Morning and Foot Clinic Appointments 10.00-12 noon every 6 weeks.

## **ALSO**

Christmas Eve was celebrated happily together before the Midnight Service at All Saints Church. Toni & Carl Cornish invited people to join them on the evening of Friday 10th January to celebrate the arrival of their new baby grandson.

Christmas flowers were placed on the graves of both Angela Cobbold and Mary Mitton, remembering two special people who added so much to life in the community.



Thanks to Tracy Herrington for arranging this memorial.

## **A CREATIVE SPACE...**

The Hall hosted two particularly creative and fundraising occasions.

On the afternoon of Saturday 23rd November the whole place was warm, welcoming and full of Christmas goodies, crafts and refreshments, as the Knit & Natter Group set up their Christmas Fair. Profits of over £600 were donated to the Alzheimer's charity.

The following week on Saturday 7th December, the Christmas Wreath workshop filled the Hall with the scent of greenery. Everything was on hand and very able instructions were given to help people to create wreaths to be proud of!

Seasonal refreshments were provided for all. The profits from this event went to All Saints Church Little Bealings.

# ANGELA COBBOLD HALL

## EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

**Monday 3rd**  
(& every Monday)

1.30 - 4.00 p.m. **KNIT & NATTER**

**Tuesday 4th**

12.30 p.m. **COMMUNITY LUNCH**  
To book, please  
email [pandvcarr55@gmail.com](mailto:pandvcarr55@gmail.com)  
or ring 01473 620213

**Thursday 5th**  
(& every Thursday)

10.30 - 11.30 a.m. **TAP DANCING**

**Friday 7th**

7.00 - 10.00 p.m. **SOCIAL FRIDAY**  
Licenced Bar  
Snooker, Darts, Table Tennis,  
Chess, Subbuteo, Board  
Games, etc.

**Friday 14th**

10.00 - 12 noon **COFFEE MORNING & FOOT CLINIC**  
To book an appointment, please  
ring Charlotte on 07712 448775

*(No Social Friday on 14th)*

**Sunday 16th**

3.00 - 5.00 p.m. **'TIME FOR TEA'**

**Wednesday 19th**

7.30 p.m. **GARDENING CLUB QUIZ**  
Free Entry & Refreshments

**Friday 21st & 28th**

7.00-10.00 p.m. **SOCIAL FRIDAY**

### MARCH

**Tuesday 4th**

12.30 p.m. **COMMUNITY LUNCH**

**Friday 7th**

7.30 p.m. **FISH & CHIPS**  
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# PLAYFORD

## **PRIEST IN CHARGE**

Reverend Gary Jones

*revgaryjones1985@gmail.com*

07714 614095

## **PARISH COUNCIL CLERK**

Mrs. Marian Hedgley, The Coach House, Playford Mount, Great Bealings, IP13 6PH  
Ips 738468

## **PCC SECRETARY**

Mrs. Eileen Stennett, Lux Farm, Playford Road, Playford

07787535398

*eileen@luxfarm.co.uk*

## **Vacancy: Clerk to Playford Parish Council**

Playford Parish Council are seeking an enthusiastic, community-minded person to serve as Clerk to the Parish Council. The successful candidate will assist in the organisation and running of Council business and form an integral part of the Council's efforts on behalf of the community in Playford.

The role will be part-time and largely flexible in terms of working pattern and location, with the exception of attendance at Parish Council meetings, which occur every two months. The role is for an average of ten hours per week and pay will be in line with National Association of Local Councils guidelines. Expenses will be reimbursed.

The ideal candidate would have experience of working as a Clerk or in local government, but comprehensive training will be provided if needed. We are looking for someone who is organised, rigorous and keen to take the initiative within their role while working collaboratively with councillors and parishioners. The role would ideally commence in March, allowing for a period of hand-over with the existing Clerk.

Please get in touch with Ben Evans (*benevanshfp@gmail.com*) to request full details or for any informal discussions.

