

'Like a friend
dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



Thirty years of Parish Record... all the Community News...

February 2019

Cheque this out

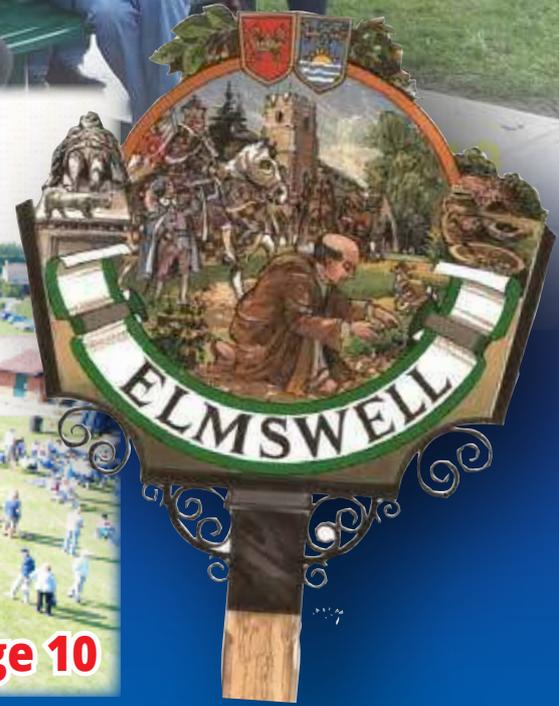
see page 17



ELMS FEST



see page 10



Published on the first Friday of every month by the Elmswell Amenities Association Reg. Charity No. 304879.
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Our editorial is designed to inform and to encourage debate.

If you wish to comment, please do so via the office or via

email at; eea.elmswell.org.uk We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

In the interests of community cohesion, your Editors don't do politics, religion or dog fouling. Rather, we try to offer a welcome haven from 'B' words - think Backstops and Back-stabbings. We ignore all the possible 'trans' words, including transubstantiation. We carefully step around (as, we suggest, should you, dear reader) canine issue.

However, the recent and on-going saga, possibly soon to be filmed as, 'The Siege of Wetherden Road', and probably starring national treasure Ms Olivia Colman as a digger driver with a heart of gold, requires that we must skim the surface of how these things are organised and, inevitably, touch upon the systems within such organisation happens. These systems are called politics - sometimes defined as the framework which provides the rules regarding who has power and how are they allowed to use it.

At the recent 'power' summit in Davos, Switzerland, many the world's seriously wealthy individuals gathered to chat about the rest of us. The 'rest of us' are those outside of the elite 0.7% of the global population...those who control just over half of global wealth. The 'rest of us' includes the 70% of this planet's working age population who account for just 2.7% of planetary global wealth. We work for them.

The mega-rich flew into the sub-zero temperatures of the exclusive ski resort in some 1,500 individual private jets. They then lectured us about global warming.

More wisdom came from one of their number, a Mr Bono, entertainer, who suggested that Capitalism, the system a lot of the world uses to organise its affairs, needs to change. Capitalism is the way we choose to do things here; generally, our affairs are in the hands of private owners for profit rather than the state. When compared with the other obvious option, Socialism, the sagacious Mr W. Churchill has previously suggested that, "The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings; the inherent virtue of socialism is the equal sharing of miseries". Recalling Cuba at its height, appreciating the very fleeting glimpses we're allowed of North Korea or casting current eyes on Venezuela, might strengthen the oft-repeated suggestion that capitalism is far from perfect, but it's the best system the world has yet to come up with for managing its affairs.

And thus, from the peaceful snow-covered alpine slopes to the mud-covered chaos that is our own Wetherden Road. You can't miss the spot - it's a very muddy building site for 240 houses. It is changing our landscape for ever. The first dwelling is to be completed, sold and occupied by June, in 5 months' time. For the first 3 months of that time, Wetherden Road will be closed. Not controlled, periodically shut or contra-flowed. Closed. Whilst sewage, utilities and other works are carried out. And equally closed when they're not carried out. When the Friday afternoon shut-down happens and the diggers die, over the weekends when nary a hard hat stirs, over the long Easter break, the road will be closed. At vast inconvenience to the good folk of Elmswell and of Wetherden. But very handy for the builder. Observe if you will one of the imperfections of capitalism. The sheer power and size of big business is able to slip and slide around the rules and regulations which are supposed to hold them in check and accountable. They do not act outside of the law. They don't have to. The law is on their side. Their lobbyists and facilitators helped write the law.

There are occasional attempts to redress the balance. Most recently, in 2011, the Localism Act, 'an Act of Parliament that aimed to facilitate the devolution of decision-making powers

from central government control to individuals and communities'.

It spawned Neighbourhood Plans which have got us nowhere (not just us, ask Thurston, Stowupland, Framlingham *et al*). It promised 'empowerment',

and consultation. Consultation we have in bulk. Mid Suffolk are permanently running several such. Its 'Communities Strategy' is a current favourite at 22 pages of loosely-knit waffle - do take a look.

But 'Empowerment', no. When it matters, when it might make a difference, the 'communities' set to benefit from 'Localism' are in the dark. The Wetherden Road Closure was determined many months ago between the Developer and SCC Highways Engineers. Finally, a week or so back, they came to a meeting called by the Parish Council to grudgingly concede that some tweaking might help deal with the emerging chaos but that there was no time for any serious re-think. The process, the 'system', the politics, puts the bottom line, the profit, the big business benefit well in advance of genuine consideration for the real-world implications of the decisions.

There is, currently, a review of how these things work at SCC Highways. No doubt the people will be consulted, and your Newsletter will do its best to put you in the picture. Meanwhile, we have the prospect over the next few months of new building starts at Borley Crescent (60 dwellings), Warren Lane (38 dwellings) and Ashfield Road (120 dwellings).

218 good reasons to invite us in for a chat?



Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 6 months we need copy by: February 19th, March 19th, April 23rd, May 28th, June 25th, July 23rd

Contact us on our new 'phone number is **0759 389 3602** for all Amenities Association business, Newsletter and adverts.

Our new email address is **EAA@elmswell.org.uk** Your editors: Jean Barker, Maggie Bushell, Peter Dow

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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL ART CLUB



How long did it take you to paint that picture? That is a question we are often asked and one we often ask of others. That question is only marginally easier to answer than, "how long is a piece of string"? It does however, get people wondering and searching for a reasonable response. Most of us seem to have no idea how long we actually spend on a painting. At a recent Art Club meeting, I asked several members how long they had been working on the piece in front of them and how much more time would they require to complete the work. No one could give me what they themselves considered an accurate answer. We just paint and don't take much notice of time. In fact, I have never seen anyone with a timer at hand. Painting and drawing are so absorbing and relaxing we forget time completely. We all work at different rates to suit ourselves, some people work faster than others. We paint regardless of time. Many people spent a lot of time ensuring the colour mix is right and applied appropriately. Others just get on with their picture and don't worry too much about absolute accuracy. It is after all our own interpretation of what we see either in our minds eye or what we are trying to reproduce. Factors to be borne in mind include



subject matter, size of painting, materials used and so on. It is relaxing and enjoyable and the company of similar minded people is wonderfully beneficial. The two pictures featured are very different in style and in materials used. Eddie Douglas painted the church adjacent to Oliver Cromwell's house at Ely and Linda Cornish did the continental village market scene.

John Welford 01359 240166

Life obliges me to do something so I paint. Rene Magritte

Art club meets Tuesday mornings at the Wesley



THANK YOU

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all well wishers and life long friends from Elmswell who attended Elizabeth Ann's funeral on Friday 11th January 2019.

