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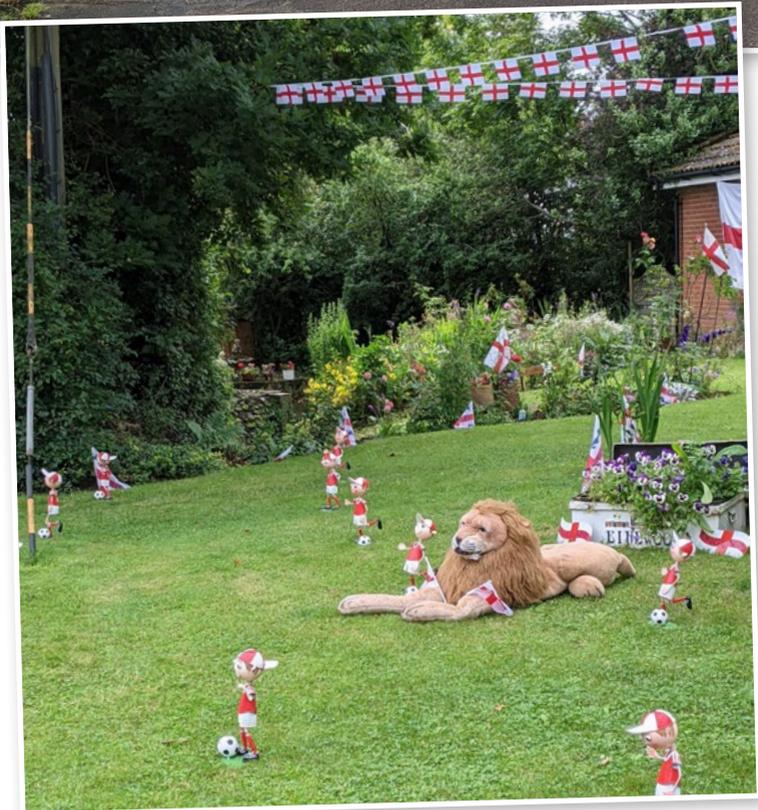
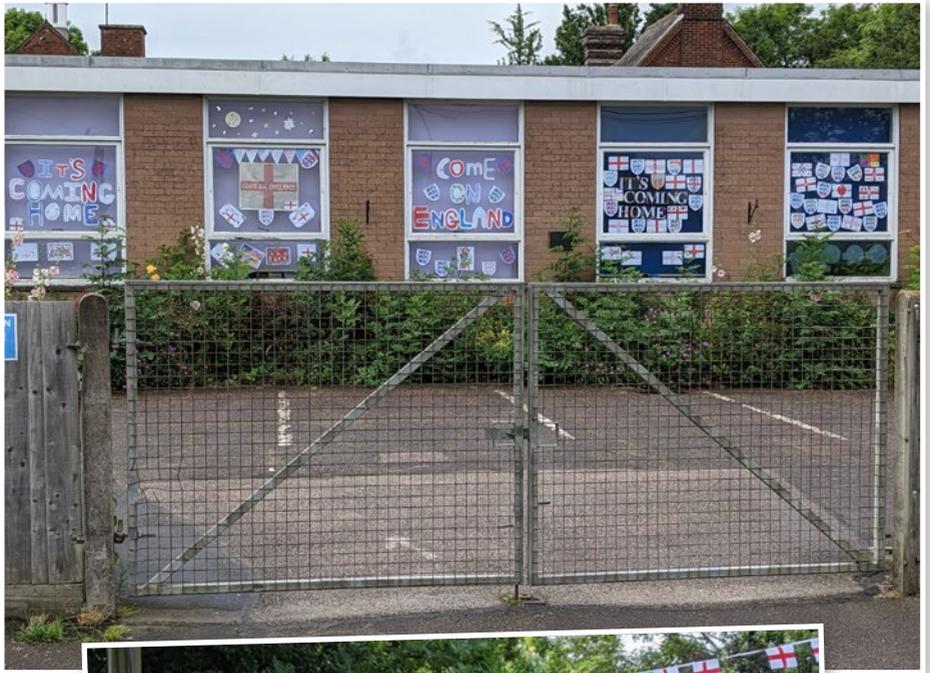
Stowupland News

No 345
August 2021



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EDITOR'S NOTES

AUGUST 2021



Well, here we are in the height of summer! Finally, the Prime Minister has released us from the restrictions that have blighted so much of village life. However, this release is not without words of caution so, please be mindful when you are out and about in the village and beyond. Don't forget that not everyone who is vulnerable looks frail and old, there are many younger people who look fit and healthy that have underlying conditions, so please do your best to observe 'Hands, Face, Space' and keep Stowuplanders healthy!

You will find the new plans for the Village Hall within these pages. Of course, the Village Hall incorporates far more than just the actual hall space. Many of our sports clubs use the Village Hall and its grounds for their activities. The Stowupland Falcons have a round up of their season and of course, the Cricket Club and Bowls Club are mid-season. For those of you that have only lived in the village for the last 18 months or so, you won't be aware of how much the Village Hall is a hub in the community, it will be nice to see the whole village coming together for community events in the future, as we once did. It is true, as they say, you don't miss things until you haven't got them, and I'm sure we have all missed the calendar of events that used to take place.

We are all social animals and that must be the biggest thing that has been missing from our lives during the pandemic. Getting together with our families and friends is something to savour. Being able to join with other fans to cheer on our sporting stars is something to be relished too! Sadly, our England Football Team didn't succeed on this occasion, but they have shown us the promise for the future. One of our residents put on a great display in their garden in support of our National team and the Primary School joined in as well. So, long may our freedom last so that we can enjoy all the things we have missed.

It is always important to appreciate what you have and try to preserve it. The Wildflower and Biodiversity Group has been formed; details of the first meeting follow in these pages. If you would like to preserve the rural idyll that we enjoy here, do come along. You will also find an article from one of our residents about the joys of the half mow.

Whatever you are doing and wherever you are going this Summer, stay safe.

Kay

Front Cover photo by Ace Photographer, Keith Hyland.

THE DELIGHTS OF STOWUPLAND

I grew up on a farm in the 50s and 60s, in the middle of rural Suffolk, down a long lane. My parents had a dairy herd of Jersey cows. Beautiful animals with Disney-like faces, all with individual names. I remember the cuckoo, the nightingale and turtle doves on warm summer evenings. I'd give anything to go back to the farm for a day in June, wander the meadows, hedgerows and listen to the sounds of summer, and see them through my eyes and ears now. As children, we take things for granted, not see the value of nature for what it is, nor give a thought to the future.

We moved to Stowupland 6 years ago to a house with a big garden. I am a keen gardener, and especially love flowers. Much of the garden is allowed to go wild, then strimmed in the autumn. The white froth of cow parsley is lovely, with an earthy scent with the pink campion and oxeye daisies. We have planted two sweet chestnuts, a Ginko, a Holm oak, Balsam poplar and an Almond tree to add to the established copper beech, chestnut and birch trees.

The village green is a huge asset to the village and hopefully will never get built on.

On the north side of the green, next to Thorney Green Rd. is roughly ten acres of unspoilt meadow. It has a mature hedge on one side with a stream, perfect for birds and wildlife. For the past few years, I look forward to following the paths through the meadow every June and July. Every year from the middle of June, I look out for the pyramidal orchids (*anacamptis pyramidalis*) which appear in a slightly different place each year. Their name describes them perfectly; they are pink pyramids, about 30cms high. Few but very beautiful. They have also found a home on a traffic island at the school. Whether by design or accident, I don't know.





In the spring, before the grass gets too high there are the Lady's smock, or milkmaids and cuckoo flowers. They are a delicate pink and grow in the damper areas. In folklore, are loved by the fairies. Later the grasses and sedges appear. So many varieties, this indicates the earth hasn't been disturbed for many decades. My favourite is the miniature quaking grass, which originally came from the North American prairies. Another grass has such a fine seed head, from a short distance it is a pink haze. There more robust grasses and sedges growing in a shallow ditch running from West to East. They are taller with wire-like stems. I'm sure an expert could identify all of them.

The wildflowers include clovers, sorrel and knapweed (which comes a bit later in the summer). Birds-foot trefoil, the holly blue butterfly feeds on. At this time of year, there are meadow brown butterflies and tiny moths feeding from the clovers and ladies' bedstraw. Black medick, so-called because it has jet black seeds, yarrow and lesser stitchwort also grow on the meadow. The names of the wildflowers are just as beautiful. One of my favourite names is the mouse-eared hawkbit, which is common all over the other greens. It doesn't mind being cut, as it flowers very close to the ground.

I find it therapeutic and calming walking around this area of natural beauty. Wildflower meadows have diminished by 97%. We are so lucky to have one of our own here in our village. Wander, enjoy and absorb, but don't pick!

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THE WILDFLOWER AND BIODIVERSITY GROUP

After much talk and a few articles here in Telstar we have finally formed a Wildflower and Biodiversity Group.

For anyone who may have missed previous articles, we have formed the group to undertake planting of trees, hedgerows, and wildflowers in response to the initiative set out by Mid Suffolk District Council who are offering free trees etc.

This is by no means a 'closed group', anyone can come along to find out more about what we hope to do, to take part either by research or planting, or just to dip in and out to help out. This is a community project, for the community, by the community. Our aim is to help Stowupland retain its village feel by enhancing the open spaces in the village. With so much proposed building taking place, and increasing traffic, it is important to maintain our rural space.

**If you would like to find out more,
please come along to our first meeting:**

On - 10th August

At - 7:30 pm in - The Bowls Pavilion

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Kay Easter – kay.telstar@gmail.com – 01449 677261

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STOWMARKET ECO FUTURE GROUP

Engine Idling

First thing to say is a big thank you to everyone who responded so positively to the engine idling campaign on Clean Air Day. Follow up studies have shown that people are thinking about the effect of running engines more and switching off. The campaign will continue with County Council Support as we carry on getting the word out at schools.



It might not seem like much, but lots of little actions add up. Even if you only had to wait 2 minutes, over a year that could add up to 16 hours of sitting with your engine running – 2 days of driving! If everyone that used the level crossing did that it's a huge saving.

Community

That brings me on quite neatly to Community. The theme of the magazine this month. There is a cartoon doing the rounds on social media at the moment which says

If we wait for the GOVERNMENT to sort out Climate Change, it will be TOO LATE

If we work BY OURSELVES to sort out Climate Change, it will be TOO LITTLE

BUT If we work as a COMMUNITY, we MIGHT JUST DO IT!