## **PLAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

These are condensed notes of the Playford Parish Council meeting held 8th January 2025. A full version of the minutes appears on the website: [www.playford.org.uk](http://www.playford.org.uk)

### **COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

County Cllr Elaine Bryce was unable to attend this meeting, but her Co. Council report will be appended to the full minutes on the website.

### **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

Dist. Cllr Colin Hedgley's report is appended to the full minutes on the website.

Colin explained that devolution plans were being proposed for a unitary authority with a mayor for Suffolk and this would replace the current Suffolk County and East Suffolk Councils. The next council elections due in 2027 will probably be postponed until 2028 to allow for the changeover. The newly proposed gravel pit at Westerfield is causing some controversy. Playford will not be directly asked to comment as a statutory consultee as it is not a neighbouring parish but when the planning application is submitted, residents may then air their views. An anti-gravel pit campaign has been formed and is gaining momentum –

a huge increase in local traffic is expected if this scheme goes ahead.

As always, Colin is happy to help constituents with any problems concerning council business.

#### **ACTION POINT REVIEW**

- The appeal against reinstating FP26 between Butts Road and Church Road was held on 12<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024 but no decision has been published as yet.

- Improvement work on traffic and drainage problems on C324 postponed indefinitely by Highways, update on likelihood of this being reinstated is awaited from Co Cllr EB, also progress on repairs to the many large potholes in Butts Road and Church Lane is awaiting help from Co Cllr EB.

- ES Services cannot carry out clearing the drainage ditch beside Butts Road in front of the village hall – other quotes are being sought for this work.

- Hedge trimming around the playing field has also been delayed but it is hoped this will be completed soon.

- FP1 across the water meadow is badly in need of trimming – this is in hand and is hoped to be completed in February. Likewise, flooded parts of FP20 to the south of the water meadow should be dealt with in February.

- Loose netting on all four bridges in the Alder Carr (FP20) still awaiting attention and also a loose rail on one of the bridges – this has been chased up and we are awaiting the work to be done.

- Smashed grit bin at southern end of Butts Road will be replaced with funds from Co Cllr EB's budget in due course.

- Fallen trees in the Alder Carr and in Lux Wood have been reported and should be dealt with soon.

- Flooding reported at the bottom of Hill Farm Road has been dealt with.

See Action log appended to the Minutes on the website for more details of these items.

#### **FINANCE**

Payments were authorised for a donation to the team completing the renovation work on the boules piste, for the clerk's November and December salary, Q3 tax to HMRC and the clerk's stationery expenses.

Credits received since last meeting include quarterly interest of £37.61 on the Reserve account and £250.00 from Dist. Cllr CH's budget towards the cost of changing over to a gov.uk domain name and gov.uk email addresses.

The budget for 2024-25 is on track and the bank reconciliation was agreed by Cllr SH. It was agreed to request a Precept of £12,000.00 for 2025/26.

The quote for grass and hedge trimming in 2025 has not yet been received from ESS.

#### **HIGHWAYS**

Drainage work and traffic priority improvements on the C324 is not likely to happen soon, nor are improvements on the pothole situation. New grit bin for junction of Butts Road/Playford Road still awaits funding.

The new SID equipment is being made good use of and is proving valuable – SAVID's next meeting will be held via Zoom on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2025.

#### **PLANNING ISSUES**

**DC/24/4113/FUL- Cobblers, Hill Farm Road:** This was approved by the PC subject to certain conditions re Velux windows.

**DC/24/4179/FUL- Kiln Farm Nurseries:** Minor changes to the proposed sales



area and lighting in the roof were approved.

**DC/22/3153/FUL- 2 Hill Farm Cottages:** Possible breach of control, cart lodge is being used as an Air BnB.

#### **EMERGENCY PLAN**

A presentation by representatives of the Joint Emergency Unit (JPU) took place at the Village Hall prior to this meeting, to update residents on arrangements for a village Emergency Plan. It was attended by 30 people, several of whom signed up as volunteers. Anyone else interested in helping should please send their details to Ursula Richards at:

*ursi@btopenworld.com*

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

- A gov.uk domain name for Playford PC's website is going ahead along with gov.uk email addresses for the parish council and for councillors. A quote from Suffolk Cloud has been accepted and work is going ahead on this, grant money has been gratefully received from Dist Cllr CH's budget.