It was a great comfort to see so many memorable faces and time stood still meeting you all and We were reminded of our lovely social family life, you all helped create when we lived at number 16 Wetherden Road. Elmswell is etched on our hearts

Colin, Cherrie and family.

ELMSWELL OVER 55'S CLUB

It is with great sadness that Marion one of our committee members sadly passed away recently. Our thoughts go out to John and all his family at this sad time.

Following a short break to allow time for some of the committee to recharge their batteries the club will resume on Thursday February 21st at the Blackbourne at 7 00pm when we welcome "Times Past" for an evening of entertainment when any non members are welcome to see just a taste of what the club has to offer.

Forthcoming attractions include a 50,s 60,s show at the Spa Pavilion at Felixstowe on April 4th also a reminder that those who have booked the "Welsh Weekend" at the Tynedale at Llandudno deposits / payment is due as all rooming requirement have to be lodged with the hotel by February 22nd so if anybody has changed their mind I need to know as currently we have members waiting for single rooms.

A small section of our 2019 programme appears in the Whats on in Elmswell section at the rear of the newsletter

Diann (241002)

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ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

At our meeting on 10th January 2019 we welcomed John Orbell whose subject was 'Bury's Corn Exchange- past and present'. Mr Orbell has a strong connection with the building as his father and two grandfathers attended the weekly Corn Market.

The first Corn Exchange was built in 1580, which was destroyed by fire in 1608; the Market Cross was used from 1741 but was not big enough for the amount of trade which was carried out. In 1836 the Corporation agreed to build a replacement on the present site. It was soon found to be too small, so another, larger, Exchange was built facing Abbeygate Street in 1861, by Ellis and Woodard, incorporating columns from the nearby 18th century Shambles, which was still trading as butchers' premises. Built in Woolpit Brick the building had a glass roof, as good lighting is essential for the selling of corn.

The decoration on the pediment was designed by Edward Stephens and depicts Queen Victoria on the left side and flowers and fruit on the right.

The Exchange was only used for its original purpose for 3 hours each week, when farmers and corn merchants would bring their samples of grain for sale. During the rest of the week it was used for entertainment, relaxation, horticultural shows, the Hospital Bazaar and other events including a celebration to mark the marriage of Queen Victoria. In later years it was used for trade exhibitions, dances, boxing, wrestling and as a roller skating rink.

By the late 1950's revenue had dropped and the building was becoming shabby. In 1969 an upper floor was installed, enabling the upper part of the building to continue to be used as a Corn Exchange as well as a public hall. The ground floor was then converted into a number of shops.

The development of the Exchange was controversial and it was even suggested that it might be demolished and a modern shopping precinct built instead. The Corn Exchange eventually ceased to function in 1997.

In 2011 Wetherspoons took over the upper floor and started work to create a pub/restaurant, with many of the original architectural features of the building being retained in this popular venue.

The next meeting of the History group will be in the Wesley Hall on Thursday 14th February when Sarah Doig will speak about 'The Story of East Anglian Almshouses'.

New members are welcome to our meetings on the second Thursday of every month at the Wesley Hall at 7.30pm. More information from Stella on 01359-242601 or from our website: www.elmswell-history.org.uk

ELMSWELL W.I.

It seemed a long time since our Christmas party in December. Another year is already underway. Everyone was pleased to meet again and exchange news about the Festive Season.

Our speaker was Wendy Smith, who has been a Wimbledon umpire for the past thirty-five years. During the last two or three years, she has also been training local people. The tennis association feel that it is important to encourage a younger age-group, because many present-day umpires are from the older generation. However, older people, who are often retired, tend to have more time and have the benefit of experience.

At Wimbledon, umpires are graded according to the amount of time they have spent on court. The Level 1, top umpires do twenty-five days. Each group of umpires has a team leader, who positions the others and they have to work on a different court, each day. They are taught to track the ball, not stare at the line, as well as being aware

of security or medical problems and changing ball-boys and balls. They are on duty for one hour in every two. The electronic "Hawkeye," a machine which records the passage of the ball near the line, is only used on show courts. The lines of umpires for semi-finals and finals are selected from their individual performances.

At Wimbledon, a uniform is given to each umpire with strict instructions about what to wear, as well as how and when to wear it. Umpires must always stand and sit at the same time and no alcohol is allowed ten hours before going on court. The players must only wear white outfits – even underwear! Wimbledon is the only Grand Slam in the world where this rule is enforced. Ball boys and girls are trained between January and June and are always polite, behaving impeccably.

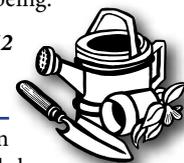
Thousands of people work at Wimbledon, including eighteen hundred caterers, one hundred and ninety night cleaners, twenty groundsmen

and fourteen physiotherapists. In the dressing rooms, there are twenty two attendants. The famous Wimbledon tournament proceeds, each year, like a well-oiled machine. The strict protocol, developed over many decades ensures that everything goes without a hitch. Most importantly, one hundred and forty thousand strawberries are delivered from Kent for visitors to enjoy!

It was interesting to hear what goes on behind the scenes at Wimbledon and to be made aware of the organisation and hard work that goes in to making it such a success, each year. It is not surprising that it is the most famous tennis tournament in the world.

In February, Zoe Noble is coming to talk to us about women's health and well-being.

Rosie Collins 01359 241652



ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

Following a stimulating year of talks and demonstrations during 2018, Elmswell Gardening Club is preparing to open the doors in 2019 for another year of interesting and varied evenings.

Our first meeting will be on **Tuesday 19th February 7.30pm at The Blackbourne Community Centre**. Helen Ackroyd, a National Trust speaker will share stories about Anglesey Abbey and the Fairhaven legacy of the magnificent garden, gifted to the nation in 1966. There is always something to see at Anglesey, whatever the season as Club members found out last year, when they spent time in July exploring the extensive gardens. This will be a great opportunity to remind ourselves of that day and awaken our desire to plan for our own garden spaces. Maybe not upon the grand scale of Anglesey, but then anything is possible!

You may have just acquired a new garden, want to change the way your space looks or just have room for a few pots to brighten a patio area. Many of us do not have specialist knowledge but want to learn

how to garden and in the Club, members enjoy sharing their gardening expertise. Our monthly meetings aim to inspire, empowering us to have a go at making decisions to improve our outdoor space or prompt us to make a promised visit to a beautiful place. If you feel minded to join us

do not hesitate to book the date in your diary. We meet on the third Tuesday of the month at The Blackbourne Community Centre where you will find a very warm welcome awaiting.

If you require further information about Elmswell Gardening Club, please contact **Nick, on 01359 242601 or email elmswell-gardenclub@aol.com**

We hope to see you in 2019.



February can be a hard month for garden visits, but it is also one of the busiest months of the year for Anglesey Abbey. Snowdrop paradise.

WESLEY RERURBISHMENT PLANS

The Parish Council's Planning application for the restoration of the Victorian Wesley Chapel at School Road and the building of an extension housing facilities to serve a community hub are now registered and available on the Mid Suffolk Planning website – search 'Mid Suffolk Planning Pages', and enter the reference DC/19/00052.

Comments and views of support or criticism are welcomed, and please copy in the Council via clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk or write to The Parish Council office, The Blackbourne, IP30 9UH



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ELMSWELL TODDLERS

Another busy month for us here at Toddlers, families have been braving the chilly weather to join us at Wesley Hall where we've been singing, slinging, storytelling and boogying (I promise that's a word).

On the 16th the sling library joined us again for another great session where they showed off their knowledge on all things sling, buckle and wrap related. We saw parents drop in for pointers and advice ranging from the benefits



of carrying their babies and toddlers to different ways of carrying older children. We always love welcoming back this friendly bunch of ladies to our group and look forward to seeing them again soon. If you have any burning sling related questions you can find the Suffolk Mobile Sling Library on Facebook where there is a list of their upcoming locations.

