

Fynn - Lark News

JUNE 2025



THE SWANS AT ABBEY FARM

The new family of swans at Abbey Farm has given us interest, entertainment and time-wasting. Last Autumn, the pair of swans that occasionally stopped off decided to settle in for the Winter. They quickly got used to us working nearby, coming to be fed swan pellets. If I shook a tin of pellets, it was quite a sight as they set off at high speed from the far side of the moat, beating their wings on the water and getting partially airborne in the process.

Spring saw a change in behaviour with the male presenting sticks to an aloof, disinterested female. At the end of March, I spotted a huge, raised nest of dried material in the reeds on the far side of the moat. Over the next 2 weeks, the female laid 7 eggs, and they built up the nest making a retaining wall to stop the eggs from rolling off.

After 5 weeks, 6 eggs hatched and after a day, the female led the tiny cygnets onto the water. The cygnets stuck together like floating magnets, shepherded by the 2 adults. Early on, the cygnets looked at the female

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

constantly and this initial behaviour reinforces their image of the parent so in times of stress, they know who to head for.



The female developed a new call to gather cygnets to her when she perceived any risk. The cygnets stuck close and their efforts to mimic her duck-diving for weed were singularly unsuccessful as they immediately bobbed back up like fluffy bath toys. Although the cygnets are small, their legs and feet are huge in proportion and on land, they look like they have borrowed the wrong sized feet.

Last week, the cygnets started to overnight on the water, coming ashore with the adults in the mornings to warm up in the sunshine.

Removing overhanging blackthorn and brambles from the moat bank has exposed the open water, allowing the swans more 'runway.' Also, we have seen the swans pulling up bullrushes to create access routes around the moat. It will be interesting to monitor the ecosystem because references suggest that the swans will manage the weed leading to improved water quality.

Recently, I was told that many years ago some black swans were moved from Abbey Farm to another location where there was a bigger expanse of water. If anyone can confirm this story, please get in touch. The experience of the swans in the moat reinforces my feeling that we are merely caretakers of the land and are privileged to be able to maintain this continuity.

Bob Smissen

DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ Depending on the species, swans can live to over 20 years.
- ◆ Swans in flight are called a wedge, on the water a bevvvy and at the water's edge, a bank. A significant number of swans in the wild are known as a herd and those in a domestic/tame setting are a fleet.
- ◆ Swans have been known to sit on a clutch of eggs for up to 45 days before they all hatch.
- ◆ In the UK, the crown owns all mute swans that are in open water. However, the Abbotsbury Swannery, the Vintner's Company & the Dyer's Company also may own swans.
- ◆ The law that designated killing a swan as high treason was changed in 1998.
- ◆ There are numerous legends in folklore about swan-maidens who can shapeshift between swan and human form.
- ◆ The irrational fear of swans is known as kinknophobia or cygnophobia.
- ◆ Swans have over 25,000 feathers on their body (who counted them?).
- ◆ Swans can fly as fast as 60mph (airspeed, not ground speed).
- ◆ When landing without a headwind in a field, swans will sometimes retract their legs and do a rather inelegant wheels-up landing.
- ◆ In 2001, a man in Ireland had his leg broken by a swan he was attempting (successfully) to provoke,

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NEWS & GENERAL INTEREST

BEALINGS PLANT SALE

ANOTHER BIG SUCCESS!

This year's Plant Sale took place on the morning of Saturday April 26th and was once again a huge success. The event had been well and widely publicised, so there were queues waiting well before the scheduled 10.00 opening time. The 10.00



surge was probably unprecedented. Plants were quickly snapped up, with many of the tables almost cleared in the first half an hour.

There was no Bric a Brac stall this year, as experience had shown that pre-loved items tended not to attract new owners. Much more positively, there was improved labelling, more photos and information about plants, which had been contributed in large and generous

numbers. There was a great range of species, and the quality of the plants offered for sale was good. Vegetable seedlings sold particularly well, but there were few on offer. That is a gap to fill next year. Francis Mutimer's amazingly robust tomato plants deserve a special mention! They were snapped up in record time!

The café was initially quieter than usual, as visitors were focused on snagging those all-important plant purchases. However, as the sale progressed, it became much busier. Nicky Major and her team provided cakes and produce,



while the café was ably run by three generations of the Hopkins' family.

A capable team of young helpers supplied the thirsty hoards with much-needed refreshment! The car parking team did their usually efficient job. Once again Suffolk Wildlife Trust enjoyed a presence at the event. They not only signed up a few memberships, but also were able to take away the surplus plants. They would love to come back!

It was good to have a stall run by



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Bealings Primary School, complete with young helpers. They made a valuable contribution. We also had some excellent contributions by growers who had enough plants to run their own tables, complete with lovely images illustrating what was for sale.

The Raffle was a great success, with the headline prize (movie and a meal at The Riverside), being kindly donated by local company, Brafe Engineering.

There were plenty of other attractive prizes – our thanks to all who donated them. We made over £800 from the sale of raffle tickets, with a range of very happy winners – here is a picture of the winners of the Grange Farm Shop Hamper, Miles and Sally-Ann Muldoon, living far away in Framsdén.



It was also good to welcome back Anne Day, and to greet her, too, with a major prize.

The focus on meals and food seemed to go down well, as did some 'garden-themed' prizes. It would be great if we could secure other 'Headline' prizes for next year, aware that this is always a challenge in the current economic climate.

Calculations on the day, with expenses subtracted, gave us a profit of £3,139.65 overall: £1787 from plants and £279.59 from the café. We are still slightly short of the pre-Covid 2019 high of £3427, but getting very close to it. Given today's economic conditions that was an impressive result. Our thanks to Will Self for coming up with the results within an hour of closure.



It was wonderful to see the hall full of new and old faces, many from our villages, and many from further afield – one visitor came all the way from Manningtree! The queue of 40+ people waiting to get into the hall for the 10.00 a.m. opening was wonderful to see. The Village Hall Lunch, enjoyed by helpers once all the clearing up was complete, symbolised that sense of teamwork and fun and summed up the spirit of working together. These are moments to be cherished, and the lunch is open to all helpers.

Next year Easter Day is on April 3rd. The Plant Sale is provisionally set for Saturday April 25th 2026, after the return to school.

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My warmest thanks to all helpers. I do so much hope that they will all be prepared to stay in place for next year. Each and every offer of help is hugely appreciated. Without our dedicated team of plant suppliers, cake-makers, sellers, traffic managers, heavy gang, refreshment providers – there would be no Plant Sale. Thank you all – and thank you too to all who so generously supported the occasion, buying raffle tickets and plants galore. Our community can be proud of this event, and of the way it brings people together, as well as promoting that wonderful Suffolk love of gardens and gardening.