Spend a bit of time thinking about how little things together make a big difference. As I write individual voices are making a roaring crowd to support the England football team. We've had plenty of rain this month – millions of little drops which make up our lakes, rivers and seas. If you can, Google "Unison Bear". It's a great little cartoon and was part of a series of adverts which encouraged people to join a trade union so that their collective voice could improve pay and conditions for employees. Public Pressure is our best weapon to make governments take action.

The photo shows some of the team who worked on the Engine Idling campaign. (speaking of raindrops, there were rather a lot falling that morning!!)

A few drivers made the comment that they would wait for China to change its practices before they themselves would change. That reminds us that we are a GLOBAL COMMUNITY. We are aware of the heatwave that has affected the West Coast of America and Canada this month and millions of people globally are being seriously impacted by weather changes.

Newsletter





It is scary and frustrating when nations refuse to act, and yes, we do feel helpless at times. All the more reason then, to do whatever we can. Doing nothing is not an option.

We understand that some people prefer events news by email rather than on Facebook, so we are just about to launch a monthly newsletter. Please contact stowmarketecofuture@gmail.com if you would like to be on the circulation list.

Please continue to save your **empty crisp packets**. SEFG collects them for recycling on the first Sunday of each Month 2-4pm at Red Gables Volunteer Centre, Ipswich Street. Thank you



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Follow up to June Stowmarket Eco Future Group article.

I would like to comment on the article by Stella Davies.

I would like to point out I drive a small car live in a small house and I don't go on foreign holidays. She quotes that people who live in big houses have big cars and travel she seems these people contribute more to world pollution than other people.

The people that cause world pollution are American Chinese African third world countries. We are a small island and no matter what we do it will make a little difference but not much. She needs to see the bigger picture. Not to blame people who live on our small island.

What she and her group are doing is great, but it won't solve the problem

Colin Churchill

I am really grateful to Colin for taking the trouble to write a letter of response. So many people would think it but not bother to say it – and it is very important to understand and address criticism. Colin, sadly you are quite right: the things we do are dwarfed by the issues going on in the countries you mention. What keeps me going is a belief that individuals can make a difference. It takes courage to keep going, but more and more people are joining in, and the groundswell of public opinion is growing. Look how our television and radio has changed! Even 5 years ago there was not the same coverage of Climate issues as there is now and the voices will get ever stronger as the crisis develops. There is a famous quotation that says, “evil triumphs when good men do nothing”. I think it applies here too - “Destruction will win if good people don't play their part” we need every voice we can muster. Stowmarket Eco Future group was started by two people who were frustrated by the lack of response and action from our MP – it now has 459 members working actively. The town Council is beginning to support activities that it previously dismissed, change is beginning to happen. Public pressure is what will change the minds of governments around the world.

“Every little helps” too where burning fossil fuels is concerned. There is only so much capacity left. If you run out of money, you cut back, economise, and watch the pennies. Same with our carbon budget. Ordinary people are doing this, but the governments of the world are the ones who often seem to be on a “spending spree”. It is there we should direct our anger because Governments who don't react are using up the reserves that belong to all of us.

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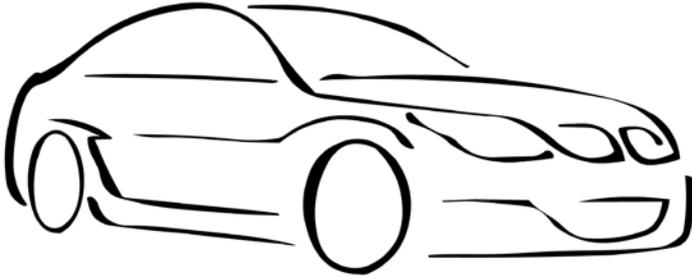
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IS LITTER A PROBLEM?

Summer is well and truly here in the village. The trees are green and lush, grass is growing a mile a minute turning this lovely little place even more picturesque but as I walk around, as I'm sure you do too, you'll notice more colourful country fare. The sky blue of a discarded face mask, the way the light glints off a crisp packet and the bottles bobbing away in our ponds and water filled ditches.

I'm not implying this is a new problem or one that has been ignored, but maybe now that the pandemic has given myself and others the time to enjoy our village, I've become more aware of all these little things and realise it is a continuing problem.

So, what are the reasons for the increase in litter in the area? Is it because more people are coming to enjoy the quiet, calm scenery of Stowupland? Is the increase of single use items, partial due to the pandemic, a bigger problem?

Do we need more bins? More volunteers to aid the small teams of dedicated residents I see working already clearing rubbish? Do we need to increase education so more are aware of the impact littering has on wildlife in the area?

I couldn't tell you the solution to resolving the littering issue straight away, but in reality, it's really plain and simple, littering is wrong. We have bins for a reason, so why drop your rubbish on the ground when you could throw it away in its intended place? Let's be honest, litter around the village is unsightly, it can be smelly and even dangerous. Plus, if you're caught littering you can be fined up to £80 - that's an expensive bag of crisps!

We all need to do our part. Put your rubbish in a bin or take it home with you. Let's keep our wonderful village tidy for everyone to enjoy.

Our village is not a bin.

Roz Coleman – All things Stowupland (Facebook)

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COUNTRYSIDE RAMBLER

BRIAN WARD

I think with all the rain and sun we are having everyone's gardens must look stunning this year. I recently fed my lawn and now I am getting plenty of exercise cutting it as it needs trimming every few days. To date the farmers' crops are looking good, even the sugar beet is filling out so, if we do not have a dry spell, it should be a good harvest. I walk quite a lot locally, and further afield, and I have noted more farmers are planting field corners and headlands with wildflower seeds; this will benefit our wildlife no end.

I have been quite busy lately going to nature reserves. Minsmere is quite local and always throws up surprises. On my recent visit a lone red-necked phalarope was feeding on the lagoons. This small wader defies the normal behaviour in the breeding season, firstly it is the female that is brightly coloured and attracts a mate. She then mates with him and lays a clutch of eggs, the male incubates the eggs and attends to the offspring on hatching. The female after laying her eggs leaves the first male and goes forth to seek out a second mate. I know you ladies may be thinking that's not a bad strategy but we all have our own opinions.



Rutland Water is a reserve I try to visit throughout the year. On my last visit a couple of weeks ago, the ospreys were hunting, but kept very distant; they are magnificent birds to watch. I was told that avocets nested there this year, a first for Rutland I believe. One of the small islands has a colony of common terns nesting; whilst watching this colony all the birds took to the air with alarm calls resounding, I knew something was amiss. A large otter emerged, and although I could not see due to heavy vegetation, it must have predated some of the eggs or young. Yes, nature can be cruel, but the otter probably had cubs tucked away nearby.

I recently visited my daughter in Lincolnshire and got quite a surprise when I walked into her back garden. I was met with a spotted flycatcher sitting on her fence; this is a summer visitor with dull brown plumage and is quite uncommon these days. When watching this individual, its mate arrived, and they commenced feeding their young in the Boston Ivy that covers their gable end. I could sit and watch these agile birds for hours; they will select a perch overlooking open ground and dart out to catch flies, moths and butterflies then return to the same perch. These birds are often overlooked due to their drab appearance but can be found in churchyards or large gardens with suitable nesting sites.

I hope you are all keeping well and with further easing of the restrictions I hope to meet more of our residents around our wonderful village.

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THE WALKER CUP

Stowupland v Old Newton

Sunday 12 September

Come and join Team Stowupland and help retain the Walker Cup from Old Newton.



It's not just about local pride, it also helps raise money for the St Elizabeth Hospice – there's a minimum £2 donation when you register but you're welcome to give more if you can.

And you get a lovely footpath walk between the two villages. At a gentle pace it should take a couple of hours from the Retreat in Stowupland to the Sports and Social Club in Old Newton, and back again.

Register at the Retreat from 10.00 a.m. onwards and complete the walk by 4.00 pm at the latest. The village with the most walkers completing wins the cup. Couldn't be easier!

If you unable to do the walk, can you spend a couple of hours checking in walkers?

All money raised goes to St Elizabeth Hospice.

All offers of help to Keith and Cathy 01449 673185.

DOWN TO EARTH

KATE ELLIOTT

There used to be a piece of horticultural wisdom that August was somehow a drab month in the garden and the garden would often be described as 'tired'. People would go on holiday knowing that they were not missing much. But if that was ever true, it is certainly not so now.

If anything the August borders take on an energy, full and mature. The sun is lower in the sky and the evenings, by the end of the month, much shorter, so my favourite time of day now is early evening when the sun hits the rich colours of rudbeckias, sunflowers, verbena bonariensis, cannas and dahlias so that they glow in this low slanting light.

One of my favourite plants is at its best now. This is the giant tobacco plant *Nicotiana glauca*, which we have here at Columbine growing near the front door of the house. It will, with good soil and a few months growing, reach 6ft tall with huge sticky leaves. That makes it dramatic enough. But the flowers are even more stunning - long tubes of white petals hang off the flowerhead like dreadlocks. The flowers will shrink and close in bright sunshine and then open in the cool of the evening, releasing their distinctive, musky fragrance. The hotter the sun during the day, the stronger the scent will be in the evening because the oils in the plant heat up and then slowly cool in the night air.

They are tricky to buy as plants - I don't know why as I am sure they would sell like hot cakes - but easy to grow from seed. Sow the dust-like seed in March or April in a seed tray and provide some warmth. The seedlings grow slowly and are tiny but should be pricked out into pots to develop good roots before planting out in early June. They will flower until the first frosts.

Beans of any kind straight from the garden are always a treat. They are incredibly good for you and as if that wasn't enough, very good for your soil too. This is because all beans are legumes, and all legumes have the ability to take nitrogen from the air and transfer it to the soil.



I love runner beans and 'Painted Lady' and 'Scarlet Runner' are the varieties we have growing here. They like shade and lots of water - so are ideally suited to an average British summer, but cannot cope with drought.

In America, runner beans are grown as decorative plants only and most countries grow them for their seed and regard our love of the sliced pod as an example of British eccentricity. A final fact - whereas all other climbing beans twist anti-clockwise as they grow, runner beans grow stubbornly clockwise. No wonder we British love them.