We then welcomed Diddi Dance to our Monday session on the 28th, where Nicola got all the children (and grown ups) moving to the music. So much fun was had by all and I'm sure many of the children were ready for a good nap afterwards (always a bonus!).

We've also been celebrating National Storytelling Week with the children creating some wonderful Gruffalo faces as well as having our own storytime where we read the Julia Donaldson classic *The Gruffalo*, (some of) the children even managed to say sat down for the entire book!

The children have been busy painting their winter mittens, which seemed appropriate given the FREEZING weather- please tell me it's nearly spring?!

Next month we'll be decorating pig biscuits for Chinese New Year, playing with chocolate playdough for Valentine's Day and crafting a birdwatching plate for Birdwatchers Week, so feel free to drop in with your little ones and make some mess.

Planning has already begun for our Nearly New Sale in March, keep your eyes peeled for more on that in next month's article but in the

meantime if you would like more information or are interested in selling your items drop us an email at elmswell.nns@gmail.com.

Lastly I would like to wish a fond farewell to a long standing member of our group who after five years has had her last session at Toddlers. Many of you who have attended our group over the years will have met Jen and her lovely children; not only did she set up the group every Wednesday without fail but she has also been our chairperson as well as an active member on our committee for a long time. Her cheery disposition and passion for the group will be sorely missed and have left some big shoes to fill. Thank you for all your tireless work over the years Jen, you will be sorely missed!



AROUND AND ABOUT



BWMA REPORT

The BWMA was pleased to hear that the Planning Application for the Wesley refurbishment had been lodged and the timetable was being adhered to. It was anticipated that permission will be granted by the end of February or shortly thereafter. Meantime, Building Regulations Applications have every hope of gaining approval by mid-March. External funding is being actively sought but the option of a Public Loans Board application is factored into the EPC's finances currently under scrutiny towards the 2019/2020 budget. The forthcoming substantial housing developments in the village will provide extra EPC income making a future loan feasible. Public support is a necessary prerequisite to such funding and there will have to be a formal consultation process with current user groups well to the fore. The projected down-time for demolition and re-building is 8 months with the latest date for signing the building contract currently set at May 1st.

There are now 3 quotes secured for the repair to the storm damaged Jubilee Hall roof and these are with the Loss Adjuster for forwarding to the Insurance Company. Cllr Jayne Storey has responded to the request with help for Elmswell projects from her Locality Budget and has indicated that she is minded to lend support of some £4,725.00 which includes a contribution towards the professional fees for the Wesley project.

Following the Christmas lull, Blackbourne use is now back to pre-holiday levels and the resurgence of bookings ensures that Blackbourne will be busier than ever this year. Our latest figures put Blackbourne and Wesley income at £39,866 and £6043 respectively, which projects to a joint annual turnover of £59 -£60K. Final costings on the Wesley might allow the re-visiting of the project to provide more Chamberlayne storage and increased office space. Meanwhile, there is some maintenance necessary because the extension is not to happen.

In response to a Police request, and in the interest of reducing anti-social behaviour on the part of groups of boy-racers, the car park has recently been locked whenever bookings have allowed, leading to the lock being smashed when a vehicle, thought to be locked overnight, was locked in. Consequently, the wording of a sign at the Blackbourne car park entrance was discussed with particular regards to gate locking and appealing to dog owners to act responsibly. A new sign format was agreed for immediate installation. Meanwhile, all other signage, other than when immediately related to a hiring, is to be removed.

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ELMSWELL MEMORIAL LIBRARY



Hello Elmswell!

Looking at the library catalogue, and the usage it gets, it's fair to say that most readers are fiction readers. In January however, we've seen a bit of a spike in activity over the non-fiction section, as people gather information for their new resolutions, new hobbies, and access the (ahem) diet section of the cookbook collection.

Marie Kondo's decluttering guide has been popular this year. She advises that people should have a maximum of 30 books in their homes. I feel I have a civic duty to warn against this advice. Unless you make very regular and dedicated use of the library, effectively keeping your readable supply up in the thousands, which is a much more comfortable number of books to associate with. By all means, throw out the socks with the holes in them.

The Friends group have been planning for the year ahead, with some activities in the calendar already. They are keen to get some additional volunteers on board, so if you have some free time, and you'd like to promote your local library services, we'd love to hear from you.

We're also currently seeking feedback around the Home Library Service. The Home Library Service is a volunteer run service where books are taken to people who are limited in their ability to attend the library in person. If you, or a friend or relative, would be interested in such a service, please give us a call so that we can get an idea of demand in the area.

Of course, if you can come in, it is always very cosy in the library, and we have books and free wifi. Who doesn't like books and free wifi?

Hope to see you soon,

Zoe

THANK YOU

I got my car stuck in the mud on Sunday, 23rd December, having parked it to walk my dog on the outskirts of Elmswell (Parnell Lane). I had no mobile with me to phone for help, and a very kind fellow dog walker phoned my family from her home landline number. Before rescue arrived, another dog walker had got his car stuck too, so my son had two cars to pull out with his Land Rover! As I didn't make a note of this Good Samaritan's name, I hope she will read this in the newsletter, and accept my sincere thanks for getting me out of my sticky predicament.

From a very grateful Tostock dog walker, who vows never to leave the house without her mobile!

What's On

The Keep in Touch Community Café

This group is for new residents to meet people in the village. Find them at the Fox pub at 10:30am - Wednesday 20th of February, Wednesday 20th March.

Baby Bounce / Tot Rock (Fridays 9:45, term time)

Singing for little ones, with their Mums, Dads or Grandparents, loads of adorableness and songs about frogs and bunnies. No need to book, just show up.

Lego Club

(11:00 - 12:00 on Sundays)

Come along and build with other children. We now have even more Lego, so bigger and better builds are possible.

Knit and Natter

Once a month on a Wednesday morning, 10am - 12am on the 13th of February and 13th March.

Ancestry / Family History Group

3pm - 5pm alternate Thursday afternoons in term time. Check with library for dates.

Books for Sale

We have received some fabulous donations from the Elmswell community so don't forget to check our sales rack out the front when you pass by.

ELF Volunteers

The Elmswell Library Friends group are looking for new volunteers. Please speak to library staff if you are willing and able to assist in any way.

Opening Hours

Day	Hours
Monday	Closed
Tuesday	1000 - 1300, 1400 - 1900
Wednesday	1400 - 1700
Thursday	1000 - 1300, 1400 - 1900
Friday	1400 - 1700
Saturday	1000 - 1300
Sunday	1000 - 1500

ELMSWELL - AN UPDATE FROM SUFFOLK LIBRARIES

Readers of this magazine will already be familiar with the excellent updates from Zoe, the manager of Elmswell Library but I just wanted to contribute a few words to give you an update on Suffolk Libraries plans and our vision for how your local library can make an even bigger impact on life.

Readers may not be aware that all the county's libraries are now run by Suffolk Libraries which is an independent charity. Despite funding challenges, we have kept all 44 libraries across Suffolk open. Thanks to the fantastic support and fundraising activities of the Elmswell Library Friends (ELF) we've been able to refurbish and improve Elmswell Library for the benefit everyone locally.

Suffolk Libraries has a long-term contract with the county council and like all our branches, we see Elmswell Library as becoming increasingly important to its community in the years ahead providing an increasing range of services and experiences to meet the needs of local people. We're currently working on plans to change people's perceptions of the modern library service and hopefully attract new customers to all our libraries.