- The clerk has tendered her resignation and will be leaving on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025 - the situation is being advertised via SALC and in the FLN. Two more vacancies still exist for parish councillors – please contact the Clerk or Chairman if you are interested.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Weds 5<sup>th</sup> March 2025 at 7.00 p.m.

*Marian Hedgley – Clerk 01473 738468  
e-mail: [playfordpc@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:playfordpc@hotmail.co.uk)  
website: [www.playford.org.uk](http://www.playford.org.uk)*

#### **ST MARY'S**

It was another joyful and bustling Christmas season at St. Mary's this

December and we look forward to a busy Spring as we welcome the Easter season.

In November we enjoyed a traditional Stir Up Sunday led by Reverend Andrew and Reverend Gary which was well attended by local families and those from our Lightwave family in the village and beyond. Thanks to Corinne Jarvis-Fear and Ben Wale for their wonderful leadership – the puddings were delicious and some even made it to the United States!

Next was the Wreath Workshop on December 6<sup>th</sup> led by the extraordinary and talented Maggie Davis which raised over £2000 for the church. Thanks to our sponsors, Home and Cleaning ([homeandcleaning.co.uk](http://homeandcleaning.co.uk)) and Tru 7 Group and to Corinne Jarvis-Fear for all the delicious food. I can't forget my better half, Helen, for the many days spent organising the event!

The Christmas season continued with regular services, a crib service, and the ever-popular candlelit Carol service which attracted more than 80 attendees who are drawn back to our friendly atmosphere and the delicious mince pies and mulled wine! As you hopefully noticed, the Church was illuminated throughout the advent period and thanks goes to the many people in the village that sponsored the church lights.

For 2025 we are already planning our commemoration of the life of the abolitionist Thomas Clarkson in July, hoping to build on the success of our event in 2024. Our coffee mornings are in the diary, and you'll find the date of the first one for this year below.

Please remember that the Church is always open for visits and quiet prayer, and we welcome all to join us at services

and events. The following are dates for your calendar, and we look forward to seeing you and your families at our beloved church. Don't forget, we love holding weddings too!

### CALENDAR

February 2<sup>nd</sup> 10.00 a.m.  
Morning Service

February 16<sup>th</sup> 10.00 a.m.  
Holy Communion

March 29<sup>th</sup> 10.00 a.m.-12 noon  
Coffee Morning  
(turn up any time we're open)

Jon Fieldsend  
07713164349

Churchwarden-Playford Church  
playfordchurch@gmail.com

### PLAYFORD WI

Our next meetings are on Tues 4th Feb & 4th March at 7.30pm in Playford Village Hall. Visitors are welcome on a complimentary basis before annual memberships begin in April - come and 'try before you buy'! Contact Emma [playfordwi@gmail.com](mailto:playfordwi@gmail.com).

Our varied programme saw us round off 2024 with two social events: on a frosty night we took a mystery tour of Christmas lights in Kesgrave and those here in Church Lane in aid of St Elizabeth Hospice. We returned to warming festive snacks and mulled wine around the Christmas tree.

Emma and Sarah-Jane then enjoyed hosting a WI display and craft sale at the wreath-making night in Playford. Our thanks to Helen for inviting us.

In January our speaker was Deb Johnson of Lightwave Women's Aid in Ipswich. The Refuge and Women's Centre support

1,000 people a year ([www.lighthousewa.org.uk](http://www.lighthousewa.org.uk)). 1 in 4 women and 1 in 6 men will experience abuse whether emotional, physical, financial. Family perpetrators can be partners, parents, children, carers. We welcomed visitors from Playford and Little Bealings plus Andrew, Gary and Sally from our Church benefice to this thought-provoking talk which prompted lots of discussion. Lighthouse have thanked us for our donation, the results of a generous raffle.



Why not re-invigorate your New Year's Resolution to do something new... try WI ... we'll be *delighted* to see you!