Huge thanks to all.

Caroline Saunders

THE MINDFUL LIFE GROUP.

This group runs Older Adult Carers courses, available for Suffolk residents. The group is funded by Essex County Council to offer a *Mindfulness for Older Adults who Care* program for free to older adults in the Suffolk and Essex areas. Feedback, they say, has been good. The course helps to improve carers' wellbeing and sleep, as well as reduce loneliness, low mood, stress, anxiety and chronic pain. The next program starts June 3rd, 2-3pm and is designed by a chartered clinical psychologist who specialises in older adult mental health. To join the course, please fill in the following application form at https://openss.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b90BWhcMwRH5nfw

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HISTORY CORNER

This item has to be devoted to the ways in which we commemorated locally the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Two major events did just that. On the Monday of celebrations week, Roger and Margaret Roseboom, in typically energetic and imaginative fashion, put together a gala event in the ACH. Preliminary drinks and smoked salmon, followed by offerings of delicious cake kindly supplied and provided free, were the launch-pad for a screened run-through of the major events and speeches of the war – a technological challenge, but a well-researched compilation of visual material. Roger, of course, had been alive throughout the war, albeit a little tot of a fellow, and he led the reminiscences of others – namely Joan Moon, Michael Lacey and Geoffrey Drake, who, between them re-lived experiences of evacuation, loss, falling bombs, food shortages – the whole panorama of life in war-time, as experienced first-hand by them. The musical highlight was a wonderful performance by the Andrews Sisters (locally dubbed Andrex, and in real life Margaret Roseboom, Christine Pearce and Deborah Edwards.) reminding people of war-time songs through their close-harmony rendition, reinforced by enthusiastic audience participation, of a The Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy.



On Thursday 8th, the actual anniversary of the declaration of Peace, St Mary's Church, Great Bealings, staged an exhibition of local pictures and documents reflecting life in wartime, a microcosm of the macrocosm. The images reflected and evoked memories, which were quietly shared – all with Forces favourite, Vera Lynn, playing in the background. It was poignant that Francis Mutimer brought along a copy of a letter written by "Ginger" Porter, Great Bealings' only fatality, a letter written a month before he died. It was good too, to welcome back, all the way from Canada, Andy Read, with his wife Glenda. Both Rodney and Raymond Read featured in the exhibition, the latter as a member

of Churchill's Secret Army.: rationing, black-outs, Home Guard, air raid shelters, bombers, bombs, celebrations, the uniform of Murray Keer, complete with headgear and gas mask. The Keer archive – Jonathan's grandfather, Raymond Keer was i/c all Air Raid precautions, had provided much fascinating material.

Finally at 6.30, joining in the national peal of church bells, the bells of St Mary's rang out across the water-meadows, the bells ropes being ceremoniously tugged by a range of local people. The evening concluded with a special service, conducted by the Rector, opening with *O God our help in Ages Past*, and with a range of prayers relevant to the occasion, reminding us all that even victory costs much, and just how much present generations owe to the generation which preceded us.



NATURE NOTES

ROADKILL

Roadkill – what a grotesque word! What it describes is equally grotesque, almost obscene. I have just returned from a round trip down into Surrey and back. On the way I found myself involuntarily counting the number of animal corpses, carcasses and furry remains scattered along the roadside.



Over 20 deer of various species, badgers galore, a few foxes, a few pheasants, struck down in the middle of the mating season - it was carnage. What compounds the awfulness of it all, for me, is the casual way in which these rotten remains are just left to decompose further. Corpses attract scavengers – crows, magpies, opportunists dicing with life on the edges of our roads, trying to grab a few mouthfuls /beakfuls of food while the traffic whirls past, perilously close. The fresher the meat the better. Some corpses seem to have been there so long that they have almost merged with the tarmac.



There are just too many of them for the scavengers to consume.

I found myself feeling angry, somehow disgusted at the way in which our own ever-more mechanised species somehow rides roughshod over the natural world, casually destroying it. I found myself bizarrely trying to get inside the heads of these poor creatures trying to deal with the world of motorways, working out how to navigate their way around it, feeling the horror of the moment of collision, the effect on other family members - yes, animals too, live in families.

Most collisions with wildlife are unfortunate accidents, probably causing not only distress to the driver, but often, also, damage to the vehicle. The visual effects remain, for thousands of drivers subsequently to witness. The killing itself is something which somehow, should shame us, as a species, but it is made so much worse by the way in which no-one seems able or willing to remove the evidence, to offer a small sign of respect for the mutilated animal. That at least would be a token of some concern about keeping our roadways tidy, rather than allowing animal corpses to add to the disgusting amount of waste and plastic, cans, take-away packages which usually accompany them on the roadside verges. Health and safety concerns intervene, inevitably, but is there also a degree of casual unconcern? The debris, the corpses, and the detritus all too often remain, sometimes for weeks on end. Human beings cause the carnage. Human beings should clean it up. Come on, Britain. You can do better than this!

Norman Porter

BEALINGS SCHOOL SUMMER FETE

- SATURDAY 7TH JUNE 2025

Bealings School will be hosting their annual Summer Fête on Saturday 7th June this year in the school playing field on Sandy Lane (1pm to 4pm).

Please come along and join us for the afternoon to sample some delicious local produce, play some games and enjoy a number of performances, from our school's drum workshop to the Bealings Karate Club. We'll also have a bouncy castle, family yoga session and crafts, as well as plenty of stalls to peruse and a BBQ and bar to keep you refreshed.

This year we are raising money to create a new outdoor forest school classroom, to benefit all the school children. Friends of Bealings School (FOBS) hope to raise enough money to help the school create the space and provide all the equipment, to get the children learning outside as soon as possible and getting closer to nature. We are so grateful for all the support we receive from the community, thank you, and we look forward to hopefully welcoming many of you to enjoy the afternoon with us.

For more information, including the timings of individual events closer to the day, please scan the QR code on the poster or search 'Bealings School Summer Fete' on Facebook.

Please note this is a cash only event and we cannot accept dogs as we will have farm animals on the field, including some young lambs.