Sadly, in many parts of the country the picture is different and many libraries have closed. Like all public services we still have many challenges ahead, but we have created a strong platform for the libraries to play a greater role in making Suffolk an even better place to live.

Like all our libraries, Elmswell provides a range of experiences and activities along with all the traditional services you'd expect - i.e. books! Some people don't realise that we also offer free wi-fi, eBooks, internet access and printing facilities.

Don't forget that signing up for a library card is free and easy to do. We'd love to see more of you at Elmswell Library or hear your ideas as to how it can play an even bigger role in your community.

Bruce Leeke, Chief Executive of Suffolk Libraries

CAN YOU HELP, PLEASE?

We are missing the May 2018 edition of the magazine for lodging in the County Archive.

If you have a copy and would be willing to donate it for history, do, please drop it into the Parish Council office at Blackbourne (there is a letter box, email us or call 01359 244134 and we will gladly collect.

Editors eea@elmswell.org.uk

ST JOHN'S CHURCH



Hello from St John's Elmswell, your local Church of England church.

How was your January? Our new year kicked off with the baptism of a gorgeous little girl named Grace. We pray that God will hold a special place in her heart and she will have long-lasting, faithful relationship with Him. We also pray that her parents will turn to God in good times and bad, and raise Grace with enormous amounts of love and compassion, just as Jesus taught.

This month we have:

Men's Breakfast – Saturday 9th February 8:30am. This friendly bunch of chaps meet, eat and listen to a speaker. Again, if a full English and making friends sounds fun to you, please get in touch for more information!

Messy Church – Friday 22nd February 10:30am. A morning of craft, songs, a Bible story, games, jokes rounded off with lunch. All ages are welcome, but children should be accompanied by an adult.



Ladies Lunch – Friday 22nd February 11:30am. Our monthly lunch for ladies with speaker at the Wesley Hall.

Church Quiz – Saturday 23rd February 7:00pm. A fun evening of general knowledge questions! Teams of six and £10 per person – including a delicious sausage casserole. If you'd like to come along, please get in touch and we can provide more information :)

This month, we're using our article to talk about the various Sunday Services we hold.

Family Church (all age worship) - First Sunday of the month at 9:30am. This is a family friendly service with songs led by a music group, which includes prayers, readings and a child-friendly talk. It lasts about 45 minutes and is followed by tea, coffee, squash and biscuits. The room at the back is available as a crèche.

Breakfast Church - Third Sunday of the month at 9:30am. This is a lovely, informal service with a light breakfast available beforehand from 9:00am. No need to book! Worship led by the music group starts at 9:30am. After a couple of songs, those aged 0 to 13 go to our wonderful Children's groups, which are led by a rota of volunteers. The service then consists of a Bible

reading and talk, a few prayers and some more worship songs. It typically wraps up around 10:20, when more tea, coffee, squash and biscuits will be made available. The room at the back is available as a crèche.

Traditional Church - First and Third Sundays of the month at 11:00am. This is a more traditional service with hymns and organ and always includes Holy Communion. Tea and Coffee are available beforehand from 10:30am. Holding the refreshments before the service is a wonderful way for our church family to integrate.

On other Sundays of the month, our Main Service takes place at 10.30am, with a mixture of traditional and contemporary music and worship. Children's groups for those aged 0 to 13 run at the same time. These activities for children are exciting and enjoyable and are led by a rota of volunteers. Again, refreshments are served afterwards in the meeting room at the back - everyone is very welcome to stay for tea, coffee, squash, chocolate brownies (the best in Suffolk) and biscuits!

Early Morning Communion at 8am, on the second and fifth Sundays in the month. A quiet, reflective service of Holy Communion with no hymns, taken from the Book of Common Prayer. The service lasts for about 40 minutes and includes a short sermon based on readings from the Bible, as well as prayers.

Sunday 3rd February
9:30am All Age Service
11:00am BCP Holy Communion

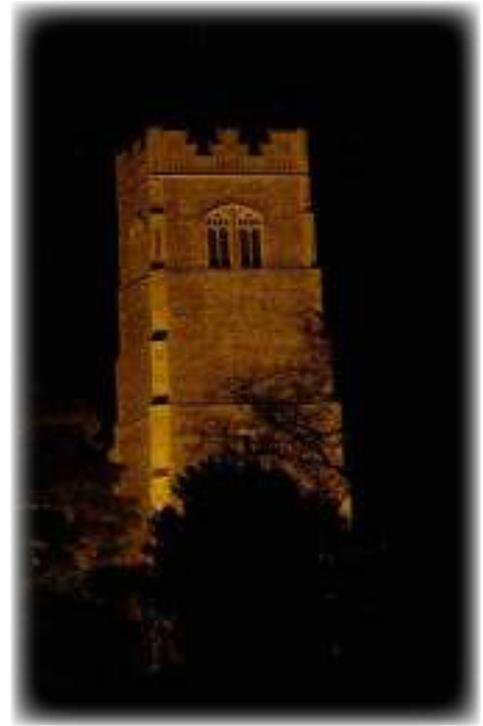
Sunday 10th February
8:00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10:30am Parish Praise

Sunday 17th February
9:30am Breakfast Service (breakfast from 9:00am)
11:00am Holy Communion

Sunday 24th February
10:30am Holy Communion

Sunday 3rd March
9:30am All Age Service
11:00am BCP Morning Prayer plus Communion

Get in touch!
Rector: Peter Goodridge
Telephone: 01359 240512
Email: elmswellrector@gmail.com
www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk
...and find us on facebook!



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

You are invited to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's to help with the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church. You can choose to commemorate an anniversary, a personal event, or any other special occasion. Alternatively you can simply make a donation.

For the winter months the lights will be on between 5.30 p.m. and midnight.

A night's floodlighting costs £5.

Please make cheques payable to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

FEBRUARY 2019 SPONSORSHIPS

- 3 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 4 in loving memory of my dear Dad, Geoffrey Dalton.
- 6 Geoffrey Sturgeon. "Remembering the best Grandad". Love from Shaun & Shelly. xxx.
- 12 in loving memory of Ted Rookard on his Birthday. Love from all his family.
- 13 in loving memory of Marjorie Ellen Manning.
- 13 remembering Fred Rush, a dear Dad, Grandad, and Great Grandad, on his Birthday.
- 19 treasured memories of Doris Towndrow.
- 21 in loving memory of Wally Fraser on his Birthday.

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E-mail: ourlady.stowmarket@btinternet.com

MASS TIMES: Saturdays (First Mass of Sunday)

St Mary's C of E Church, Woolpit IP30 9QG - 6.00 pm

Sundays Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket IP14 1AW - 8.30 am & 10.15 am

Holy Days Our Lady's, Stricklands Road, Stowmarket - 8.00 am, 10.00 am and 7.30 pm

Weekday services in the Parish are advertised at the front of Our Lady's Church, in the weekly Newsletter and on the new Parish Website www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk **Father David Finegan**

ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

Well, we're in the midst of all sorts of turmoil in our nation aren't we? In amongst all the uncertainty believe in an all powerful God can give us a real anchor in the choppy waters of life. We can't be unaffected by what's going on around us but a believe in a certain eternal future in the presence of God is a sure antidote and can give us a true peace. Want to find out more?

Come and join us on a Sunday morning or at our gatherings on a Wednesday evening (see next column).

Our activities in the next few weeks are:-

We've resumed our midweek get togethers on Wednesday evenings in different people's homes. These are very informal evenings when we discuss a passage in the bible (nothing too deeply theological) and pray together but also spend a lot of time chatting about all sorts of things. You'd be very welcome to join us. Phone Tony or Margaret on 241541 to find out where we're meeting in any particular week (we don't meet on the Wednesday when Food 'n' Friends is taking place the next day).