### BINKY & CO

Post Christmas, Binky had been extraordinarily busy. His wife had bought him a Do-it-Yourself Manual as a present and Binky spent three weeks reading it. He was amazed at the number of things one could do now with modern tools and equipment and vowed to invest in some of them. He spent the next three weeks reading up on power drills and door hinges. He was impressed with the soft

close door hinges because he thought that if he changed all the door hinges in the house to 'soft close' then his wonderful wife Indigo would not be able to go "slamming out" when she was mad at him.

Yes, he had been very busy indeed.

The problem was that the wonderful Indigo had only bought the book second hand and then only in the hope that it may teach him how to put up a shelf that remained in place for more than a day without falling down.

But, of course, Binky was a great thinker not a doer. In fact, only yesterday he was thinking about the word "prescriptivism" and how that may impinge on his life. But he decided he didn't know so he stopped thinking about it.

But he knew he had to take this DIY seriously. He had made a very tenuous start by sending off to IKEA for a desk for his study. When the box arrived, he opened it and found a tree trunk and a saw. The instructions were in a sort of English translated from Serbo-Croat by a Chinese schoolteacher in Wuhan.

Binky made a list of everything he may need from B&Q and drove off full of confidence, and little skill. When he arrived, Binky went straight to the timber section and spent half an hour looking at wood in all sorts of shapes and sizes until he realised, he hadn't a clue. Finally, he spotted a man that was wearing handyman overalls on the back of which were large letters stating, 'I Give Advice.' Binky went up to him, "Excuse me" said Binky "I'm building an office desk, and this is the first major DIY task I've undertaken, what advice can you give?" "Well," he replied, "What's your name?" "Binky" said Binky. "Oh dear," said the helpful man.

"Well first, I would get a sharp saw, then a big hammer, then a first aid kit, then a good solicitor and then an undertaker."

Binky's face fell. "I'm only joking son" laughed the man "Lets see what we can do."

Binky followed him round the store with Binky's trolley getting fuller and fuller, Binky being too proud to ask what it was all for.

When Binky got home, he unloaded the car and took everything into his small kitchen and laid it all out on the floor. He heard Indigo coming down the stairs.

"What's all this Binky" she enquired. "Well," said Binky with misplaced pride "I'm going to make a made-to-measure desk for my study." Indigo started laughing hysterically. "Binky you are an idiot, a fool and a Walter Mitty day dreamer if you think you can do anything more complicated than putting wood on the fire." Binky was deflated, his confidence dashed to the ground.

"But darling I have tried really hard to put your shelf up" he whimpered.

"Rubbish" said Indigo.

"No, it isn't" pleaded Binky. "I did go to the library to borrow some books on DIY shelving."

"But it wasn't easy, I went to the main library and asked if they had any books on shelves and I was thrown out."

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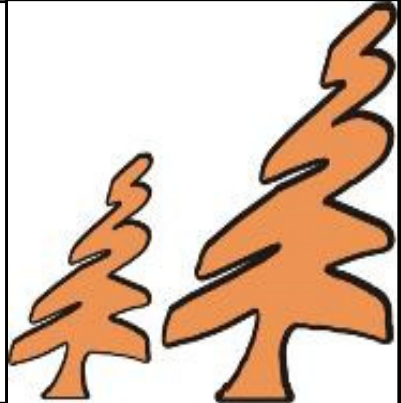
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28th Feb

28th March

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Richard Garnham, Cherry Box Cottage, Meeting Lane, Grundisburgh IP13 6TT

01473 738139

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## **CULPHO CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NEWS**

### **CULPHO MUSIC**

The musical programme organised by Culpho Music in St Botolph's starts on Saturday March 22nd with the local group Shingle Street at 7.00 p.m. Shingle Street are well known for their varied talents and will no doubt deliver a fascinating and enjoyable programme. Tickets and more information from Chris Pearce contactable on [cmp0601@hotmail.com](mailto:cmp0601@hotmail.com) / 07925251802. Future events will be posted on [www.culphomusic.uk](http://www.culphomusic.uk).