Some jobs you can be doing this month are:

Collect seed as they ripen from plants such as aquilegias, sweet-peas and love-in-a-mist.

Trim lavender once flowering is over to maintain a compact shape but try to avoid cutting into old wood.

Strim or mow areas of wildflower meadow now that the plants have scattered their seeds.

Pinch out the tops of tomato plants as further flowers are unlikely to produce fruits that have time to ripen.

Lift onions and shallots once their tops die down and leave to dry in the sun.

Plant up pots of paper white narcissus bulbs for fragrant indoor displays this Christmas.

Start watering dormant cyclamen to bring them back into growth after their summer rest.

Harvest tomatoes, cucumbers, chillies and sweet peppers regularly.

Remove suckers from roses or around the base of trees.

Take cuttings from penstemons, choosing non-flowering shoots.

August is undoubtedly the best month for the vegetable garden. Next spring's vegetables such as spring cabbage can be sown just as you gather this summer's harvest. All fresh and seasonal - there is no better definition of good food.

STOWUPLAND PRESCHOOL

SUMMER TERM FUN

The children of Stowupland Preschool have been enjoying a lovely term in the garden, growing vegetables (and eating the produce), bug hunting and observational drawings of flowers and fruits. We have also had the pleasure of meeting some pets; Sugar the pony and Herman the tortoise.

It's hard to believe we have reached that time of year again where we say goodbye to our school leavers. 28 children from the setting are off to start their Primary School in September and we wish them the very best for their next adventure. As a small setting, it has been wonderful to see each and every one of them grow in confidence and become 'ready' for their next learning chapter.

Before we welcome new starters in September, the staff are looking forward to a very much needed summer break. It's been a busy year!

We've got some exciting plans for our garden space and hope to have these sorted before the new term. A big thank you goes to Cllr Keith Welham for all his help and locality awards to us so far. Thank you also to Bloor Homes for the £500 donation towards the project. We will be sure to publish some before and after photos once the project is finished.





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FREEMAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

By the time you read this Freeman CP School will be closed for the summer holidays. It has been another unpredictable year with partial closures due to the pandemic, classes turning into 'bubbles', no singing allowed, staggered starts and finishes, and staff and children with the cleanest hands ever!

Because of this we wanted to make sure we ended the academic year on a positive note with trips out where possible, exciting visits to the school and themed weeks. Here were some of the highlights from the summer term.



Year 6 Activity Week



As our Year 6s were not able to have their usual residential trip last autumn we organised an activity week for them which took place during the last week of June. Each day they participated in a different event culminating in camping overnight on the school field on the Friday evening.

The week started with the Year 6s getting muddy completing an assault course at The Playground in Bury St Edmunds. They then recovered from the assault course by having a private screening of Peter Rabbit 2 at the newly refurbished Regal cinema in Stowmarket.

They spent the third day at Jimmy's Farm where they visited the reptile house, walked through the outback safari, met some farm animals and other more exotic animals such as tapirs and learnt about the effect of human interaction on eco systems. They then made dens in the wood where they had a bit of a scary encounter (see photo) – although we're not sure who was the most scared, the bear or the children!





Our original plans for the fourth day were unfortunately cancelled at short notice, however, Planet Laser in Bury St Edmunds stepped in and saved the day, providing the children with a morning of laser tag and bowling which they thoroughly enjoyed.

The Year 6s spent the final day of the activity week at Forest School which takes place on the school grounds. We are very lucky to have Mrs Kydd, or 'Dragonfly' as she is known at Forest School, at Freeman CP School as not only is she one of our Key Stage 2 teachers but she is also a fully qualified Forest School leader.



During Forest School the Year 6s made swing chairs using tarp and rope, built a lemonade stand out of a pallet, cooked sticky weed pancakes, whittled skewers for toasting marshmallows and did some Forest School crafts. They then rounded off the day with a BBQ before settling down in their tents for the night.

The children had a fantastic week which hopefully has provided them with some fabulous memories of their last year at Freeman CP School. It was also good to be able to support local companies who have been suffering financially during the pandemic including Dan's Coaches who provided the transport for the whole week.

Mobile Planetarium Visit

In our last article we wrote about the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary coming to visit our Reception and children in Years 1-3. In June we had another visit, although this time it was the UK's largest mobile planetarium system, the Astronomy Roadshow, visiting our Years 4-6. The planetarium dome was 6.5 metres in diameter although the children said it was like a tardis because it seemed even bigger inside!



As well as watching presentations, using an all-surround 4k star projector inside the dome, on topics such as the phases of the moon, the solar system, our place in the Milky Way galaxy and constellations, there were also exhibits outside the dome including a collection of space-related stamps, a piece of volcanic rock and a small rock from space. The children found the planetarium very interesting and it was fantastic being able to visit space without leaving the school grounds!

Sports Week

In July we had Sports Week which consisted of a range of fun indoor and outdoor activities including Sports Day, whilst also learning about the Olympics due to take place this summer. Unfortunately we weren't able to invite parents to spectate due to COVID-19 restrictions but the children still had a brilliant time.

In addition to the normal Sports Day activities the children also had the opportunity to participate in curling, tennis, rugby, cycle speedway, dance, archery and

Capoeira, a Brazilian martial art that combines elements of dance, acrobatics, and music.





Once again we had support from local organisations helping us run the activities including Gipping Valley and Thurston School Sport Partnership, Ipswich Cycle Speedway, Stowmarket Rugby Club, Stowmarket Tennis Club and Tina Kitley-Sparks for delivering some dance sessions.

A big thank you to all of those involved for providing the

children with such a fun week whilst also introducing them to sports that some of them had never heard of, let alone tried.

And finally....

We hope that in September when we return, things will be back to normal. In the meantime we wish all our Year 6s all the best at their new high schools, look forward to welcoming our new Reception children in September and we hope that everyone has a safe and relaxing summer break.

Freeman CP School

From tiny acorns do mighty oaks grow



THE VILLAGE HALL - the hub of our community

As the new Village Hall plans were revealed our eyes were opened to the opportunities that the new space would provide.

It is very early days, but plans have been drawn (for free) to show the possibilities of a new Village Hall. The original hall will remain but with additions and alterations. The hall will be extended on both sides which will provide new toilets, new disabled toilets, new changing rooms for referees, a new office for the Trustees and a new Bowls Club Pavilion. There will be new storage within the hall and outside for the cricket/football clubs and for regular village hall users, such as the Playgroup and Short Mat Bowls Club.

The overall ethos is that the hall can take advantage of the extra space provided by the Bowls Club Pavilion and access to the Sports and Social Club who will be able to operate bars with fewer staff. Each area can be segregated when in use or opened up for extra space when necessary.

To facilitate some of these changes, there will need to be alterations to the outside as well. The road beside the hall that leads to the rear parking area will be built on, with the road diverted around the back of the bowls club at the far end of the front car park. The road will continue through the area behind the basketball courts where the football equipment is currently stored. This will mean that there will be no loss of parking spaces. There will also be a pathway created to join up the safe route to school.

The new building on the left of the hall will accommodate the new entrance with a hallway that gives access to all areas. The trees that will have to be removed will be replaced within the village hall grounds. As the existing village hall will lose some of its windows, the new roof will, most likely, have rooflights. The plan is to install a ground source heating system and possibly solar panels to help reduce the carbon footprint of one of the largest buildings in our community.

Of course, the budget for these plans is a bit eye opening – it is expected to cost in the region of £1 million! There are plans to apply for grants from many sources, but there will be a shortfall that will need to be raised by the Village Hall Trustees that will require the support of the whole village. What better cause can there be for the village to pull together to help get the Village Hall and all its amenities the funding to create a true central hub for village life.



FROM SUFFOLK TRADING STANDARDS



«Free» Insulation Check Warning



We have received a report of individuals going door to door in Stowmarket, offering to carry out checks on the loft insulation of the property.

Our advice is to NEVER buy at the door!

If anyone has entered into a contract for insulation, they can cancel within 14 days by writing to the company.



Any trader that puts you under pressure by suggesting you have to make a decision there and then, or that the “special price” is only available for a limited period in order to make you sign up, may be committing a criminal offence.

Doorstep traders are trained in sales techniques and can be very persuasive.

Be very wary of signing anything as you may give up your rights to cancel.

Our advice is to always say “No thank you - please leave” and then immediately close the door. If the trader won’t go away, tell them that you will call Suffolk Trading Standards. If you feel under real threat or in danger, you should contact Suffolk Police.

If approached report to us via 0808 223 1133. When reporting doorstep incidents, please try to supply key information such as the description of the individual and their vehicle, including the make, model and vehicle registration if seen.

Please share with friends, family and neighbours, especially if they are not on social media. Sign up to our weekly email alert to forward this information on to them: www.suffolk.gov.uk/JoinTheFight

MEMORY LANE

No.1 is the Village Hall opening day, March 3rd 1956.

No.2 and 3 are from September 6th, 1957, when Jack Carter was invited to speak on the BBC about building the Village Hall, showing Nurse Minns. Paul Humphreys (the balding, bespectacled gent), Jack Carter (with the jumper) and Bertie Reid.

Fame, at last, for Stowupland! Does anyone remember the broadcast?



MAKE BELIEVE

There is a land not far away,
Where elves and nymphs they work all day,
They sew the leaves upon the trees,
And brush the down on busy bees,
On the backs of dragonflies,
They carry paint pots through the skies,
On the buds of flowers, they paint a spot,
A drop of scent and then fly off,
Glorious hues they soon appear,
Ladybirds they guard the buds,
Whilst fairies bathe amongst the shrubs,
Spiders' cobwebs soon appear,
And all the fairies disappear.

By Grace Sochaz

WHAT IN THE WORLD?



The bumble bat bee was awaking,
It woke with a buzz and a whoosh.
It woke from a home in the country,
It woke from a hydrangea bush.

It flapped off to caves that were nearby,
It slept all day long, but at dark,
It flew to the trees, quite amazing,
It flew to get food from the park.



It stayed in the trees and was happy,
To some it might look quite absurd.
But it made home high up in the forest,
That wonderful bumble bat bird.