The **Ladies Friendship Group** meets on **Monday February 4th** at 7.45pm. Pip Wright is coming to give another of his local interest talks. Phone Margaret on 241541 for more information. ALL ladies are welcome. On March 4th, Chris Parfitt is coming to talk on his Arctic Odyssey.

Food & Friends on Thursday February 14th at midday – for the older folk – a chance to meet other people and enjoy a nutritious meal at nominal cost. This is run in conjunction with Age UK. Phone Jackie on 245918 to book your place.

On **Sunday February 10th** we are celebrating our **132nd Church Anniversary**. This All-Age Service will be led by Stephen Spurgeon.

We are grateful to all those who come to preach each week. Our preachers at our 10.30am services in the coming weeks are as follows:-

- February 3rd Stephen Spurgeon (inc Communion)
- February 10th Stephen Spurgeon (All-Age Service) – Church 132nd Anniversary
- February 17th Mark Partridge
- February 24th Rev. Barbara Challis
- March 3rd Kevin Moore (inc Communion)

A warm welcome is extended to all who wish to attend any of the above events.

Visit our website at www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk email cockant2@btinternet.com or telephone any of the numbers in this text for further info.

Tony



ALLISON KATHRYN SCHOFIELD

It is with the utmost sadness that I regret to announce the death of my beloved wife, Allison, at the West Suffolk Hospital on Tuesday 15th January, at the age of just 65. She had suffered a period of ill health but being the person she was she did not want to discuss this with anyone outside the family, still less wanting to receive anybody's sympathy.

She was absolutely devoted to her family and loved living in Elmswell, having moved here in 1986 and spending almost half her life here.

She served as a parish councillor and was for many years a member of the St John's Church family service music group. One of her abiding passions in life was the Brownies, having become a Brownie aged 9 and continued an involvement with the Guide movement for the rest of her life. She became Brown Owl at Tostock in 1987 (Elmswell then had no leader vacancies), where she remained in charge for 29 years. She even found time to help the Elmswell Cub Scouts for several years, but when Tostock Brownies closed she became an active member of the Trefoil Guild.

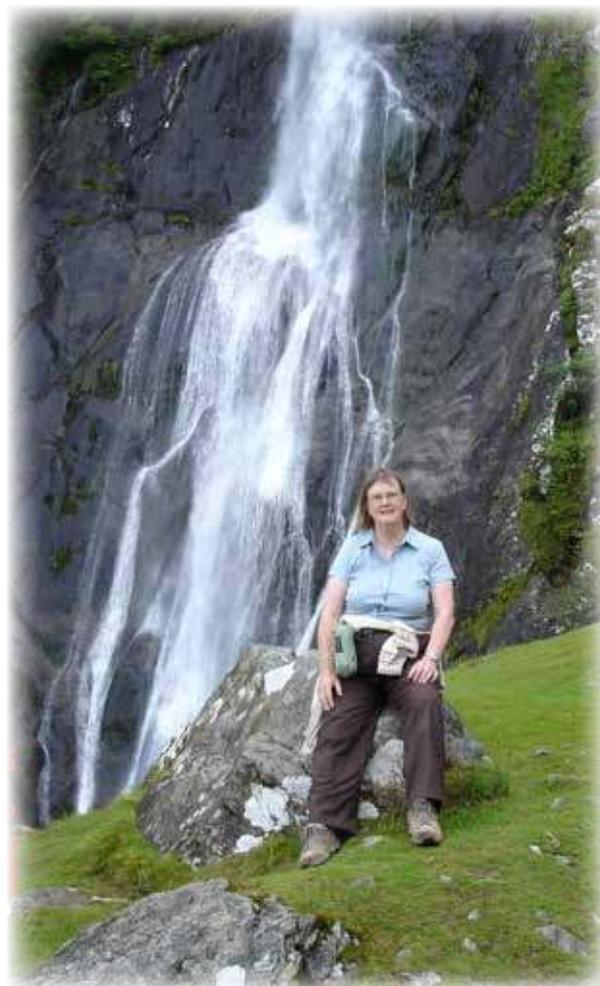
She was always ready to help and believed strongly that the Guide (and Scout) movement was a force for good. She certainly lived up to the promise and law which she had signed up to when she first became a Brownie in 1963.

Anyone who knew her also knew she could be relied on totally, was true to her word and would always do her best. She had a keen sense of humour and would express her views plainly and honestly.

She will be missed so much by me and our two sons, Christopher and Jonathan, as she meant the world to us all. To quote Bruce Springsteen (a favourite of hers) she was "my universe at rest". She will also be missed by all those who came into contact with her and who appreciated her unfailing politeness and willingness to 'lend a hand'.

She will be cremated at a private ceremony for family only, but we are organising a celebration of her life at St John's Church at which we would love to see as many of her friends, colleagues and acquaintances as possible. This will be on Saturday 23rd February at 11.00 a.m. She didn't want flowers at her funeral but if anyone would like to make a donation, I would wish to use anything received to benefit the Brownie/Guide movement locally, in her memory, something I feel she would have approved of.

Details are as follows: www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/michael-schofield-1





Preparations for this year's ElmsFest are well underway now as we edge another month closer to the big day. Not that we like to wish the year away, but our main attraction is already booked in and we couldn't be more excited to welcome Circus Avago and Wonder Wheelers to ElmsFest, taking place at the Blackbourne on September 1st.

If you're a budding stunt performer, or maybe you've always fancied trying your hand at a bit of plate spinning, then here is your chance... children and adults alike are invited to participate in an afternoon of Circus skills, as well as the opportunity to have a go on the trikes, bikes or any other wheeled apparatus that you can possibly imagine – it's bound to be there! Plus, if you really want to show off, try the 'unrideable bicycle challenge' – steer one way and the bike goes the other!

NEW YEAR'S DAY WALK

Despite some individuals clearly carrying some signs of recent ill-judged excess, some 68 villagers and welcome guests gathered at Crown Mill, as has been the case for the past many years, to follow Footpath Officer Dick Burch for a short New Year's Day ramble ending up at The Fox to raise a glass to 2019. Half way round the route, Alan and Linda Wells offered sausage rolls and other goodies to help soak up the hot punch and whisky chasers also distributed with their Best Wishes to all. Our pictures show the participants assembling, Alan and Linda with a warm welcoming spread and Dick Burch with daughter Dawn sampling the hospitality.



We're also currently on the lookout for sponsors of this year's event. Do you run a local business, or would you like some exposure for your brand? Then why not become a sponsor and we will guarantee to promote your name on all of our publicity on the run up to ElmsFest. Just like Suffolk Mini Waste have already done – thank you, Jamie. Please be in touch if you'd like more information.

As always, we like to offer Elmswell residents the very first chance to book stalls and attractions at ElmsFest, so here is your opportunity to get in early and book in before everybody else. This will almost guarantee that your proposed pitch will be accepted, as we do our very best to ensure that paying stall holders are not in direct competition with one another.

A booking form can be downloaded from our website at www.elmsfest.info, or alternatively, please email bookings@elmsfest.info or contact Mike on 01359 241699 or Chris on 07544 762448.



NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

Winter in the woodland

Short days, gloomy weather and bare, leafless trees would suggest that this is a quiet season in the woodland but, in fact, for nature winter is a busy time. The trees may be dormant and leafless but there's still a lot going on. Many trees play host to hibernating and over-wintering insects and mammals. Even while some old, ragged leaves are still clinging on to branches, trees are already putting out buds and some – like the hazel – are showing flowers or catkins. Birds are attracted to any berries and fruits that may still be on the branches – sometimes in large, noisy flocks like fieldfares and blackbirds. Some birds already have sprung on their minds – most robins, for example, have already paired up by January and will be investigating potential nesting sites.