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(but sorry, we cannot accept dogs)

This event is very kindly organised by Friends of Bealings School, Registered Charity 1020472

**FREE
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Cash only
event

BEALINGS VILLAGE HALL – JUNE 2025

MONDAY PILATES 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd , 30 th	19:30 - 20:30	Helen 07889 907615
TUESDAY PILATES 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th	09:30 - 10:30	Caroline Boggon 07850683196
TUESDAY BALLROOM DANCING 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th	18:00 – 20:00	Teresa Jay: 07929 310480
WEDNESDAY DANCE CLASS 11 th , 18 th , 25 th	09:30 – 12:30	Debbie Watkins-Jones: 07711161522
WEDNESDAY CARPET BOWLS	14:00 – 16:00	Kathy Price: 01473 621419
FRIDAY DANCE CLASS 13 th , 20 th	09:30 - 12:15	Debbie Watkins-Jones: 07711 161522
FRIDAY PILATES 6 th , 13 th , 20 th , 27 th	12:30 - 15:15	Kelly Steventon: 07919 377855
SATURDAY YOGA 14 th , 21 st , 28 th	10.00 – 11.15	Caroline Boggon 07850 683296

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SNOOKER ROOM

The snooker table has just been re-felted and looks fantastic:. It is only £15.00 for up to 4 hours and can be booked via: bookings.vh.bealings@btinternet.com or mobile: 07769 195132

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BEALINGS VILLAGE HALL AND PLAYING FIELD NEWS



A huge THANK YOU goes to Andy Mayhew of Great Bealings for volunteering his time and his digger to spread 20 tons of road planings to resurface the car park at the Village Hall - you saved a lot of back ache!!

POP UP PUB

Thank you to all the regulars and newcomers who came to the last Pop Up Pub. Your diligent drinking, and eating of Liz Mutimer's tasty baked potatoes contributed greatly to funds for the new heaters. The Pop Up Pub totals combined with generous grants from Colin Hedgley and Dan Clery's Enabling Communities Funds have enabled us to go ahead with installation of the new heaters with timers.



THE NEXT POP UP PUB

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REMINDER
SUMMER EDITION

May we remind all contributors that the next edition will combine both July and August.

Deadline for the submission of articles is
Tuesday 17th June.

Publication of the September edition will be
30th August.

SAVE THE DATE

**BEALINGS VILLAGE FETE
AND DOG SHOW**

Sunday 31st August

12 until 4

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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.

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

PCC SECRETARY

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

ST MARY'S

CHURCHWARDEN'S NOTES

With three quick-fire Bank Holidays now as good as behind us, we are fully launched into summer. The grass is growing again, albeit slowly, given the lack of rain. The butterflies are back. The bees' nest in the brick wall to the left of the gate is hyper-active. Beware. The possibility of outdoor services again becomes a reality. It is a cruel irony that the church has been dealing with a spate of funeral arrangements at the time of early summer.

LOOKING BACK

The VE Day + 80 week engaged much national emotion. As you will see under *History Corner*, the church did its best to chime in with the national mood of poignant celebration. For your churchwarden one of the most unexpected and moving moments was when Francis Mutimer handed over a letter written back home to Bealings by our only WW2 fatality, Edward Porter.

Edward, who grew up in Boot Street, is commemorated both on the war memorial and inside the church. A local soldier, caught up in a world war, sent off across to the other side of the world, to the Far East, where he died for his country. The fact that we share a name, if not a family relationship, makes it all the more poignant.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Perhaps the most reassuring feature of this meeting was the outcome of the elections. All members of the PCC remain in place, as they were. All Officers remain as before – not least the churchwarden, who will continue to write this piece once a month. Given the challenges that we are facing, together with the plans that we would dearly like to move forward, this stability of personnel is a huge asset. I would like to personally thank all members of the PCC for their continued loyalty and commitment. On the other hand, do not let that stability put anyone off the idea that we could always do with more help, and practical support. Keeping the church going is not just about attending the occasional service.

Financially, the biggest challenge is the amount we have to pay in Parish Share. That is a bone of contention across the parishes of rural Suffolk. Our share is around £12000 pa, the equivalent of around £60 per man, woman, and child, even though most of them are not





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churchgoers. Legally, a PCC is required to ensure that it does not go bankrupt. We will find the means to ensure that we do not!

FUNERAL OF LIZZIE MCCLELLAND

On the following day a small family funeral took place. It was the funeral of Lizzie McClelland, daughter of Anthony and Judith Sheppard of The Homestead, Boot Street. Lizzie was just 48. The service was both dignified and deeply moving, with poignantly warm tributes being paid, including deeply moving words from Lizzie's young daughters who somehow found the strength to say farewell to their mother. Lizzie was laid to rest in a grave facing towards the west, towards Boot Street. and the family home. To be in the midst of a family in mourning is a humbling experience. It is a privilege when friendship and the duties of churchwarden coincide.

SERVICES FOR JUNE

Sunday 1st June

Please note that there will be **no service** at Great Bealings on this Sunday as St Mary's, Woodridge is holding its Benefice Patronal Service at 11.00 a.m. - to be followed by a bring and share lunch. All are warmly invited.

Sunday 22nd June: 10.30 a.m.

**Morning Prayer – lay-led –
Anthony Shephard.**

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 – and Linda's office hours are: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9am to 12.30 p.m.; Thursdays and Fridays 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

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

CHURCHYARD

There are abundant wildflowers in the churchyard, particularly buttercups and cowslips. The grass is still very green but beginning to look a bit straggly. It will not be cut until the wildflowers have died back and seeded.

There are always jobs to do, beyond the brilliant efforts of Peter and Sue Prentice, so if anyone has surplus energy, just let us know, and that energy can be productively channelled – in a beautiful setting, and to the benefit of our community.

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

CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS

The lights shone forth on the evening of Friday 9th May, celebrating the all-too-short life of Lizzie McClelland, daughter of Anthony and Judith Sheppard, of The Homestead, Boot Street. A small but deeply poignant family funeral service had taken place earlier in the day,

conducted by our Rector. Lizzie has been laid to rest in the churchyard. A memorial Service will take place later in the month, to be held in St Mary's, Woodbridge.

If you would like the lights to shine forth for personal celebrations or 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 will do the trick, with payment to follow.

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

We are taking stock. No clear plans have yet emerged, and there is much competition for events arranged in the summer months. We are looking over the seasonal horizon towards autumn, and to possible events then.



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LITTLE BEALINGS

PRIEST IN CHARGE

Reverend Gary Jones

revgaryjones1985@gmail.com

07714 614095

PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

Wendy Cook

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07867 973504

PCC SECRETARY

Toni Cornish

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MRS DOREEN SHILLING

Mrs Doreen Shilling, nee Button, 89, died peacefully 14th May. Little Bealings resident of 65 years. Dear and loving mum to Ian and Andrew, mother-in-law to Debbie and Urszula, Grandma to Rosie, Oli, Aleksander and Jacob. Great grandmother to Ruben and Mia. Loving partner to John. Funeral: Monday 9th June, Little Bealings Parish Church, 2.30 p.m. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to the Suffolk Wildlife Trust.