The Really Lovely Poetry Company R.R.G.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Citizens Advice

www.midsuffolkcab.org.uk - 01449 676060
or 01449 676280 - 5 Milton Road South,
Stowmarket, IP14 1EZ

Doctor

Emergency - 999
NHS Direct - 111
Combs Ford - 01449 678333
Stowhealth - 01449 776000

Emergency Numbers

Power Cut - 0800 31 63 105
Gas Leak - 0800 111 999
Water Leak - 0800 771 881

Good Neighbour Scheme

HELPLINE: 07591 539621

Member of Parliament

Jo Churchill - jo.churchill.mp@parliament.uk -
Constituency Office, 10 Hatter Street,
Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1LZ - 01284 752311
House of Commons - 02072 198487
<https://www.jochurchill.org.uk/>

Mid Suffolk District Council

www.midsuffolk.gov.uk
Keith Welham - keith.welham@midsuffolk.gov.uk -
01449 673185

Police

<http://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us>
<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/advice>

Police Safer Neighbourhood Team

PC 14443 Stefan Henriksen - Police Station,
Violet Hill Road, Stowmarket, IP14 1NJ stefan.
henriksen@suffolk.pnn.police.uk - Phone. 101

Samaritans – 116 123

Stowupland Village Website

www.stowupland.com

Parish Council Website

www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Suffolk County Council

www.suffolk.gov.uk
Keith Welham - Keith.Welham@suffolk.gov.uk
01449 673185
SCC – General Contact No. 0345 606 6067

Schools

Stowupland High School -
www.stowuplandhighschool.co.uk - 01449 674827
Freeman Community Primary School -
www.freeman.suffolk.sch.uk - 01449 612067

DIARY DATES

AUGUST

SUN 1		
MON 2	6.30 pm Village Hall	Dance Club
TUES 3		
WED 4	2 -4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile PO.
WED 4	7.30 pm Village Hall	Local History Group
THURS 5	2 -4 pm Village Hall car park	"Charlie &The Dig" by Charlie Haylock
THURS 5	1.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Choose Refills pop-up shop
THURS 5	7.00 pm Village Hall	Lawn Bowls – roll up
FRI 6		Short Mat bowls
SAT 7	1.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Lawn Bowls – roll up
SUN 8		
MON 9	6.00 pm Village Hall	Dance Club
TUES 10	7.30pm Bowls Pavilion	Wildflower and Biodiversity Group meeting
TUES 10	9.30 Jubilee Ct 9.55 Green	Mobile Library
WED 11		
THURS 12	1.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Lawn Bowls – roll up
THURS 12	7.30 Bowls club pavilion	Parish Council meeting
THURS 12	7.00 Village Hall	Short Mat bowls
FRI 13		
SAT 14	1.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Lawn Bowls – roll up

SUN 15	6.30 pm Village Hall	Dance Club
MON 16		
TUES 17		
WED 18	2 -4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
THURS 19	1.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Lawn Bowls – roll up
THURS 19	7.00pm Village Hall	Short Mat bowls
FRI 20		
SAT 21	1.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Lawn Bowls – roll up
SUN 22		
MON 23	6.30 pm Village Hall	Dance Club
TUES 24		
WED 25	2 -4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile PO.
THURS 26	1.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Lawn Bowls – roll up
THURS 26	7.00–9.30 pm Village Hall	Short Mat bowls
FRI 27		
SAT 28	1.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Lawn Bowls – roll up
Sun 29		
Mon 30	6.30 pm Village Hall	Dance club
Tues 31		

SEPTEMBER

WED 1	2-4 pm Village Hall car park	Mobile post office
WED 1	7.30 pm Village Hall	Local History Group “Behind the Scenes at Who Do You Think You Are” by Gill Blanchard
THURS 2	1.30 pm Bowls Pavilion	Lawn Bowls – roll up
THURS 2	2-4 pm Village Hall car park	Choose Refills pop-up shop
THURS 2	7.00 pm Village Hall	Short Mat bowls

Rachel Eburne - rachel.eburne@midsuffolk.gov.uk -
01449 673311

MSDC General Contact No. 0300 1234000

Mobile Library - 07721 879855

Parish Council

Sally Reeves - Chairman - 01449 745739

sallyreeves@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Beeson - 07918 808387

laurabeeson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Philip Deal - 07957 623326

philipdeal@stowuplandpc.co.uk

John Hayward - 01449 674717

johnhayward@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Laura Johnson - 07826 851030

laurajohnson@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Debra Melhuish - 07979125904

debramelhuish@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Paula Murton - 07906 677817

paulamurton@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Ray Studd - 01449 676606

raystudd@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Jerry Voden - 01449 703717

jerryvoden@stowuplandpc.co.uk

Clerk to the Parish Council - Claire Pizzev

parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk - 01449 677005

2 Broomspath Road, IP14 4DB

Parish Council Minutes of meetings and agendas are available on the Parish Council Website

www.stowupland.suffolk.cloud

Vets

Cedarwood - 01449 676966

Stowe Vets - 01449 613130

Village Hall Bookings

Colin Booker - Phone - 07862740830

stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

Village Clubs

Baby and Toddler Group -

Kelly Woolhough - 07776 206430

Book Group - Patricia Hodgkins - 01449 672127

Bowls Club - Graham Newman - 01359 240846

Community Events - Keith Welham - 01449 673185

Country and Western - Pat Murphy - 01449 677405

Dance Club - Mary Durham - 01449 672601

Local History Group - Jerry Voden - 07951 086383

Short Mat Bowls - Pam Fayers - 01449 770080

Sports and Social Club - Andy Parkin - 07796 274905

- www.stowupland-sports-and-social-club.co.uk

Stowupland Cricket Club

www.stowuplandcricketclub.co.uk/

Stowupland Falcons Football Club -

stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk

Stowupland Sports Centre -

info@stowuplandsportscentre.co.uk - 01449 672531

Stowmarket Wildlife Group - John Thompson -

swtstowmarket@gmail.com - 01449 676471

W.I. - Mary Coltart - 01449 678403

coltart2001@yahoo.com

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Stowupland Village Hall

Excellent facilities - competitive prices



Our Village Hall is just the place for clubs and groups to meet or for special functions, such as parties, receptions and exhibitions.

There is one large room suitable for 140-300 people depending on the event. A small one seats up to 20 people. There is a well equipped kitchen, ample parking and a licensed bar, plus a new audio-visual system included in the standard hire charge.

Interested? Look on our website at www.stowupland.com/village-hall.

Call or email Colin Booker, our booking secretary to arrange a viewing or make a booking.

Tel: 07862740830. email: stowuplandvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

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Marie Broodryk
M.Tech.Chiro., CCFC, MRCC



Grant Talmage
M.Chiro

Registered with The GCC, RCC, SCA & BCA

7 Stowupland Road, Stowmarket, IP14 5AG



LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

From our Archives.... Maybe by the time you are reading this we can welcome 50 or more people to gather together in our Village Hall. This news headline dates back to 3rd April 1970, a report on the annual meeting of Stowupland Village Hall. Some of you reading this won't have been born then, others like me won't be able to believe that was 50 years ago

Whether 50 was a good number for an AGM back then I don't know but it's certainly more than attended the June 21st parish AGM. It would be interesting to know how many of those 50 were women and what their reaction was to the chair's call for younger **men** to get involved!

**Fifty at
village hall
meeting**

Of the 12 officers and committee members who were elected to serve, two were ladies. One was Ena Carter who during her life served on several committees, usually as a secretary. The other female committee member was Mrs Mary Bloom, she went on to become very active in village politics.

1970 was the first time for many years that Ena and her husband, Jack, were not involved in organising Stowupland's Flower Show and Fete. This is one of the few years that we don't have a SFS program for, so if anyone has one, I would love it for our archives.

STOWUPLAND VILLAGE HALL FUND

**FLOWER SHOW
AND FETE**

at
THE VILLAGE HALL

on
SATURDAY, 24th JULY, 1965

The Flower show had relocated to the Village Hall in 1965 and despite the reduced space restricting the number of competition classes the show continued to be popular. Local people were keen to show off their skills at flower and vegetable growing, flower arranging, baking and needle craft. In 1970 the committee decided to hold the show

in September instead of the traditional July. Maybe because the village hall could provide more protection from inclement weather than a marquee in the grounds of Stowupland Hall. The prizes for the Grand Draw in 1969 are an interesting reflection of the times: 1st prize, a £20.00 premium bond: 4th prize a garden fork, and **5th prize: 50 cigarettes!**

1970 was a busy year for the Village Hall and its committee. The Hall committee and Stowupland Community Council decided to join ranks, to discuss and come up with solutions to improve the outside sports facilities. They had space around the hall and ideas, but as ever, decisions had

to be made as to what would prove to be viable and value for money. Tennis courts and a skateboard park have both had space and equipment provided over the years, but it is cricket, football, bowls, and of course a children's play area that have endured.



At the time of the annual meeting Jack and Ena were just recovering from putting on their **Exhibition of Local History and Bygones**. Over the four days of Easter, 513 visitors had passed through the hall doors to view the 322 exhibits on show. I wonder how much the Carter's were charged for the use of the Hall. At the time the hire charge for Jumble sales was £6.00, local clubs were charged £0.65 per hour, whereas social events were charged £2.20 per hour.

Moving forward 4 decades and Local History returned to the Village Hall with the formation of SLHG in 2011. Many of its early meetings were held in the Church Hall but since 2013 the Village Hall has been its home. Many of our speakers still prefer their slide projector and collapsible screen but increasingly the group are getting the hang of using the new technology to view power point presentations.

We eagerly await the re-opening of the kitchen so we can enjoy a cuppa and chat after an interesting and thought-provoking talk. Maybe with the planned hall revamp we will be able to debrief over a cup of coffee or a glass of wine from the redesigned social club bar.

I understand plans for the current social club were drawn up in 1987 on the back of a Retreat beer mat and three years later the Sports and Social Club was officially opened. Is it too much to hope that someone has preserved that beer mat for our archives?

On July 7th we welcomed Stephen Poulter to talk to us about his experience of "Becoming a House Detective". He was our first speaker since March 2020 and we all enjoyed listening to a live speaker from outside the village. Stephen opened with how good it was to be seeing a live audience and not on zoom. At the conclusion of his talk, he answered questions from members. The only downside to the evening was that we were unable to offer refreshments, hopefully we will be able to chat together over a cuppa after Charlie's talk on August 4th.