For the forester, too, winter is a very busy time with many tasks that can't be done at any other time of year. Tree-planting of bare root saplings must be done while the plants are dormant to give them the best chance of growing well when spring finally arrives. All hedgerow cutting and pruning has to be carried out well before bird nesting season starts, so the winter months are ideal. With the trees in dormant mode, this is the traditional time for coppicing in the woodland. Cutting back like this may make the winter landscape look even more bare and lifeless for a time, but it encourages growth and by spring any coppiced stools will be bursting with fresh new shoots.

We're busy in Lukeswood right now, too. With all the foliage gone, winter reveals the bare bones of the woodland, so it's a good time to assess its overall structure, to see if any gaps need to be planted up next time, or where some coppicing might be required. We've been cutting the willow in our osier bed – it's a great harvest this year with many stems over 9 feet long, and some beautiful colours. We're using the willow to weave around the shelter and also to make some new structures – a den or hide-away for the children.

What's that tree?

With no leaves to help it can be difficult to identify trees in winter, but there are still lots of clues there to help you. If you fancy a challenge, why not have a walk round Lukeswood and see how many trees you can recognise? Here are a few tips to get you started.

Leaves, fruits, nuts and flowers are all good clues. Oak and beech will often hold on to a few dead leaves right through the winter months. For others, have a look on the ground beneath the tree – there may still be enough leaves to indicate the species. Many berries and seeds will have been eaten by now, but you can still find a few – red berries on hawthorn or rowan, dangling 'keys' on ash, or the pretty pink and orange berries of spindle. You won't find many nuts still on the tree in February, but you



may find some nibbled shells on the ground. Surprisingly, flowers and catkins can be quite abundant at this time of year – especially the lovely yellow catkins of the hazel, with pussy-willow not far behind.

Buds and bark are also good indicators. Ash has black buds, sycamore has big green buds and horse chestnut has very big sticky brown buds. The white bark of birch makes this an easy tree to spot. Others may not be so obvious, but many have unique patterns.

Sometimes the tree's silhouette will provide a clue. Field maple has a very round profile,

whereas the ash is slim and tall. Alder is conical and the birch has drooping branches.

You can find more information about winter trees from the Woodland Trust – go to their website at <http://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedetectives/activities/2015/09/twig-id/>

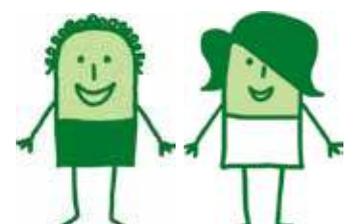
We hope you like our Winter Woodland Wordcloud! Enjoy the winter months – there's still a lot to see and discover!

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



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FOX BOWLS CLUB



Well, we are now another month through the winter and another month nearer the Bowls Season. That has to be good news for everyone and some of us score on both counts! I think it fair to say that all of the Foxes, certainly last year's members, are getting twitchy these days. I don't know about the newcomers as they don't realise quite what awaits them! Safest to say 'just expect a rollercoaster and you won't be far out!'

We have had a late flurry of signatures from those who were dragging their heels, the tardy ones, remember? Anyway, we are now in a position to start sorting teams out and planning and thinking about getting our rookies trained up. It is going to be fast and furious before the season but should be great fun as well. We are planning several friendlies to ease them in and it will be great to have well-attended roll-ups instead of just a handful of us trying to find new combinations for teams.

The green is coming along nicely and is looking really good these days. Having been able to tend it over the winter has paid great dividends and the difference is starkly visible. Hopefully, it will play a little faster than it has historically and be

easier for the less-powerful players. Some of our own veterans, who are devastating on fast greens, struggle a bit when the green is wet. Apart from the green, there has been a lot of subsidiary work going on with the surrounding area. The gardens and the hedging, which have always been kept to a very high standard, have been blitzed since the old season ended with several work parties working with a co-operation that bodes well for the coming competitions.

A delightful Christmas scene!



Our photos this month show the green as it was at Christmas – not a snowflake in sight, and Kenny Ball and Don James at Coney Weston contributing to the score which no-one can remember

*Peter Edmonds,
E.F.B.C.
07860 395720*

Our picture shows District Council Ward member, John Levantis, who provided funding assistance from his Locality Budget to help purchase a commercial-grade scarifier for improving the playing surfaces at Blackbourne. John, on the left, is with Dick Burch, Mark Edwards and Barry Hayward of the Elmswell Fox bowls club. Dick, their Club captain, has been groundsman at Blackbourne since it opened and identified the need for a scarifier to open up the heavily used area of the footballing areas such as at the goalmouths. The main pitch areas he regularly harrows, rolls and spikes with the Council's tractor. The scarifier will benefit the Council's bowls green and is available for the Cricket Club as part of their seasonal maintenance regime.



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Beautiful Birds



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C	U	Y	S	P	A	R	R	O	W	G	F
R	G	L	H	J	K	E	S	F	H	D	S
F	G	B	L	A	C	K	B	I	R	D	T
W	R	W	G	F	T	J	A	E	I	N	A
W	O	O	D	P	I	G	E	O	N	V	R
C	B	A	E	I	O	N	D	F	N	E	L
E	I	P	G	A	M	S	C	S	D	F	I
C	N	R	H	R	S	U	O	H	W	C	N
N	Y	S	W	T	V	U	T	R	E	W	G
M	C	H	A	F	F	I	N	C	H	Y	G
T	J	T	U	Y	E	W	T	C	V	R	R

Can you find the following birds?

Starling

Woodpigeon

Bullfinch

Blackbird

Robin

Chaffinch

Magpie

Sparrow

Blue tit

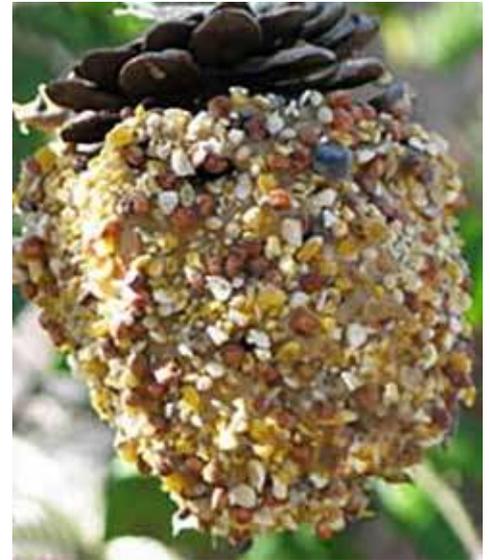
Leave food out for birds in the spring, this will help them to feed their young

Dry ground in the summer makes it hard for birds to find food. Don't forget to put some food out.



In the autumn birds are moulting and preparing their bodies for winter so it is important to put food out for them

By feeding birds in the winter will help the birds survive.



Make your own bird feeder.

You will need:

lard, fir cone, bird seed and string.

- Mix the bird seed with the lard
- Push the mixture into the fir cone
- Put in the fridge overnight to harden
- Remove from the fridge
- Tie some string on to the top
- Hang outside in the garden for the birds to enjoy

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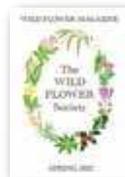


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From the cover



Our cover picture shows members of the Elmswell Gardening Club gathered at the new seat at Crown Mill which they generously helped to fund in collaboration with the Parish Council. Council Chairman Fred Pallett received a cheque on behalf of the Club from Brenda Begg.

The Club had felt that, as the gates are more and more frequently down and for longer and longer intervals, a seat nearby would be an appropriate contribution for the comfort and safety of all.