Thanks to all the kind neighbours who have been friends of mum and have helped her in many ways.

Ian and Andrew Shilling

PARISH COUNCIL

Notes of matters considered at the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 12 May 2025

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Chris Cheesman was elected Chairman of the Council. Helen Saagi was elected Vice Chairman.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

No member of the public wished to speak.

REVIEW OF STANDING ORDERS, FINANCIAL REGULATIONS, DELEGATION, POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Council reviewed and adopted the above.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Planning Applications

None Received

Update on Applications dealt with under Delegated Authority, Previous Applications, Appeals and Enforcement Matters

THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS HAVE BEEN APPROVED:

DC/25/0753/FUL|Construction of rear single storey flat roof extension, single storey flat roof porch and remodeling of bay to front. Minor internal alterations.|The Weald Martlesham Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LX

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

DC/24/4518/FUL|Rear extension and replacement rear porch including demolition of the existing|Fynn Bridge The Street Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LH

DC/24/4542/FUL|Porch to front elevation (following removal of existing), replacement of door with window on front elevation and replacement of door and window on side elevation with double doors with side lights.|Warren House Playford Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6ND

DC/24/1800/CLE | Fox Barn, Playford Road, Little Bealings, Woodbridge, Certificate of lawful use (existing) Converted Barn for residential dwelling

THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS ARE
PENDING CONSIDERATION:

DC/25/0972/ARM|Approval of Reserved Matters of DC/24/0689/OUT - Outline Application (All Matters Reserved) - New single family dwelling with associated amenity space and car parking space. DC/25/1046/FUL|Retrospective Application - temporary siting of caravan/mobile home during building operations for a period of 1 year |Grove Cottage The Street Little Bealings Suffolk IP13 6LT

DC/25/0035/CLE|Certificate of Lawful use (Existing) - Change of use granted by Inspector Mileham as a result of appeal ref APP/X3540/W/21/3267667 has been lawfully implemented.|Admirals Head Inn Sandy Lane Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LW

SCC/0059/23SC/VOC | 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

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 officer, 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:

ENF/25/0141/DEV| Land to the north of Pipits Hill, Martlesham Road| Unauthorised compound and hard standing

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. Parish Council have been made aware that a local resident has reported this matter to ESC Enforcement.

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

This is available on the Council's website
www.littlebealingsparishcouncil.org

Firstly, District Councillor Hedgley congratulated the new Chairman on his appointment. A copy of his report had been circulated to councillors. He referred to various items in it, including, Devolution and that lots of information is now available on the ESC website. He also mentioned that he had unspent money available from his enabling budget and that he has previously supported projects in the village.

ESC COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Cllr Carr attended the meeting on the 29 April. The subject for discussion was isolation and loneliness. He also reported that the current projects included a wellbeing project at Kesgrave High school, where music therapy is being implemented. He also mentioned Kesgrave Town Council where there is a highlight on road safety. The next meeting is in August.

VILLAGE HALL MANAGETMENT COMMITTEE

Cllr H Saagi reported that the new keysafe is working well. The Village Hall are about to install new blinds and she

thanked the Parish Council for the allocation of CIL money. New heaters are also due to be installed in the Village Hall. And the Pop-up Pubs are continuing to prove popular.

SAVID

No update/ Next meeting is 5th June. Cllr M Garnham will be in attendance.

SINKS PIT COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

Cllr Ransome attended the last meeting. There is now a case study for review available.

It was **RESOLVED**: for the case study to be circulated to councillors for review. And that this should be added to the Agenda for the next Parish Council meeting.

CLERKS FORUM

The Clerk has started her CiLCA course. The Clerk also reported that the new notice board for Beacon Lane is due to be delivered this week and that she has received permission from the property owner to replace the notice board on the wall in The Street.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Every household in the village has now received the Neighbourhood plan leaflet. Cllr H Saagi said that there had been a good turn out at the weekend with a 'steady stream' of people visiting the Angela Cobbold Hall to find out more about the neighbourhood plan. The Plan is also now available on the Parish Council website and there is a link for comments

EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr I Ransome, Cllr C Cheeseman and the Clerk meet with two representatives from the Rapid Response Team to find out what services they can offer. At that meeting some of the key risks were identified. The Parish Council are in the early stages of forming an Emergency Plan and now need to identify if anybody in the village has any medical needs that rely on having power.

It was **RESOLVED**: To talk to both Great Bealings Parish Council and Playford

Parish Council, who have both completed their emergency plans and to include Emergency Plan on the agenda for the next meeting

REQUEST FROM SCHOOL FOR NOMINATED COUNCILLOR

It was **RESOLVED**: That Cllr H Saagi would be the nominated Councillor

HIGHWAYS

Highways – SCC Feedback re Network Rail and Maintenance Reports: Cllr I Ransome informed the PC that a fine of £120 was given to Network Rail and that the PC will not be receiving any compensation.

A footpath report was circulated to councillors this can be found on the Parish Council website

APPOINTMENTS

The following were appointed:
Webmaster: Jenny Shaw,

Footpath Wardens: Francis Mutimer and John Wittgreffe,

Footpath Volunteer Workers: Jane Mardell, Anthony Meehan, Liz Mutimer, Keith Beaumont and Anna Beaumont

VHMC representative: Helen Saagi

SALC representative: Ian Ransome

ESC Community Partnership Representative: Mike Garnham for **Road Safety Workshops**,

SAVID representative: Mike Garnham

Sinks Pit Community Liaison Group Representatives: Ian Ransome and Mr Thornborrow.

FINANCE

The Council reviewed the internal auditor's report for 2024/25 and its internal financial control system. It approved the accounting statement for 2024/25 and the Annual Governance Statement. The Council reviewed the effectiveness of its internal financial control in accordance with the requirements of the Annual Governance Statement. It was noted that due to the level of income received During 2024/25 the Council is again exempt from a limited assurance review and an external



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RESOLVING DISPUTES

- Personal injury
- Clinical negligence
- Houses, property & neighbours
- Contentious wills & probate
- Contract disputes
- Consumer affairs/faulty goods & services

PRIVATE CLIENT

- Wills, trusts & probate
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audit would be required.

Income of £6,875 (precept), Expenditure for the Clerk's salary for April, May and June, the annual allowance and office expenses were approved. Payments were also approved for annual membership of SALC.

DONATIONS

It was resolved that the donations for 2025/26 to the Bealings Village Hall Trust and John Belstead Playing Field would be £750 and to ROPETH £250. It was agreed to donate £350 to the Fynn Lark News.

INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEM REVIEW

It was resolved that Mr I Ransome become the reviewer.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Council will be on Monday 7 July 2025 in the Angela

Cobbold Hall, but a meeting will be held on Monday 2 June if required by 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

Wendy Cook – Clerk to the Council

07867 973504

PLEASE NOTE: The Clerk's telephone number has changed to: 07867 973504



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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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EVENTS

JUNE

Monday 2nd	1.30 - 4.00 p.m.	KNIT AND NATTER
Tuesday 3rd	12.30 p.m.	COMMUNITY LUNCH To book please ring 01473 620213 or email: pandvcarr55@gmail.com
Tuesday 3rd	6.30 - 7.30 p.m.	KARATE CLASS
Thursday 5th	10.30 - 11.30 a.m.	TAP DANCING
Friday 6th	10.00 - 12.00 noon	COFFEE MORNING & FOOT CLINIC To book an appointment please ring Charlotte on 07712 448 775
Friday 6th	7.00 - 10.00 p.m.	SOCIAL FRIDAY with Barbeque Licenced Bar Snooker, Darts, Table Tennis, Chess, Board Games, Subbuteo
Friday 13th	7.30 p.m. An evening of best	'A GOLDEN TREASURY OF POETRY' loved poetry, from the nursery onwards. You are invited to bring along your favourites to read and share. Free Entry. Refreshments and Bar
Sunday 15th	3.00 - 5.00 p.m.	'CREAM TEAS'
Friday 20th		MIDSUMMER MUSIC with 'SHINGLE STREET FOLK BAND' Doors open for food and drink from 6.00 p.m. Music from 7.30 p.m. Tickets £5. Champagne Bar, Smoked Salmon, Strawberries, Cake, Pimms, etc. Please book on 01473 735153 or margaretroseboom@yahoo.co.uk
Wednesday 25th	7.30 p.m.	GARDENING CLUB THE SUMMER GARDEN Refreshments
Friday 27th	7.00 - 10.00 p.m.	SOCIAL FRIDAY Licenced Bar Snooker, Darts, Table Tennis, Chess, Board Games, Subbuteo

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ACH NEWS

Grateful thanks to the Parish Council for the grant that has paid for the sanding and resealing of the main hall floor. Thanks also to Fore Wood Floors who completed the refurbishment to such a high standard.

V.E. DAY CELEBRATIONS



On the evening of Monday 5th June Roger and Margaret Roseboom masterminded a multimedia entertainment with suitable refreshments, including smoked salmon and champagne ! There was also a wonderful selection of cakes, donated by members of the audience.

Members of the audience also played a central role in the proceedings. Roger, Joan Moon, Michael Lacey, and Geoff Drake each shared their own war time memories. In addition, the Big Screen was used to show a series of contemporary film images that brought the war years and the excitement of VE Day vividly to life. The lighter side of life was also recalled with comedians and songs from the era and included "The Andrex Sisters "...Margaret Roseboom, Chris Pearce, and Deborah Edward's... singing songs of the time in true 40's style. This very special evening concluded with everyone singing patriotic songs.

Grateful thanks to all those who made this a fitting tribute to all those who enabled the war in Europe to be brought to an end.

COMMUNITY LUNCH

On Tuesday 6th May the usual community lunch had a "40's" feel! Camp Coffee, Lemonade, Brown Sauce, and evaporated milk all featured on the menu. Margaret and Roger Roseboom had decorated the hall for the previous evening's celebrations and provided a great backdrop for the lunch. A special note of thanks to Helen Northover, who 'looked' the part and turned dull evaporated milk into fluffy cream!

Sandra Banham's VE Day cake was greatly enjoyed. Flowers from Tracy Herrington in Union Jack

covered pots went home with several people and some were taken to Betty Slim and Gina Mutimer, who are both unwell.

Grateful thanks, as always, to everyone who helped in anyway... laying up, clearing up and washing up!

The next lunches are on Tuesday 3rd June ...Chicken Curry.... Fresh fruit salad Tuesday 7th July.... Summer Pick and Mix

Enquiries and Bookings 01473 620213. pandvcarr55@gmail.com

GARDENING CLUB



On the evening of Wednesday 7th May the Gardening Club enjoyed some very informative films about easy ways to

support wildlife in the garden and also learn lots of creative ideas for repurposing a variety of old pots. The group then had an opportunity to build their own 'bug' hotels. The results were mini works of art as well as being welcome homes for all manner of insects.

On Thursday 15th May a trip was organized to Garnett's Gardens, both for the delicious refreshments and the wonderful selection of plants.

CREAM TEAS

The first of the Summertime Cream Teas was enjoyed on Sunday 18th May 3.00 - 5.00p.m.

There will be further cream teas on Sunday's 15th June 20th, July 18th August. No booking necessary.... Just come and enjoy!

NEW TO THE VILLAGE? WANT TO GET TO KNOW PEOPLE?

Knit and Natter every Monday anytime between 1.30-4.00 p.m.

Friday Social Evenings
anytime 7.00 -10.00 p.m.

Always a warm welcome.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH & COMMUNITY HUB

Easter seems some time ago as we approach Pentecost (49 days after Easter Day) with Pentecost (WHIT) Sunday being the 8th June.

It commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles while they were



in Jerusalem celebrating the Feast of Weeks. (Acts2; 1-31)

All Saints held a very full week of services during Holy Week. The church also held services on Good Friday with congregation participation and provided

tea and cake for an hour before the Easter Sunday Songs of Praise. This was very much appreciated by all who attended. A busy week but so meaningful in this tumultuous world.

The PCC have embarked upon finding a replacement organ as the existing one is unreliable and beyond economical repair. Grants are being sought to assist in this purchase, but any shortfall will have to be found from our limited reserves.

We are also seeking funding to repair the chancel window which requires a specialist craftsman (an outstanding action from the 2017 quinquennial inspection).

Work has already commenced on repairing the other defects identified in the report.

PLANT SALE

We are very grateful to everyone who gave up their time; helpers, growers, purchasers alike, to help make this annual event such a great success. The sale was a resounding success, with over £3,000 was raised, and proceeds will be split across St Mary's Church Great Bealings and All Saints Church Little Bealings.

VE DAY – 8TH MAY.

The church bells were rung along with St. Mary's at Great Bealings and many others at 6.30 p.m. to mark this day.

For those that remember Doreen Shilling, her funeral will take place at All Saints on 9th June at 2.30 p.m. May she rest in peace.

SERVICES FOR JUNE

8th June at 10.00 a.m.