We learnt how his research was prompted by his purchase of a listed cottage in Needham which is on the Norfolk/Suffolk border. His house was simply called The Cottage and was one of 23 listed properties in the area. It was not until 1966 that the houses in the village high street had been given numbers. He knew The Cottage was 17th century and following his move he had become involved with other groups in the area. One was the "Mayflower 1620" in Harleston, the nearest local town. He explained that several local people had travelled on the Mayflower and were 'Founding Fathers'. This had led to an interesting conversation with of his new neighbours who it turned out had some early mortgage document relating to his property. These gave him information about earlier occupiers of his new cottage.

He showed us photos of the cottage illustrating how it had been extended in 1996. He explained what the beams and windows revealed about the building's past. A number of beams had marks or burns on them. From his photos we saw the carpenters' marks made by the tradesman who worked on the building of the property and the witch marks which were put there to ward off evil spirits. Stephen took us through a series of slides following his research through Parish and census records tracking the various families and tenants who had lived in the house. These were of interest as it showed the development of the house and the lives of the families who had lived there over the years. He explained how it helped him understand the development of the cottage and how it was set out today. Previous occupants had been farmers, brickmakers, carpenters and even a tailor.

We hope to see you all for future events. (Jerry Voden)

Any queries should be addressed in the first instance to our secretary:

Jerry Voden – 01449 703717: voden@btinternet.com

Our planned programme for 2021 We hope that there will be no restrictions for our meetings from August onwards but as always, we must follow Government rules, so if any doubt about the meeting please do get in touch with myself or our secretary Jerry Voden. Unless stated otherwise entrance will be £4 for visitors or £2.00 for past and future members - until annual subscriptions are re-introduced next year.

4th August **“Charlie and The Dig” by Charlie Haylock**
Charlie will recount his experiences as dialect coach on the recent film “The Dig” starring Ralph Fiennes, the film based on the novel of the same name about Basil Brown’s 1939 excavation at Sutton Hoo. There will be a £5 entry for this talk.

1st September **Behind the Scenes at “Who Do You Think You Are”. by Gill Blanchard**
Gill is a professional genealogist, author and speaker who has worked as a researcher on the BBC programme “Who Do You Think You Are” including the Mary Berry episode.

6th October **Suffolk Witches by Pip Wright**
Pip has visited our group many times and is always a popular speaker. As we approach Hallowe’en Pip will look at the persecution of “witches” including the campaign of the “Witchfinder General” Matthew Hopkins and his visit to Stowmarket.

3rde November **TBA**

1st December **“In the Fields of Frost and Snow” by Hexachordia**
Music, mirth and merriment for the festive season, revealing what Christmas and New Year was like for folk at all levels of society in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

Meetings are held at Stowupland village hall starting at 7.30pm.

Neil Langridge

EAST ANGLIAN CHILDREN'S HOSPICES QUIZ

How many junctions on the M25?

If you followed a foreign vehicle with the country definition MC – which country is it?

A road sign with a blue background and white numbers means what?

What country now was Rhodesia?

What was Iceland previously called?

What rock band has a one-armed drummer?

When the BBC showed Formula 1 Racing, what was the theme tune and who played it?

What was the music for the original Top Gear TV programme (Clarkson team) and who played it?

What is another name for the Knight in a chess set?

How many different pieces in a chess set?

How many dominoes in a full set?

How many furlongs in a mile?

What is the Imperial measurement of a fathom?

How many stars on the Australian flag?

How many actors have played James Bond and name them?

On the cover of any HMV record or book there is a dog looking into the cone speaker, what is the name of the dog?

Who was the first astronaut into space?

Name the first Doctor Who?

How many time zones does Russia have?

When Radio 1 started, who was the first DJ and what record did he play first?

Cost to enter £2, returning 1 set of answers.

No limit to number of tries @ £2 each.

The person who gets the most answers correct win 50% of the entry fees.

The remaining 50% will go to EACH (East Anglian Children's Hospices)

Closing Date: Monday 16th August

Please put your answers with your name and address and entry money into a sealed envelope through the letterbox of 64 Sycamore Road, Stowupland.

In the event of a tie there will be a tie break question to decide the winner.

Good Luck!

Dave Brown

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

August is a time for festivals and picnics so, what food can you take with you to keep your energy levels up? Most festivals (and some picnic sites) ban the use of campfires, stoves, and barbecues so it is most likely a cold selection of snacks that will be the most useful. If you plan and have a good thermos flask, a good hearty soup will warm you up in the wee small hours. Make sure you have some wholesome bread or rolls too. Obviously, sandwiches, sausage rolls, pasties, and scotch eggs are good for your cool bag. Chocolate snacks are probably best left behind if it looks like the weather will be warm. A hearty little snack that will keep you going and be healthy are bliss balls.

Bliss Balls – makes about 15 balls

500g organic rolled oats

250g chopped, dried fruit (sultanas, apricots, cranberries, figs, etc)

2 dessertspoons nut butter (almond, cashew, or hazelnut spread)

200 ml unsweetened soya milk

100g pumpkin seed & sunflower seed mix

½ tsp mixed spices e.g., cinnamon, nutmeg & ginger

Desiccated coconut to coat

Put all the dried ingredients into a bowl and mix thoroughly.

Combine the nut butter and soya milk and gradually add to the dry ingredients, mixing with a wooden spoon.

Use your hands to finish the mixing and make small balls (about the size of a walnut)

Roll in coconut flakes.

Refrigerate for at least 10 minutes.

Wrap them individually and pop them in your cool bag.

Recipe courtesy of Champneys Health Spa

STOWUPLAND BOWLS CLUB

We have now reached the month of July and bowling is in full swing. Bowlers pray for both dry and warm weather during a match as, for example, one's ability to bowl smoothly can be hindered by extra layers of clothing and, of course, wet greens become more difficult to bowl on. April proved to be lovely and warm as against the usual cold and damp of previous years, but this gave us false hope with the summer ahead of us. Then May and June proved to be the opposite and we played on many cold and/or wet days. However, we soldiered on and hope that from here on weather conditions will be more to our liking.

Our match results for games played since 2nd June are as follows: -

7th June	Combs Ford "B"	Away	Lost	49 - 58	1 - 5 points
8th June	Haughley "B"	Home	Won	38 - 21	6 - 1
9th June	Old Newton	Away	Won	53 - 47	5 - 1
11th June	St Botolph's	Away	Won	93 - 27	6 - 0
14th June	Woodfield "B"	Home	Lost	51 - 58	1/2 - 5 1/2
15th June	Gipping Valley & EE	Away	Won	35 - 24	7 - 0
16th June	Thornham Magna	Home	Lost	44 - 54	1 1/2 - 4 1/2
21st June	Great Barton	Away	Lost	54 - 56	2 - 4
22nd June	Old Newton	Home	Won	53 - 14	7 - 0
23rd June	Walsham le Willows	Away	Won	53 - 45	5 - 1
24th June	Haughley "B"	Away	Lost	36 - 70	1/2 - 5 1/2
28th June	Needham Market "A"	Home	Lost	45 - 70	0 - 6
29th June	Walsham le Willows	Away	Won	43 - 16	7 - 0
30th June	Needham Market	Home	Won	51 - 49	5 - 1
2nd July	Old Newton	Away	Lost	Thurlow Cup (knockout) 42 - 42 (Lost deciding end)	

The Monday team, although generally playing well, is not achieving the results it deserves, but there is still time to improve. In contrast our Tuesday and Wednesday teams are faring very well with the former at the top of their league and the latter sitting mid-table in theirs. Strange perhaps that generally each squad is made up by almost the same members.

As one of the clubs based at Stowupland village hall, our bowls club presently operates as a separate entity as our facility has useable space within its pavilion for bowling needs such as a changing area of course, but also for members' social evenings (and so on as and when permissible). But we have taken part when the village hall has held quiz nights. If the proposal for a new village hall is successful, then the complex will include a facility for the bowling club and other areas for all sporting fellow members to share, including hospitality and storage.

We are always open to new members - just come along to the Bowls Pavilion on a Thursday or Saturday at 1.30 for a 2.00 start. We have bowls etc that we can lend you to 'have a go'.

David and Brenda Beggs

STOWUPLAND CRICKET CLUB



June was a month packed full of matches for the cricket club, and a successful one too for the 1st XI who finished the month with 3 wins out of 4.

Rallied by the excellent win at Great Bromley (mentioned last month), the team travelled to East Bergholt on Saturday 12th June, where a good bowling performance featuring 3 wickets for Luke Abbott was followed by George Yardley hitting a fantastic 97* to see the team win by 4 wickets. The following week, however, the team were less impressive against local team Battisford, where a good 51 from Dan Marsh was perhaps the only highlight of the day. The 1st XI finished the month with a very exciting win against another local team, Earl Stonham, winning by 1 run and featuring a great batting partnership between Grant Wearing (38) and Luke Abbott (39). 3 wickets for Luke Abbott and 2 apiece for George Yardley and Louis Blanchard topped off a great result.

The 2nd XI had their first league win of the season against Woolpit 4th XI on 19th June featuring a great innings of 54 for Andy Parkin and 4 wickets for Dan Webb. This game also saw Ollie Miller making his debut into adult cricket – a great performance with 9 off the bat and 2 wickets for the 12 year old. The other two matches in June ended in a loss but team spirit remains high regardless.

The midweek league has also seen mixed results for Stowupland. The team lost to Stowmarket on 2nd June, but the match saw Lucas Howard make 41 with the bat and Rob Fox take 3 wickets. On 16th June, the team travelled to Bardwell where a great 50* from Louis Blanchard and some good bowling all round resulted in a tied score. On 23rd June Stowupland won by 7 wickets against Old Newton, featuring 51* for Andy Parkin and 2 wickets each for Daniel Browning and Luke Abbott.

The junior teams have been very busy again this month with games at U7, U9, U11, U13 and U15 ages. With plenty of cricket to come over the next few months, the bar is now open during both training and match days (in line with current covid-19 regulations) and all spectators are welcome. Additionally, the club is always looking for new (or older returning) players – just contact us at the address below.

For further information please email *Melanie Blanchard* - mcblanch@hotmail.co.uk

STOWUPLAND FALCONS

Football Club 2020 – 2021 Season



After the disrupted end to the 2019 – 2020 season due to the COVID 19 Pandemic, the 2020 – 2021 season started out on a positive note. With the whole country coming out of lock down and Grassroots Football being one of those sports allowed to recommence there was a positive vibe around the club from the committee, parents and definitely the players. After being in lockdown since March it was great to get pre-season training under way in July, albeit with a number of COVID-19 restrictions in place.