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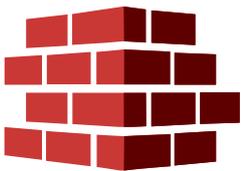
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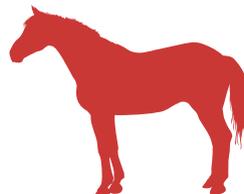
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Because your trainers are not as described in the advert, you may have grounds to ask for your money back.

First, try to fix the issue by contacting the seller to explain the problem, let them know your rights and that you would like your money back.

Should this get you nowhere, check to see if the online marketplace has its own protection and disputes resolution system.

Finally, if neither of these work for you, consider making a claim to the court, known as a small claim. There is guidance on how to do this on the Citizens Advice website at www.citizensadvice.org.uk.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this or any other issue, including employment, housing, benefits and family law. You can contact them on 01449 676060 or go to the Advice Centre on 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket. For more information and our opening hours go to midsuffolkcab.org.uk.

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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL January 2019 Report

Full Council is scheduled to meet on the 3rd Monday monthly, excepting August. However, insufficient business came forward to justify a meeting in December. The Ordinary January meeting took place on 21st at The Blackbourne with 7 councillors present, along with Mid Suffolk District Council Ward Member Mrs Sarah Mansel and 2 members of the public.

This report is compiled from the meeting by the Parish Clerk and edited by the Council's Editorial Board which comprises the Council Chairman, Cllr Fred Pallett, the Council Vice-chairman, Cllr Shaun Pratt and Cllr Mike Friend, nominated by his peers to join them. It seeks to cover some of the more interesting or significant items thought to deserve wider public attention. Included, where appropriate, are matters reported to the meetings by external bodies such as Ward Members or as raised at the meeting by members of the public. Further background and reference to subsequent events are included where relevant.

The Minutes of recent Parish Council meetings and Committee meetings, together with the agenda for the next meeting, when published, are available on line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud, in the Memorial Library and from the Parish Clerk by arrangement. Bound copies of older Minutes are lodged with the Suffolk County Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds. The most recent Minutes, from the meeting on 19th November, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Mid Suffolk District Council

Cllr Sarah Mansel confirmed that MSDC Cabinet discussed the draft general fund budget at a recent meeting. A 2% increase in Council Tax has been proposed and will need to be agreed by the full council. Meanwhile, the Cabinet has agreed to borrow a further £25M to invest with CIFCO, the Council's controversial investment vehicle which borrows Government money and invests it in commercial ventures which promise a greater return than the loan interest. The Parish Council has sought detail and clarity on this process which has seemed to focus on the risky area of retail properties, many of them outside of the District and therefore generating no collateral benefits or 'spin-off'. Such detail has not been forthcoming and it was agreed that the necessary Companies House search fees would be found to confirm the finances of CIFCO which has to file such figures by 12th March.

With regard to the Government's recent decision to remove the spending cap from Housing Revenue Accounts (HRA), a revised budget and medium term plan for the Mid Suffolk HRA means that the mandatory 1% decrease in rents will be implemented whilst both garage rents and sheltered housing service charges will remain the same, but a 5% increase in sheltered housing utility charges is proposed.

There will be a public consultation across Babergh and Mid Suffolk on their draft Joint Communities Strategy. This will cover the way the district councils will work together with other organisation to ensure that the communities remain healthy, sustainable and pleasant places to live and work in the 21st century.

A joint procedure for the management of all council owned trees across both districts is to be adopted. There are in excess of 20,000 council owned trees across the 2 districts and this new procedure hopes to ensure that trees are replaced and cared for and there will be consultation with local communities.

Suffolk County Council

Cllr Jane Storey tabled her monthly reports for both December and January.

On 14th November, Suffolk County Council published key papers which mark the beginning of a three-month process to agree Suffolk County Council's budget for 2019/20. The papers detail how Suffolk County Council proposes to increase its overall budget by nearly £15 million (3%) to £514.8 million in 2019/20,

with specific increases in the council's children and young people and adult care budgets which support Suffolk's most vulnerable people. This includes accounting for an expected significant increase in the cost of providing services and inflation. The papers summarise an initial list of potential savings totalling £11.2 million, which are required to help balance the overall budget. These include proposals to maximise income, as well as cost, grant, service and staffing reductions. To balance its budget for the next financial year, the council needs to save around £25m. At the council's Scrutiny meeting on 22 November 2018, the committee considered details of the proposed savings. Committee members recommended changing the proposal regarding a cut this year to a phased reduction of grant aid to the CAB – a recommendation that was later agreed by Cabinet. It is now proposed that the grant will reduce by half to £184,000 in 2019/20 before ending in 2020/21.

A final decision on the council budget is due to be made by full Council on 14 February. On 5 November, it was announced that the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership has received a national award for supporting local communities to be more energy efficient. The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership is a collaboration of Suffolk County Council, all Suffolk's borough and district councils and The Environment Agency. It supports the county's communities, businesses and residents to reduce carbon emissions, realise the economic benefits of reducing energy consumption and adapt to the future impacts of climate change. Its work has brought in significant amounts of external funding to Suffolk, running highly-successful projects for its customers. Construction of The Hold building is well underway, with groundworks, piling, and foundations all part of this phase of construction. The Hold will deliver a new home for the majority of Suffolk's unique archival collections, as well as state-of-the-art public facilities including seminar rooms and a 200-seat auditorium. Collections will be centralised in Ipswich but will be able to be accessed digitally from other buildings. The new building, which will be situated near the junction of Fore Street and Grimwade Street in Ipswich, will be part of the University of Suffolk campus and will be run by the county and the university together. The building will formally open to the public in Spring 2020. Once finished, more than 100 direct and indirect full-time jobs will be created as well as training and apprenticeships.

Grant for Wesley project

Councillors gratefully acknowledged receipt

of a grant of £500.00 from The Elmswell Fox Bowls Club towards the proposed refurbishment of the Wesley chapel and halls site recently purchased by the Council for development as a community hub in tandem with the facilities already on offer at Blackbourne. The Club, which administers the village's bowls green and facilities at Blackbourne, has had an extremely successful year in ensuring that bowls stays in the village and is made available to all and this success has allowed the generation of a financial surplus which members have agreed should go to encourage wider community facilities at Wesley.

BWMA

A report was received from the Blackbourne & Wesley Management Association noting that the application for Planning Permission is lodged for the proposed refurbishment of the Council's recently acquired Wesley chapel which will include a newly built extension and will serve as a community hub as well as housing many community groups for their regular meetings. The project is on schedule so far for a start in May and the estimated build time is some 8 months during which period current user groups will be accommodated at Blackbourne or elsewhere as necessary.

Audits

The Council is examined in 3 separate processes each year over the full spectrum of its finances, procedures and governance. The first is an internal review carried out at the mid-term point by Councillors. It follows a pro forma document which Council has previously agreed and which requires examination of and comment on all aspects of the Council's activities with free and unlimited access to all files and records. The Meeting noted the resulting findings which indicated that the examining Councillors had found no issues of non-compliance with statute or Council procedures and that the finances were properly administered and, as agreed at each monthly Council meeting, accurately recorded. The full report is posted on the Council's website at www.elmswell.suffolk.cloud.

This report goes forward in May to the Council's Internal Auditor, Heather Heelis of Heelis & Lodge, an experienced and independent Local Government auditing practice. Subsequently, the report from the Internal Auditor is submitted as part of the documentation to a Government appointed External Auditor, currently PKF Littlejohn LLP, who make their own report which

must be ratified by Council and published, including on the Council's website, usually in September.