Morning Prayers

22nd June at 10.00 a.m.

Family Holy Communion

Every Wednesday at 10.00 a.m. there is a short morning prayers service which allows walkers to join the 10.30 a.m. Walking Group.

Our celebrated café opens at 10.45 a.m. until 1.30 p.m.

WORD FROM THE STUDY

There used to be a time when, if you were a loyal customer, you would get the best deal. My dad was with the same insurance company for his car for 40 years, because he used to say, "I trust them and they know me, I pay my premium every year, and if ever there has been a problem they have sorted it". If only that were true today. People now shop around for the best deals, and you can't blame when there are so many demands on our budget. People were the same in biblical times; there were some that got fed up with Moses when he went up the mountain and built a golden calf, [Exodus24] and thought there was better unfortunately wrong choice.

I suppose thinking about loyalty to our household needs, part of the blame lies with the way the companies treat their customers. If people are treated well, and don't feel that they are taken advantage of, then the companies would not have to resort to the various pricing structures that they do.

Being loyal to someone means we know that they have our best interests at heart, and that they do make the right decisions for us. The people that Moses and the golden calf were dealing with, may have been misguided, sometimes we feel like life has given us a bad set of cards, either through our work-life, or various things that happen in families, we can often feel we are doing it on our own.

God told His people "I will never leave you; I will never forsake you; you are mine." That is not only a sense of loyalty, but a sense of commitment as well. Life will have its ups and downs; we were never promised a smooth ride.

A computer tycoon dies, and he gets to the pearly gates, and he meets Saint Peter. "Who are you"? he said, "I'm a computer extraordinaire." "Right" said St

Peter, "I will give you two choices, this is what Heaven looks like" and shows him angels playing harps and people walking around in white robes. "Or" said Saint Peter, "you can have the alternative" and he shows him a picture of white sands, sea and people having a good time. "I think I'll take the second one" says the tycoon. 2 minutes later, he shouts "Let me out, all that are down here is men with pitchforks and blazing fires. What happened to the sandy beaches and beautiful seashore"? "Sorry about that" says Saint Peter, "that was just the screen saver." Sometimes we make the wrong choices because we don't get the bigger picture.

A few years ago, we had an exhibition of embroidery and tapestry at one of our churches. This exhibition was by Isabelle Clover, a very talented lady indeed, and she has produced some amazing things. One of the things I noticed on one of her garments was there was no backing on it, as it was a work in progress and to see the back of the garment, looked really untidy, strands, bits hanging out, but when you turned the garment over and saw the front, it was a work of perfection.

Sometimes in life, we just need to trust God and realise that we see the back of the tapestry rather than the completed article at the front. So, we have been loved by God, and now we are offering that same love to those who find themselves at the end of their tether. Jesus said love one another as I have loved you.

So, as we go through the days when we feel like the kitchen sink has been thrown at us, hang on in there the God who made us, will be the God that does the best for us. We don't need to look for other choices. God doesn't do car insurance, but if He did, it would be the best car insurance in the world.

Every blessing

Reverend Gary Jones

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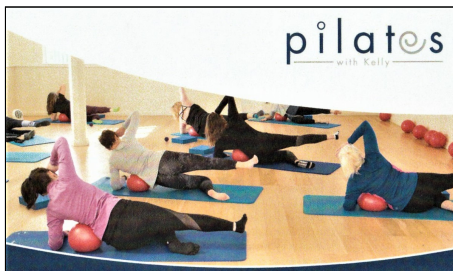
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PLAYFORD

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PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

These are condensed notes of the proceedings of the ANNUAL PARISH MEETING held 7th May 2025. A full version of the minutes appears on the website: www.playfordparish.gov.uk

The Annual Parish Meeting was held at Playford Parish Hall and attended by councillors and residents. Ben Evans was unanimously voted in as Chairman, his annual report was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and Ben read it out to the attending public.

He started by thanking the councillors for their work in the past year. Ben also thanked Marian Hedgley for her work as Clerk over the last 12 years. Marian stepped down as clerk earlier in the month. Ben welcomed Wendy Cook as new Clerk. The Neighbourhood Plan was adopted last year and is now in force. Ben thanked Ursula Richards who has spearheaded the new Emergency Plan, and said that this should give the village a clear set of actions to help in case of a wide variety of potential emergencies and gives a list of skills and resources available within the community. He said that the Parish Council continued to be grateful to Tracy Herrington for her efforts deploying the Speed Indicator Device (SID) around the village. Playford now has its own SID thanks to funding from SAVID. The Boules Piste has been rebuilt by Sam Webber and his team using funds from District Cllr Hedgley Enabling Communities Budget and support from the Village Hall Committee. The Parish Council has a new website and www.playfordparish.gov.uk

domain: playfordparish.gov.uk. The improvements to traffic management and drainage on C324 by Clematis Cottage originally agreed in 2023 look unlikely to be made until the backlog of works following Storm Babet have been completed over the coming few years. Ben was sorry to report that our efforts to get the footpath between Church Road and Butts Road reinstated has been unsuccessful.

County Councillor Elaine Bryce was unable to attend the meeting.

District Councillor Colin Hedgley's report was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and is appended to the full minutes on the parish website. Colin stated that there was no update to Westerfield Quarry. Car parking – Apps can now be used to pay for parking across ESC; however the cost of parking has increased, but all carparks will have an electrical charging point. The ESC Fraud Team are always at work and last year took a woman to court where she was given a suspended prison sentence. The annual Operation Camouflage took place in the summer holidays full of action-packed activities for young people aged 8 – 16 years old that live in or go to school in East Suffolk. Devolution remains a hot topic; further information is available on the Suffolk County council website. Orwell Bridge Repairs – Repairs are due to be carried out from mid-June for about seven weeks. There is an ongoing programme to reduce roadside litter and improve the appearance of the district for both residents and visitors. Colin finished by saying that he still has funds available in his Enabling Budget

Norman Porter gave a report on the Fynn Lark News. Norman reported that the Fynn Lark News is thriving thanks to donations from the local parish councils and paid advertising. On average, forty pages are published every month which costs approximately £4000 per year. He has received compliments from people praising the varied content and is never short of articles to be published. He praised the fantastic team of helpers which numbers about 60 with special praise to Tim Llewellyn for putting it all together each month and to Peter & Vicky Carr for organising the distribution. The FLN is currently free to all households in Playford, Great & Little Bealings and Culpho and relies on generous donations from local parishioners to boost its finances. Norman thanked the Parish Council for their support and donations. He also mentioned that the Fynn Lark News is 10 years old!