The season kicked off in early September for the adults and older youth teams, with the younger teams not commencing until mid-September. We had 22 teams of boys, girls, men and women start the season, ranging from U7's up to our adult veterans. This was also the first season we have managed to form a woman's team, who have progressed from our youth system into adult football under the watchful eye of their manager, former Ipswich Town player, Gavin Johnson. This is a great achievement for women/girls' football in the club, and the team managers, as we have been working hard to promote and develop women's/girls' football over a number of years now.

After a great start to the season, with a number of our teams undefeated, the good old British weather descended on Stowupland playing fields. A number of the pitches became waterlogged and unplayable resulting in a number of home fixtures having to be postponed. Just before Christmas we all then received the dreaded news, that there would be a second COVID-19 lockdown. All leagues were suspended with training not even being allowed as we all went back into hibernation not knowing what will happen next.

March saw the end of the second lockdown and the return to training and playing of matches. Due to the unpredicted disruption throughout the season from COVID-19, the decision was made by the Suffolk FA and various leagues that all leagues would be null and void and arrangements were made to continue with matches but only as friendlies. This allowed all teams to continue with some desperately wanted playing time and training for what was remaining of the season.

The Suffolk FA made the decision to allow all cup competitions to continue, which gave our teams remaining in them something to aim at for the rest of the season.

This proved to be a great decision for our Adult First Team, who for the first time in our club's history, after some nail biting fixtures, reached the final of the Suffolk Junior Cup.



The final took place at The New Croft, Haverhill on a gloriously sunny bank holiday Monday at the end of May. With the game poised at 1 – 1 and looking like it was going to go to penalties, in the 92nd minute Craig Lockwood sent a header into the bottom far corner of the net to spark joyous Stowupland celebrations. The goal gave Stowupland their first win in this competition and we were crowned The Total Football Suffolk Junior Cup Winners 2021. Let's hope this can spur us on for more success next season.



It has been a difficult year for all, and we are hoping that we can get back to some form of normality soon and that next season will bring even more success to the club's teams.

CONTACT

Website: stowuplandfalconsfc.co.uk Email: players@stowuplandfalcons.co.uk

ABOUT STOWUPLAND FALCONS FC.

Stowupland Falcons FC can trace its roots back to the late 1800's.

Today the Club operates as a single youth and adult community football club, providing football for all those who wish to take part, only limited by our facilities and those in the surrounding area.

We provide coaching of football to children aged 4 and upwards and provide adult football up to veterans (35+). We provide male and female football, along with mixed teams in our youth age groups. Our Club philosophy drives us to act as one Club, meaning everything we do focuses on how it benefits the whole Club, not one individual.

Our committee are dedicated to providing the best of grassroots football in Suffolk by keeping our subscriptions low and quality of coaching to the highest possible level.

We have been awarded the FA Charter Standard Development Club of the year award three times in 2013, 2014 and 2016. The club has again been awarded the FA Charter Standard Community Club Award for the second time; the award is the highest status a grassroots football club can be awarded.

YOUTH & ADULT TEAMS

We provide coaching of football to children aged 4 and upwards and provide adult football up to veterans (35+). We provide male and female football, along with mixed teams in our youth age groups.

Many of our teams are always on the lookout for new players, irrespective of skill and experience. If you are interested in playing or finding out a bit more information about our Club, please get in touch with us.

SATURDAY MORNING CLUB

Stowupland Falcons FC has run a Saturday Morning Club for more than 21 years, providing **free** football coaching for ages 4 upwards.

The Club is run to develop footballers in their very early-stage career, teaching the basic football skills and aimed at gaining confidence "on the ball" and working as a team. We provide 2 sessions each Saturday morning. Ages 4-7 for entry into mainstream youth football at Under 8 (School year 3) and ages 4-11 **girls only** sessions aimed at entering girls' football at Under 10 (School year 5).

Both these sessions run from 10-11:15 (approx.) at the Village Hall playing fields, Church Road, Stowupland. They are open to **EVERYONE**. They are **FREE**. No need to tell us if you are coming, just arrive and let the coach know you are there. Just **TURN UP AND PLAY!**

We run every Saturday except in extreme weather conditions.

Please note that we do expect a Parent/Guardian to stay during the Club as, we are not a childcare facility. Football does have an element of danger with trips, mis-kicks and balls flying about, so having a parent/guardian on hand for youngsters is required. Football boots and shin pads are required. Trainers may be worn during summer months.

SAM'S CHAT

Hello everybody.

The day when I'm writing this is one day before I'm leaving primary school for good. Then in September I'm going to high school. I am sad about leaving my friends at my primary school. I do have other friends going to the high school I'm going to so that will make it less scary. We haven't been able to do a proper induction day at my new school because of Covid, but I did get a look around for a bit. It is very big compared to my school.

My last two weeks of primary school got messed up because of Covid. It quickly spread from one to eleven people infected in our year and we all had to go home. We had online learning again which was OK as it was still all set up from last time. I was sad because we were meant to go on a school trip but that didn't happen. We were also meant to do a summer fair and I really wanted to do a cake sale but that got cancelled. Some of my best friends got Covid and not everyone can come back before we finish school because they must be at home for 10 days. I have been able to go back for the last week, and we had lots of fun activities with inflatables and laser tag and things like that.

We have been asked about the village hall. I used to do lots of things there when I was little, and Mummy was treasurer. I said she was the money boss. I had birthday parties there and remember dancing around tables with a monkey. We did messy play with Little Squiggles and singing with Jo Jingles where I met one of my school friends before we started school. I met my godmother Rachel there at baby and toddler play group. Her children Demi and Louis are like our cousins now. We have had karate lessons in there recently too because the school hall wasn't open yet.



We can now stay in hotels so will go away to do trails again which we like doing all over. I am looking forward to doing an elephant trail.

We decorated an Elmer at school for the trail in Ipswich two years ago.

Football is normally boring for me as we all like rugby and F1 instead, but the Euro 2020 has got us interested to watch it. It has been fun so far. We watched England beat Germany and Denmark at the Retreat. It was very loud with everyone shouting and cheering and saying some bad words. I hid under the table to try to get away from the noise. Daddy is one of the loudest. I think we are going to watch the final in the pub too. I will take ear plugs.

When we were driving on the way to my sister's school, we saw a house along Church Road with lots of English flags and decorations and a lion almost exactly the same time as they were on Radio Suffolk. Spooky.

I hope we win on Sunday.

Sam



U.R.C CHAPEL

NEWS

Minister: Revd Robert Sheard
Telephone 01449 678173

Once again not much to report as nothing much is happening other than our Sunday services. Attendance varies from week to week, but we shall be pleased when we can sing again. It now looks like there will be changes from 19th July, but we must be patient and wait and see. The weather is still mixed and today I went to Woolpit Garden centre and got wet feet as there was such a downpour while I was buying plants and they had a few leaks.

The Historic Churches Ride and Stride takes place on Saturday 11 September 2021. We hope that the Chapel will be open for Riders to sign in. Sponsorship forms are available from Joyce Gardiner 01449 676149

Joyce Gardiner

Services continue to be held at the URC Chapel each Sunday at 10.30am and you are cordially invited to join us in worship. A warm welcome awaits you.

The Speakers for August are as follows:

01 August	Mary Durrant
08 August	Alison Fenning
15 August	Stephen Horrex
22 August	The Revd Norman Thorby
29 August	Veda Berriman

Joyce Gardiner

MINISTERS MESSAGE

Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8

A Time for Everything

¹ Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses.

² He sets the time for birth and the time for death, the time for planting and the time for pulling up, ³ the time for killing and the time for healing, the time for tearing down and the time for building. ⁴ He sets the time for sorrow and the time for joy, the time for mourning and the time for dancing, ⁵ the time for making love and the time for not making love, the time for kissing and the time for not kissing.

⁶ He sets the time for finding and the time for losing, the time for saving and the time for throwing away, ⁷ the time for tearing and the time for mending, the time for silence and the time for talk. ⁸ He sets the time for love and the time for hate, the time for war and the time for peace.

The above passage is one of my favourites and reminds us even though at times it may not feel like that, there is a rhythm and pattern to our lives, also that things do happen in God's time, and not ours. Even though we want things to occur in our time we must learn to be patient.

Over the last 17 or so months, our patterns and rhythms of life have certainly changed, and at times we have not known where things are heading, but now as we start coming out of this uncertain time, but learning to live with the Covid virus we still need to take time, and space, and place it all in the hands of God, because it will still be a time of uncertainty, worry and even fear for some, we must give others the space to regain their patterns and rhythms of life.

Our passage reminds us that along with the bad does come the good, but sometimes we need patience to wait for the good to happen again, and we will come through this stronger and better people with the help of God.

Yours in Christ, *Robert*

Reverend Robert Sheard Minister of the Stowmarket group of Churches. The group consists of Stowmarket, Debenham, Mendlesham, Haughley & Stowupland)

Stowupland Sports & Social Club are looking to recruit: -

PART TIME BAR MANAGER

Experience of working in a bar and customer service at supervisory level

The role will consist of working some evenings and weekends

Punctual trustworthy & reliable

Responsible of stock control

Organise staff rota & cover

Maintenance requirements, hygiene & cleanliness of bar & cellar area

Is aware of licence legislation and ensures he/she and staff adhere to it

Attend monthly evening committee meetings

BAR STAFF

Looking for bar staff to work in the Village Hall on a casual basis.

You will be available to work Friday and Saturday evenings from

6.30 – midnight when a bar is booked for a function

Bar experience would be useful but not essential

Punctual, trustworthy and reliable

If you are interested and believe you have the appropriate skills please contact: -

Mark Dye, Vice Chairman Sports and Social Club

markdye18@hotmail.co.uk



Church Road, Stowupland IP14 4BQ



HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

NEWS

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
STOW VILLAGE

Vicar : Revd Brin Singleton Tel. 770921

Churchwardens : Mrs Ann Doubtfire Tel. 770363

: Mrs Sue Hayter Tel. 613710

Email: brinsingleton@btinternet.com

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2082/benefice/>



Dear Friends,

If you've been able to guard some rest and recreation even recuperation, then perhaps you've found a good read and picked yourselves up a real page turner. As I write the turning pages of good news in the life of the church has come to thanksgiving for the life and witness of Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons and Teacher of the Faith who died about the year 200AD. He had heard the teaching of the Church of the Apostles in the preaching of Polycarp, disciple of the Apostle John. So, he spanned the transition from the Church of the Apostles to the Church of apostolic succession – bishops, himself become bishop by the martyrdom of his predecessor among the Martyrs of Lyons 177AD in the persecutions suffered by the Church at that time. Irenaeus became an agent of unity and clarity, exemplar of the bishop's role to guard the truth of the faith against unhistorical mythological and false teaching, he taught the full humanity of Christ.