### **CONTACT LIST**

Alan, at Number 18 Culpho, has a list of email addresses for most Culpho residents which is used to quickly pass on important local news. If you wish to be removed from the list, or indeed added, please email Alan at [alan.walters@btinternet.com](mailto:alan.walters@btinternet.com)

### **CHURCH SERVICES FOR FEBRUARY**

February 23rd Evensong @ 3.00 p.m.

February 26th Holy Communion @ 9.30 a.m.

*Richard Garnham*



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J. V. M. Moore

K. J. Eagle

C. S. Moore Dip.F.D.

S. J. Moore

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## ACTIVITIES/SERVICES

### BEALINGS

VH: Village Hall AS: All Saints ACH: Angela Cobbold Hall

BALLROOM DANCING	VH	Tue	7.30 p.m.	<i>Teresa Jay 07929310480</i>
CARPET BOWLS	VH	Wed	2.00 p.m.	<i>Kathy Price 621419</i>
DANCE CLASS	VH	Wed	9.30 a.m. .	<i>Debbie Watkins-Jones 0711161522</i>
	VH	Fri	9.30 a.m. .	
FYNN VALLEY WALKS	AS	Wed	10.30 a.m.	Walks leave from the church
JOHN BELSTEAD SPORTS COURT				
Subscribers <a href="https://v2.hallmaster.co.uk/Diary/ViewWeeklyDiary/6622">https://v2.hallmaster.co.uk/Diary/ViewWeeklyDiary/6622</a>				
Non-Subscribers <a href="http://bealingsvillagehall.org.uk">http://bealingsvillagehall.org.uk</a> or Volunteer Administrator:07925 181390				
KNIT & NATTER	ACH	Mon	1.30 p.m.4.00 p.m.	<i>Info Contact 01473 623133</i>
LIBRARY	ACH	Thu	2.15 - 2.45(every 4th Thu)	<i>07809594685</i>
PILATES with DIDI	VH	Mon	7.30 p.m.	<i>Helen 07889 907615</i>
PILATES	VH	Tue	9.30 a.m.	<i>Caroline Boggon 07850683196</i>
PILATES	VH	Fri	12.30 p.m.	<i>Kelly Steventon 07919377855</i>
READING ROOM	ACH	Sat	10.30-12.30or by arrangement	<i>Info 01473 620213</i> Books for all ages, jigsaw puzzles, DVDs etc to borrow. Drop off for FIND donations.
SNOOKER	VH	Any day	<4 hours	<i>Margaret Wilson 07769195132</i>
SOCIAL EVENING	ACH	Fri	7.00 p.m.	<i>Info 01473 735153</i> Licensed bar, pub games etc. and other events
VILLAGE HALL BOOKING				<i>Margaret Wilson 07769195132</i> : <i>bookings.vh.bealings@btinternet.com</i>
YOGA	VH	Sat	9.30 a.m.	<i>Caroline Boggon 07850683196</i>

### PLAYFORD

PH: Parish Hall

ART CLUB	PH	Thu	10.00 a.m.	<i>Mary Spillett 01394 385295</i>
LIBRARY		Thu	1.50 – 2.05 (every 4 weeks)	<i>07809594685</i> mobile library at phone box
MILK		Tue, Thu, Sat		<i>Dairy Crest 747272</i>
NEWSPAPERS				<i>DC Patrick Newsagents 01986 874305</i>
PARISH HALL BOOKING		Book on line:		<i>bookings.playfordvillagehall@gmail.com</i> or contact via voicemail 01473 487215
PILATES	PH	Wed	7.30 p.m. - 8.15 p.m.	<i>Julie Gorevan on 07702 883245</i>
WI	PH	Tue	7.30 p.m.(1st in month)	<i>Sue Bruce 738265</i>

Jan 2025



## MARCH 2025 NEWS

Contributions for the March 2025 News to be submitted by:

**5.00 p.m. Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February**

The news will be ready for distribution by **Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> March.**

### **DISCLAIMER**

**The views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Team.**

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