Emergency Plan - The Chairman read out a report from Ursula Richards. A finalised copy of the Emergency Plan has now been lodged with Suffolk County Council. The Clerk and Cllr Joan Metcalfe have been sent a copy so that it can be included on the website. There are two versions, A public edition, this is the version that will be available on the website, and, when possible emailed to residents. It contains contacts of the coordinators. The second version has all the contact details of the Emergency Plan Group volunteers and relevant council teams, this copy is held by the volunteers, SCC and the Clerk. Ursula also wanted to thank the 14 Volunteers who are part of the group, especially Lynne Dawes, Glen Thimblethorpe and Ben Wale who have agreed to be coordinators.

Drug Problem in Playford - Ben Wale spoke about an incident where a child found what was described as a 'metal hook' at an event on the playing field in March. It is believed that this was, in fact, a needle. Mr Wale reminded residents to stay vigilant and wanted to raise awareness of any unwanted behaviour.

Rev Gary Jones, vicar of Playford gave his report that church services continue twice a month and numbers are steady, but there's always room for improvement. There have been four coffee mornings over the last year and these have been successful, not only to raise the profile of the church, but also bringing in some much-needed income. In the last year there has been three weddings during the summer months. The Clarkson Day was led by Reverend Alan Forsdike and numbers were up significantly for this important occasion. Christmas services were well attended with 90+ at the Carol service, plus Christmas morning was very well attended. Every five years we are required by the Diocese to have the church inspected for structural and safety reasons and Gary was pleased to report there were no A listings, however there is some work that needs to be completed which the Church is going to have to seek funding for. Over the next year the church will be looking for grant funding and also asking the community to help. The Church has been on site for 624 years and it is hoped will remain for another 624 years.

Open Forum: A resident asked about the new tree in the play area as it's looking a little 'sick' and maybe a watering rota should be reinstated. She also commented that the boules piste was looking good.

Ben Wale mentioned a Youth Group that meets fortnightly and was looking for some storage space for their equipment. This was passed to the Village Hall Committee.

The full minutes can be seen on the website. www.playfordparish.gov.uk

*Wendy Cook – Clerk 07867 973504
Email: clerk@playfordparish.gov.uk
Website: www.playfordparish.gov.uk*

PLAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

These are condensed notes of the Playford's ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on 7th May 2025. A full version of the minutes appears on the website: www.playfordparish.gov.uk

ELECTION AND APPOINTMENTS FOR 2024/25

Ben Evans was voted in as Chairman for the forthcoming year and signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Joan Metcalfe was elected as Vice-Chairman for the parish council, Steve Hicks will continue as footpaths rep, Joan Metcalfe as Parish Hall rep and tree warden and Colin Grimwood is willing to continue as internal auditor.

The Chairman welcomed the new Clerk, Wendy Cook and he thanked the outgoing Clerk, Marian Hedgley for all of her hard work.

ACTION POINT REVIEW

The Grant money has been received for the replacement of the smashed grit bin at the southern end of Butts Road and this will be replaced in due course.

Landowner's appeal for previous decision on FP26 from Butts Road C330 to Church Road C3311 to be overturned. The inspector's decision has been received from ESC PROW and the footpath will not be reinstated.

The netting has now been replaced on the bridges on FP20. PROW team are aware of the drainage issues on FP20 approaching Alder Carr and will be talking to the landowners to reach agreement on how to fix this problem. Looks like there is now a temporary fix as someone has created a small channel for the water to run off. The Clerk will keep an eye on this footpath as it may become waterlogged again if we have heavy rainfall.

Footpath FP1 is now passable but it was noted that the fence line is very close to the hedge line.

PLANNING ISSUES

DC/24/2618/FUL, 1 Brook Cottages, Brook

Lane, IP6 9DZ, Erection of 2 storey side extension and balcony, Having listened to the applicant in the Public Forum session, the Parish Council all agreed that they were impressed by the fact that the applicant had looked into the history of her property and that her proposed plans were in keeping with both the building and the surrounding area. There were no objections.

FINANCE

Payments were authorised for the clerk's salary in March and April and for stationery and APM expenses. Payments were sanctioned for annual insurance renewal with Zurich, annual donation to Colin Grimwood in respect of the internal audit. Reclaimed VAT of £1024.67 has been received from HMRC and the first instalment of the annual Precept was received from ESC.

The Annual Accounts for 2024/25 which had been signed by the clerk, were accepted unanimously and signed by the Chairman. The Annual Governance Statement, Statement of Accounts and the Certificate of Exemption (from external audit), were all agreed and signed. The clerk will submit the Certificate of Exemption electronically to auditors PKF Littlejohn LLP. The pricing of assets was reviewed and agreed and it was agreed to continue the clerk's salary and expenses at the same rate for the coming year. The Internal Control Report was carried out and agreed by Steve Hicks, as a non-signatory to the bank account. The Annual Control Statement was then signed by the Chairman and Clerk. Anyone wishing to inspect last year's accounts may do so between 24th June – 2nd August by contacting the Clerk or the Chairman if the Clerk is unavailable.

HIGHWAYS

The Parish Council are still waiting for Co Cllr Elaine Bryce's return for an update on a new date for the work scheduled on the new priority signage and for the drainage work for C324. The Chairman read out

Tracy Herrington's report on highest speeds recorded by SIDs

EMERGENCY PLAN

The Chairman read out a Report from Ursula Richards. A finalised copy of the Emergency Plan has now been lodged with Suffolk County Council. The Clerk and Cllr Joan Metcalfe have been sent a copy so that it can be included on the website. There are two versions, A public edition, this is the version that will be available on the website, and, when possible emailed to residents. It contains contacts of the coordinators. The second version has all of the contact details of the Emergency Plan Group volunteers and relevant council teams, this copy is held by the Volunteers, SCC and the Clerk. Ursula also wanted to thank the 14 Volunteers who are part of the group, especially Lynne Dawes, Glen Thimblethorpe and Ben Wale who have agreed to be coordinators.

WEBSITE

All of the Councillors are now using their new .gov.uk email addresses and the new website is now live – www.playfordparish.gov.uk

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 3rd July 2024 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall .

*Wendy Cook – Clerk 07867 973504
e-mail: www.playfordparish.gov.uk
website: clerk@playfordparish.gov.uk*

ST MARY'S

Playford Church Buzzing with Summer Events: Services, Coffee Morning, Folk Music, and Historical Commemoration

St Mary's Church is set to be a hub of community activity this summer, with its regular services complemented by a lively evening of music and a significant historical commemoration.

Firstly, parishioners are reminded of the usual church services, which will be held on Sunday, 1st June and Saturday, 15th June.