Today we are looking for global release from the persecution pandemic has wrought upon all humanity. And many, whether of faith or none, seek to guard the mission of global vaccination as nations, whether beginning or emerging by vaccination, abate the waves of life changing and life ending pandemic still crossing seas skies and lands. This health crises have alerted us to the scale of change we need to bring to bear to avert the ongoing crises to the health of our planet in climate crises and global heating. These few years of reduced transportation by sea, sky and land reflect something of the scale of change which needs to be brought about to realise significant and ongoing reduction in carbon emissions, not just in our travelling but in our industry, our agriculture, and our homes. Just as at the start of pandemic the question was posed as to what we would say when asked by our children's children 'What did you do through the Pandemic', now we begin to ponder what we will teach that generation as we transition toward a world in remission and pray in transition toward a stable climate and a stable global ecology.

I hope those in power, and perhaps more importantly for ourselves to consider, those we will elect to power, will fulfil the call of our common humanity that 'None are safe until all are safe' whether from pandemic

or climate crises, and hold to the lesson of good works, sacrifice and compassion seen amongst so many volunteers, key workers, health practitioners, administrators, neighbours, and neighbourhoods to do good, to praise good, and to give thanks for good.

I hope we rediscover that Common Good for all Creation of which our faith seeks to guard in proclaiming Good News to all Creation Mark 16:15.

Our generation will span the transition through pandemic and climate crises, we are writing history, what will it be? Will we open our eyes to the truth of our common humanity, will we guard against falsehood and myth, guard the truth of global heating and climate crises and act sacrificially for the sake of our children's children?

Yours in Christ, *Brin Singleton*

Rector @ Haughley with Wetherden and Stowupland
achurchnearyou.com Haughley/Wetherden/Stowupland

PLEASE NOTE: All services may be subjected to change by government rules in force at that time.

Services in August 2021

1st Aug	9.30am	Parish Communion
8th Aug	9.30am	Worship for All
15th Aug	9.30am	Morning Prayer
22nd Aug	6.30pm	Parish Communion
29th Aug	11.00am	Benefice Communion at Haughley

AChurchNearYou – Stowupland

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/2086/>

Rodent Control - Insect Control - Bird Control - Pest Disinfection

Lewis Clarke
07568 480928

lrcservices95@gmail.com

Wasp Nests From £50



THE JUBILEE LADIES CHOIR

All being well, practice will start again on August 17th after 17 months and we can't wait!!!

We're always ready to welcome new members, beginners or experienced, any age, just able to sing in tune.

The ability to read music is not essential and we don't do auditions.

Every year we donate to charities and in recent years have given to E.A.C.H., Alzheimer's, Parkinson's UK, Crohns and Colitis and others. All the members vote for which charity we would like to support.

Come along at 7.30 p m on Tuesdays to the URC in Stowmarket where we, along with other choirs, practice as the acoustics are so good. Our members come from several surrounding villages, including two of us from Stowupland so transport needn't be a problem.

In early June, twenty-five of us met on a beautiful sunny day in the garden of one of our members, along with our musical director, socially distanced, and sang six of our favourite songs. It was quite emotional, and so good to see everyone in the flesh. We're a sociable bunch and have missed each other's company, not to mention the biscuits and cakes we share when it's someone's birthday!

However, the lovely afternoon tea which the committee had prepared was a wonderful surprise.

If things go according to plan, we should be available soon for events, as well as putting on our own concerts.

Come along and listen or join in if you think this might be for you. You will be very welcome.

Any questions, give Di Balaam a call on 01449 736374 or me on 01449 774833

Avril Hunt

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust – Ride and Stride

Saturday 11th September 2021

This sponsored event first took place back in 1982.

So, this will be the 39th one. Not even COVID 19 could stop it going ahead last year (more by luck than

judgement as it took place between the two lockdowns). Half the money raised goes to the church or chapel the rider/strider represents, and the other half goes to the trust. The trust gives grants to help Suffolk churches and chapels maintain the fabric of their buildings.

Get sponsored to visit churches and chapels in the beautiful Suffolk countryside either on your bike or by walking. A day out in Bury St. Edmunds, for example, could get you as many as sixteen visits on your sponsorship form. If that doesn't interest you, you could get sponsored to sit in the church, or chapel, and sign in cyclists and walkers.

If you fancy a day of fresh air and exercise in early autumn, you can contact either Jon Wray (jonwray57@gmail.com) for a sponsorship form to help raise money for Holy Trinity Church, or, Joyce Gardiner (jigardiner@talktalk.net) for a form to help raise money for the chapel.



CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

I would like to start with a couple of thank yous. Firstly, thank you to all those who came to help with our litter pick on Saturday 26th June. It was great to see so many residents willing to help make our village an attractive place to live. What was noticeable was that not as much litter was collected as in the past and this is where my second thank you comes in. Thank you to our small army of volunteer litter pickers who walk the village week in and week out to keep the village looking good. The volunteers, along with Mike Hawkins our Community Caretaker, are doing a great job.

Phase 3 of the Trinity Meadows development continues to cause the Parish Council problems. We thought we had solved the problem of heavy vehicles, well any vehicles really, using the Gipping Road entrance to access the site but it is back. Cllr Studd is our Planning Officer and keeps an eagle eye on planning issues which is just as well. As I write this in early July MSDC Planners are due to decide on a rewritten Construction Management Plan for the site. Bloor Homes new submitted plan is to use Gipping Rd to access the rear entrance to the site and exit via Gipping Rd and Rendall Lane for 6 weeks until they have built the estate roads and then to use Oxlip Way. As a Parish Council we are not automatically asked to comment on this but, needless to say, we have and have objected most strongly. I have to say that the 3rd phase of this build seems fraught with problems. Despite numerous requests neither your Parish Council nor District Councillors still have not had sight of the Safety Assessment for the proposed crossing at the Co-Op nor the drawings. The planning permission for phase 3 states that development cannot commence until the crossing has passed the Safety Assessment but no one can prove to us it has been done. Your Parish Council is now investigating a formal complaint against Mid Suffolk District Council.

The proposed meeting with a Planning Officer, to discuss various issues, is yet to happen as it appears it is difficult for a representative from MSDC Planning Dept to make an evening meeting. As many of our Parish Councillors work it must be an evening meeting.

After all the work done and concessions the Parish Council has made to enable the Safer Route to School to be constructed it was shocked to receive notice from Suffolk County Council that the part through the High School and out onto the A1120 will not now go ahead. It has taken many years to get this project to fruition and in spite of the fact that your Parish Council has letters laying out the timeframe for delivery of the project the decision has been taken to drop it. Both your Parish Council and District Councillors are working to see what, if anything, can be rescued from this announcement.

This brings me on to footpath 32 that runs from Thorney Green to Hornbeam Rd. It has become a speed track for school cyclists despite symbol signs indicating No Cycling.

Your Parish Council has purchased Cyclists Dismount signs which will be put on the posts with the symbol signs. We have also met with the Public Rights of Way Officer (PROW) to consider staggered barriers at both ends of the footpath. Unfortunately, the footpaths aren't wide enough for these at either end but there may be an opportunity for a barrier further down the path. I have also written to the High School asking them to address the issue with their students especially when they return in September. When I attended the footpath with the PROW I asked a school cyclist if he knew what the signs meant and was told yes but he didn't care. This is not the attitude I would have hoped for.

Your Parish Council has also written to object to the plans for Diaper Farm. This is part of what was previously known as Ashes Farm. The site has now been divided in two and is planned to be delivered as two distinct developments with a link road between the two. Originally it was projected for Ashes Farm to have 400 dwellings, but this has now risen to 575 in total over the two developments. Although this development is outside of our parish there is an impact on us with traffic on the B1115 and the junction with the A1120. We were pleased to see that Suffolk Highways want a roundabout at this junction constructed for the Diaper Farm development and we are glad of their support. There is also the issue of Primary Education facilities for the developments, and this again could impact on Stowupland with either a possible expansion of the Freeman Community Primary School or a new build primary school suggested on land behind our allotments. You can read our response in full on either our Facebook Page or Web Site.

We are also having problems with the cutting of footpaths not on the Parish Councils cutting schedule. In the past if one of these is overgrown Suffolk County Council have cut them for us but this year, they say there is no money for that. Please bear with us whilst we try to find a solution.

By the time you read this a new piece of equipment has been installed on the play park. It was an expensive piece of kit, but we hope the children get many hours of fun from it. If you see any anti-social behaviour on the playpark, please report it. At the moment we seem to have a small element intent on destructive behaviour.

Sadly, to date, no one has come forward to volunteer their time to help plan events to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in June 2022. If you, as an individual, or your organisation is willing to volunteer to help please come forward. Without help the Parish Council does not have enough bodies to organise something. If no one volunteers their help we will assume that the village as a collective does not wish to be part of the celebrations.

When I wrote last month's column we were hoping for the lifting of restrictions in June and that didn't happen, so I have fingers crossed for the July announcements. In the meantime, please stay safe and look out for each other.

Sally Reeves

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

JULY 2021



The meeting opened with 4 members of the public, 7 PC Councillors and Cllrs Welham and Eburne.

Councillors' Reports:

The reports from SCC and the District Councillors can be found elsewhere in Telstar. The DC Cllr advised that there was a lack of community user agreements with schools included in the leisure strategy. There were also concerns about the financial investments that have been made by MSDC with residents' money. The SCC Cllr reported that he has met with the new finance and estates manager from the High School and had been able to show him the areas of concern from residents in respect of drainage and ditches and to explain where the public rights of way crossed the school site. He felt that the new manager was receptive to making improvements and to work with the PC and to try and maximise profits by opening the school to community use.

Matters of Report:

The cycling prohibited and no parking on the green signs have been ordered. The faded 30mph signs do not meet the criteria for immediate attention but have been added to the list of works to be carried out when funds are available. The barbed wire at the Retreat pond has been removed. All other works are pending receipt of quotes or a start date.

Public Forum:

One member of the public who feels that it is encouraging fly tipping with the District Council not allowing double axle trailers into the recycling centre was advised that her concerns had been addressed and larger trailers will be allowed from 19th July. Another resident advised that she had witnessed 6 vans just inside the Bloor site with the unofficial gate onto Gipping Road standing open whilst she was litter picking last month. It was stated that the County Council engineer must be unaware of the width of Gipping Road and Randalls Lane or road layout; she had requested a photographic record of the footways. A third person thanked the District Councillor for his efforts in getting the entrance onto the site from Gipping Road closed 24 hours a day instead of Bloor's opening and closing at will. However, it appears that Bloor's have put in a planning application to allow its use again for 6 weeks.

Sandbags and Bus Stop:

An engineer from SCC advised that there was no money in the budget for the removal of the sandbags from Thorney Green despite them being put in at the wrong time of year and the wrong solution to the problem.

There has been a general problem with different SCC engineers coming up with different solutions to the same question. He also stated that a licence should have been obtained to locate the posts on The Green.

The Clerk advised that this was applied for and despite various communications with SCC, they failed to supply the requested licence. SCC have now come up with a more robust design for the bus stop paving with a 5" upstand; they have also agreed to provide the shingle surfacing to the route across The Green to match the existing paths.

A1120 Controlled Road Crossing:

Despite the road crossing outside the Co-Op being approved by SCC it is understood that no plans for it have actually been drawn and therefore this could possibly be the reason why nobody has actually 'seen' the drawing. The PC Chairman is going to make a request to the Monitoring Officer to see this document and the safety audit that accompanies it as the SCC Highways Officer who reported back on the feasibility study paid for by the PC agreed that it was not safe to have a crossing there.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Allotments – It was agreed that a meeting should be set up with the tenant of plot 38 to discuss the issue of the drop onto his plot. A letter is to be sent to another tenant who has not tended their plot with the only activity being the installation of a water tank.

Environment – The PC will need to apply for a licence for further posts to be installed around The Green. It was reported that the community litter pick went very well and was extremely well attended. Thanks were also given to Mr Pizzey for his help at cleaning up around the pond at The Retreat.

Footpaths – It was proposed that the contract to cut the footpaths should be handed back to SCC and those that are currently their responsibility need to be cut more frequently, however, they are saying that there is no money in the budget. They also need to contact local landowners to keep the sides of the paths clear. Those footpaths that are supposed to be cut by the PC contractor will be chased up to fulfil his commitment and extra money may need to be found for him to strim areas that he is unable to get his flail mower to.

Planning – Current planning applications include a change of use to a room on first floor of The Crown and a hybrid application for Gateway 14 plus the discharge of conditions for Bloor Homes' phase 3 development. MSDC have granted planning permissions for a new dwelling in Saxham Street, 3 dwellings at the end of Randalls Lane and listed building consent for works at Owls Farm.

Play Park – Work has started on installing the new play equipment.

Councillors' Reports:

Cllr Hayward was pleased that Thorney Green Road verge had been cut. Cllr Voden advised that the SID device has been returned to Old Newton and the information downloaded from it showed that the fastest speed recorded on it whilst near Devon Road was 80mph, however, it could have been an emergency vehicle. He also is seeking quotes for a new speed gun or to find someone to update the old one.

Cllr Deal reported that he witnessed the Co-Op delivery lorry at the garage was not parked far enough back and was blocking the view of the road for those leaving the garage.

Cllr Murton has received a number of complaints about the mowing of The Green.

Clerk's Report:

The Clerk reported that MSDC had reservations that there may be some confusion in the road names proposed for the site opposite the chapel between Cornflower Close and Cornfields. The name of Stowupland Vale would not be accepted because it includes the name of the village so the developer has suggested Valley Acre instead or if the PC had any alternative suggestions. Two suggestions made were Crown Farm Meadows or Blackthorn Close.

Correspondence:

Among the correspondence received this month was an email from Sports England regarding The Green, one from MSDC advising of postponement of the Stage 1 Hearing Sessions for the Joint Local Plan, one from SCC regarding fingerpost plaques and 5 from residents. These included a complaint about the state of the verges, footpath 32 being used by cyclists, the half a mow and a broken piece of equipment at the play park as well as a comment from an allotment holder.

The meeting closed to the public at 9.16pm.

Community Caretaker

Stowupland Parish Council are looking for an additional Community Caretaker

Duties to include emptying of rubbish, dog bins and litter picking in an area of the village

5 hours a week

Hourly rate x £8.91

All necessary equipment provided

Applications to the Parish Clerk parishclerk@stowuplandpc.co.uk
or

2 Broomspath Road, Stowupland, IP14 4DB

Closing date 1st September 2021

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

AUGUST 2021

Planning – General Concerns

Following the June meeting of the Parish Council, we wrote to the Chief Executive explaining a general concern about the MSDC Planning Service, giving as examples insufficient regard given to the Neighbourhood Plan in committee reports and committee presentations, failure to control activity on the Bloor Phase 3 site and the lack of a Construction Management Plan for the Landex development. We subsequently had a virtual meeting with Tom Barker and explained our concerns further, listing other examples. Tom insisted that he wished to meet with the Parish Council to give reassurance that the concerns will be dealt with.

Planning – Bloor Phase 3

Keith met with representatives of Bloor Homes on 16 June. He explained that residents of the village are angry that Bloor, having gained reserved matters approval on the basis of using Oxlip Way as their only construction site access and exit, within a few days submitted a proposed construction vehicle route showing vehicles entering the site via Oxlip Way and leaving via Gipping Road. And a few days later, construction vehicles were entering and leaving the site via Gipping Road. This had showed to residents that Bloor are not to be trusted.

They suggested that construction of the controlled crossing would restore confidence in the company. Keith referred to the statement made at planning committee regarding the design and safety audit approval and asked for a copy of each. Bloor stated that the drawing had not yet been completed.

Bloor explained that they needed to use the Gipping Road access as site entry and exit for delivery of materials for construction of the roads within phase 3. Keith explained that it would be unsafe; he told them it is not necessary to use Gipping Road at all and he would not support its use.

Bloor have subsequently amended their proposals for delivery routes and request that MSDC approve use of Gipping Road and Randalls Lane for a period of 6 weeks.

Meanwhile, MSDC have taken no enforcement action.

No response has been received concerning the link from Phase 2 to the Trinity Walk bus shelter.

Linden Homes Site

Keith has been in contact with the site manager and has asked for details of the timescale for works which will affect Thorney Green Road – diverting the electricity supply cables and construction of the cycleway/footway.

Leisure Strategy

MSDC Cabinet are considering an updated Leisure Strategy. The only proposals for Stowupland are the Trim Trail and improvements to the Village Hall. We have asked MSDC to assist in developing a Community Use Agreement so that village groups could make use of some of the school meeting rooms and the media block.

MSDC Investments

Council will be considering the CIFCO business plan. The value of the investments fell again during the last financial and CIFCO have asked to defer £1.5million of payments to the Council.

Joint Local Plan Examination

The examination has been adjourned and will be reconvened in September when in person and virtual attendance and participation will be possible.

Biodiversity Project

The District Councils have commissioned a tree canopy survey. Findings will be made available to the public.

Mid Suffolk Leisure Centre

The leisure centre in Stowmarket has re-opened after a £2.2million refurbishment which has included and upgraded gym and changing rooms.

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COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

AUGUST 2021

Bus Back Better

Bus Back Better is being launched by central government, essentially as a response to Covid 19, but it could lead to re-regulation of bus services and could be a positive move for rural Suffolk.

The de-regulation services, as we have at present, has led to the decimation of rural services in many communities, as this policy renders it unlawful to cross subsidise routes. Re-regulation would allow an operator to cross-subsidise, and this should lead to greater choice and better services to our rural community.

Government requires public transport authorities to produce a Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP) and bid for funding. There is also an offer of 4,000 zero emission electric buses that can be bid for. Based on population, Suffolk's share could be 40.

High School Meeting

I had a useful meeting with the Finance and Estates Manager on 7 July which covered a range of topics including responsibility for maintenance of hedges, trees and ditches, signing of public footpaths on school land, the condition of the footpath linking The Green with the school main entrance and the scope for community use of spaces within the school buildings.

Safer Route to School

I have received an email from SCC stating that no further work will be carried out within the High School site. This seems to be in contradiction to earlier agreements and I will be taking this up with SCC engineers.

A14 Night Time Closures

Closure from 8.00 pm to 6.00 of sections of A14 to allow the erection of large signs, and also pavement condition surveys, will be undertaken from late July to 11 August. Diversions will be signed via A143 and A140. I have expressed concern about the likelihood of traffic using A1120 instead.

Sandbags Thorney Green

The Parish Council Chairman and I met with a SCC Highways engineer to discuss removal of the sandbags. Their proposal is to remove the sandbags but state that no funding from SCC highways budget is available.

Thorney Green Bus Stop

The Parish Council Chairman and I met with an engineer from SCC and we have agreed the extent of the work needed to create a hardened area for passengers to enter and leave the bus. SCC have agreed to fund this work.

Linden Homes: Footpath Issues

I have spoken to the site manager, and he has agreed to trim the temporary footpath around the edge of the site.

Infrastructure Delivery Plan

Rachel Eburne and I met with a member of SCC Infrastructure Team to discuss highways, education and health issues. Proposals currently include a new nursery school on the Taylor Wimpey land and on the Diaper's Farm development and an increase in primary school places. SCC would prefer to see Freeman School enlarged but, if this is not acceptable to the Academy Trust, a new school will be provided on the Taylor Wimpey site. SCC accept that a roundabout will be required at the B1115/A1120 junction.

Rachel and I have requested a meeting with a representative of the health authority to request a new health centre, preferably on the Diaper's Farm development.

Gipping Road – request for speed limit

I submitted a request for the 30mph limit to be extended to Randalls Lane; this has been rejected – a similar request a number of years ago was rejected and, it is the view of SCC Highways that there is no frontage development, and the character of the road has not changed. I will be challenging this response; there have been 2 new houses, 3 menages and 1 (soon to be 2) pedestrian/cyclist/emergency accesses.

Keith Welham, County Councillor of Stowmarket North and Stowupland
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Telstar – for the community, by the community.

From the Telstar Committee

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