Following these, mark your diaries for an enchanting evening of music at the Fynn Valley Summer Folk Fest on Friday, 6th June, starting at 7 pm. The historic church will resonate with tunes from popular local group The Wildflowers and the acclaimed Suffolk-based duo Maggie and Stan. Attendees can enjoy light refreshments, including wine specially selected from the churchwarden's cellar, and soft drinks. Tickets are a modest £5, available by emailing Helen Clarkson Fieldsend at helenclarksonfieldsend@gmail.com.

Next on the diary is our quarterly coffee morning which takes place on 21st June at the church between 10am and noon. Come along, have some cake, have a chat and enjoy the raffle.

Then, in July, the village will honour one of its most distinguished former residents with the Clarkson Commemoration Weekend on Friday, 5th and Saturday, 6th July. This event remembers Thomas Clarkson (1760-1846), a pivotal English abolitionist whose tireless campaigning was crucial in the fight against the slave trade. Clarkson gathered extensive evidence and persuaded William Wilberforce to lead the parliamentary campaign, ultimately leading to the Slave Trade Act of 1807. He spent his later years at Playford Hall and is buried in St Mary's churchyard.

Don't miss these opportunities to participate in church life, enjoy local talent, and reflect on important history right here in Playford.

*Jon Fieldsend
Churchwarden
07713164349*

PLAYFORD W I

Thank you for the garden tools, sewing machine and cash donations given at our May meeting when we welcomed Phil Wiseman of 'Tools with a Mission.'



This Ipswich based charity creates toolkits to support training and livelihood creation in Africa, providing crucial opportunities in countries where education is not automatically available to all. A list of the wide variety tools and materials accepted as donations (and not accepted) can be found here: www.twam.uk/donate_tools - collections directly from you can be arranged.

At our June 3rd meeting, we will be welcoming East Anglian Air Ambulance to provide CPR training. A campaign for better awareness of what to do in such an emergency is being debated by the WI at this month's national AGM. **We have a few spare places on this free training to offer Playford residents** - please reserve a place in advance by email to playfordwi@gmail.com This is an hour long session, beginning at 7.00 p.m. at Playford Village Hall. Free refreshments provided.

Our speaker in July will be from the Suffolk Fire Brigade. Before then we'll be

busy baking for the Suffolk Show and Playford's Midsummer Party, plus getting in practice for our annual Boules tournament in August!

BINKY AND CO.

Binky had always been keen on keep fit, in fact he always ran 5 miles each day at six in the morning just for the fun of it. Of course, it did help him to avoid the volcanic snoring of his petite and gorgeous thirty stone wife Indigo. Plus, in the winter he could always wear his personal light attached to his head via the extra strong elasticated head band which inexplicably continually loosen from day one. But after watching playbacks of various London marathons, he was determined to take part this year. He started his training in plenty of time i.e. about a month before the race. He was no fool.

Of course, his 5 miles wasn't quite 5 miles, more like half a mile but it definitely felt like 5.

Binky knew he had to keep at it. "I'm like a cross between a marathon runner and a sprinter," he used to say, "I can jog short distances." Training for a marathon can be hard work. But he knew it'll be good for him in the long run. His ever adoring, wife bought for him a pair of white running shorts far too tight which left nothing to the imagination plus a micky mouse tee shirt which was XXXL and came down nearly to his knees. Binky himself invested in a pair of second-hand running shoes one size too small, but he thought they would be fine. Sometimes Binky got things wrong.

He studied the route carefully, checking the route in minute detail. On the day, Indigo drove our intrepid champion runner all the way down to Greenwich Park where he mingled knowingly with the



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great and the good. He caused a bit of a stir when he caught sight of a few really famous people and started harassing them for an autograph, an absolute no-no on marathon day. So along comes Mr Plod. Looks like the big burly policeman that frequented most B films. The big sergeant walks across to Binky. "You cause any more trouble son, and I'll arrest you." Binky was having none of it.

"You can't arrest me. I have a marathon to run today!" Shouted Binky, "Oh come on" said the policeman "Stop playing the race card!"

But soon the hooter went off to start the race, with just about everyone overtaking Binky including the man dressed as a convict and carrying a ball and chain that weighed 2cwt. (Anyone under 50 tell me

what that is in grams? No, I thought not)

Not only was Binky last but he was being overtaken now by the men collecting the signs which read "Road Closed due to the London Marathon."

This was getting embarrassing for Binky. He had just about caught up with the runner in front. He had the number 666 on his back.

The runner who was in front of Binky, second to last, was making fun of poor old Binky. He said, "Hey idiot, how does it feel to be last?"

Binky replied, "You really want to know?"

Binky then dropped out of the race.



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Fynn Valley Summer Folk Fest

Friday, June 6th at 7:00pm

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CHURCHWARDEN

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

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CULPHO CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

Church Services @ St Botolphs Culpho for June

June 22nd Sung Evensong @ 3.00pm

June 25th Holy Communion @ 9.30pm



'TRAVELLING COMPANIONS'. On Saturday 10th May the CulphoMusic audience was treated to a concert of beautiful vocal expertise from the 8 strong female choir called 'Birdsong' directed by Stephen Rumsey. The programme transported us through countryside and seasons.

For this event, we were thrilled to welcome back Stevie Wishart, who mesmerised us with her Hurdy Gurdy, and a very special piece written by Stevie for Birdsong to take to the ZezereArts Festival in Portugal this summer.

'AN AUSTRIAN ADVENTURE' - this event began with an open rehearsal on Saturday 17th May, then the Concert at 3.00 p.m. on Sunday 18th. Our three professional musicians, Rebecca Scott-Smissen - violin, Juliet Welchman - cello and Bob Smissen -viola (all members of the Academy of St Martin in the Fields), gave a varied and truly magical performance to a full house. This event is supported by a grant from the Mariners Trust, and includes music being taken into local schools.

We will hear more from these wonderful musicians as the CulphoMusic Series moves on. So please keep a watch on the forthcoming events.



SUNDAY 20TH JULY AT 3.00 P.M.

Rebecca Scott Smissen and three colleagues - 'Chaos Collective' will give a performance, followed by Bubbles, strawberries and cream. To reserve a seat (£10) contact Christine Pearce: cmp0601@hotmail.com/ culphomusic.uk / 07925251802

We very much look forward to meeting you soon.

Christine , CulphoMusic



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JULY / AUGUST 2025 NEWS

Contributions for the July / August 2025 News to be submitted by:

5.00 p.m. Tuesday, 17th June

The news will be ready for distribution by **Saturday, 28th June.**

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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