Planning Results

The meeting noted the results of Planning applications as advised by Mid Suffolk, the Planning Authority, being:

DC/18/04301

Erection of single storey rear extension
Houghton House, Ashfield Road
GRANTED EPC supported

DC/18/04331

Erection of two storey rear extension....
24 Little Green
GRANTED EPC supported

DC/18/04437

Erection of detached dwelling...
Land adjacent to South View, Spong Lane
GRANTED EPC supported

DC/18/04841

Discharge of conditions 3 & 4...
Church Hill Cottage, School Road
APPROVED EPC made no comment

DC/18/04921

Discharge of conditions 3 & 4...
Church Hill Cottage, School Road
APPROVED EPC made no comment

DC/18/04538

Erection of two storey side extension
Hilltop Cottage, Church Road
REFUSED EPC supported

SCC\0080\18MS

Variation of Conditions...
Lawn Farm Quarry
GRANTED EPC objected

DC/18/04776

Erection of first floor extension...
27 Orchard Close
GRANTED EPC supported

DC/18/04842

Erection of single storey rear extension...
Mayfield, Warren Lane
GRANTED EPC supported

DC/17/05961

Appeal re erection of 2bedroom bungalow
The Gables, Ashfield Road
Appeal dismissed
EPC objected to original Application

DC/18/03885

Erection of 1no. dwelling...
The Pastures, Ashfield Road
GRANTED EPC objected

Planning Applications

The Meeting discussed the following applications referred to them by Mid Suffolk for comment and objected to both for the following reasons:

Ref DC/18/05363

Erection of two dwellings...

Kiln Farm Cottage, Kiln Lane, Elmswell
This proposal is in the countryside outside of the settlement boundary of the village. It represents an unsustainable form of residential development for which there is no justification, as required by Local Plan Policies H7 & H10 and by Core Strategy Policies Cor1 & Cor2. Councillors have

had reference to NPPF paragraph 11 and consider that there are no factors which mitigate in favour of allowing this as an extraordinary case in that the adverse effects of granting permission would outweigh any perceived benefits for the following reasons:

- 1 It is accepted by the Applicant, and common sense confirms, that the 2 households created under this Proposal would entirely rely on private vehicular transport for access to the amenities at either Elmswell or Woolpit, both in excess of a mile distant.
- 2 Kiln Lane is a single-track road with no passing places which serves several domestic dwellings as well as a major Anglian Water facility and 3 industrial sites. It is already subject to heavy use and constant degradation of both its verges and its running surface. There is no footway or pavement along any of its length. Any further traffic poses further hazard, contrary to Local Plan Policy T10.
- 3 Kiln Lane feeds on to Warren Lane for traffic East to Stowmarket or seeking the shortest route into Elmswell. Warren Lane itself is a single-track road with passing places. It must serve as the feeder road to the recently permitted development of up to 38 dwellings at its Northern end. There is no footway along its length until Warren Close at the village boundary. Any additional traffic in this context is clearly adding to the existing hazard for pedestrians and cyclists and for all traffic at the Church Road / Warren Lane / New Road staggered junction, a situation soon to be exacerbated by the traffic from this new estate of houses and by the additional load from 240 dwellings currently being built-out at Wetherden Road. When traffic is frequently diverted from A14 or otherwise through the village, as is proposed for some 3 months during the development of the Wetherden Road housing estate, Warren Lane and Kiln Lane are overwhelmed.
- 4 In seeking to assess any justification for the granting of this proposal within the constraints of NPPF, Councillors could not accept that the Paragraph 8 objectives of the Framework are met in that;
 - 4.1 There is no economic imperative to add 2 further dwellings to the 648 which currently have the benefit of Planning Permission in Elmswell. Village infrastructure does not need further impetus or growth, rather it struggles to keep pace with the relentless pressures towards a 38% uplift in its housing stock within the short and medium term.
 - 4.2 The social objectives seeking a sufficient number and range of homes towards a strong, vibrant and health community are well met within the growth already determined, as above, and the rider within the Policy aspiring to produce a safe built

environment counts entirely against this Proposal for further stress, hazard and congestion on the village's roads.

- 4.3 Environmental objectives within the Framework are ill-served by a proposal requiring all travel to be by private vehicles rather than, 'minimising waste and pollution and mitigating and adapting to climate change'.

In summary, and with reference, again, to Paragraph 11 of the Framework, the effects of this Proposal would be impose adverse impacts which would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits on a community which has:

- A thoroughly adequate supply of homes
- A robust economy already at a sometimes uncomfortable maximum and looking to be stretched under development pressures

Ref DC/18/04267

Application for approval of Reserved Matters...Land to East of Borley Crescent,

The community consultations prior to the Outline Permission being granted found considerable favour in light of the overall pattern of house types which sought to accommodate the needs of a neglected demographic in the community by including 16 bungalows. Despite other reservations, the Parish Council and the community at large were supportive of this element of the proposal.

It was profoundly shocking to many residents when, in consultation on the Reserved Matters application, the allocation of plots for bungalows had been reduced to just 2.

In discussion with the Parish Council there was a grudging concession that the number of bungalows be increased to 4.

This submission has reverted, once again, to just 2 bungalows.

Apart from the clearly identified need for bungalow accommodation in the community, it was always considered that the strain on the highways infrastructure, given an access which spurs off from an existing large housing estate, would be reduced by the pattern of occupancy that the prevalence of bungalows would present.

Resiling on this clear promise to the host community is an unacceptable and arguably disingenuous tactic.

It would seem part of a policy of cramming the site way beyond the original concept on which the community was consulted in July 2016. Another concomitant of this strategy is the suggestion of garage courts remote from the houses they serve, a well-documented cause of anti-social behaviour and ill maintained public areas. The change of demographic provision implicit in the housing stock now proposed is rendered the more inappropriate by the granting of Permissions for some 398 dwellings on 3 other housing estates in Elmswell since

the original concept for this development was mooted. These estates provide more than adequate accommodation of the types proposed here. Without the 27% of the stock in this proposal initially promised as bungalows, both affordable and open market, this proposal is not sustainable.

Wetherden Road closure

The Chairman reported on a meeting called earlier in the day by the Clerk to address the widespread deep-seated concerns regarding the proposals for road closures for a period of at least 14 weeks. Representatives of all concerned agencies attended, along with District & County Councillors and members of Wetherden Parish Council. Given the lack of community consultation at the inception of this scheme, there is little substantive change possible at this stage. Some mitigation in terms of signage was agreed and this is to be confirmed at a second meeting within a week. An appeal was made for the re-opening of the road, even if by one-way working, whenever the works allowed, but this was not considered a likely possibility

by the contractors. Given the scale of the protests against this move, the Meeting noted the danger of residents ignoring the signage and using the roads as and when the work was not in process, such as at weekends and over the Easter break. The Clerk undertook to pursue the basic issue of the lack of meaningful community consultation with the SCC Portfolio Holder for Highways who has promised that such procedures are included in a current major review.

Grants

The Meeting agreed unanimously to grant £150.00 to the Elmswell Fox Bowls Club whose members have provided 3 months of excellent stewardship of the Council's recycling centre at Station Road, including over the busy Christmas weeks, and to grant £100.00 to the Elmswell Over 55's Club in recognition of their work installing the excellent Christmas decorations at Blackbourne over the seasonal celebrations period when they were enjoyed by a wide range of hall users.

Precept

Council is to precept for £130,051.00 for the 2019 / 2020 financial year. This figure requires an increase of 1.7% on the amount paid by the average Band D Council Tax payer last year which constitutes a weekly rise of 3p on last year's payment. The rise is based on a budget which includes the initial costs involved in the refurbishment of the Wesley chapel towards providing more community facilities to serve the village's fast-growing population.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 18th February at 7.30pm in the Chamberlayne Hall at Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council and Council Committee meetings and the agenda will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published on line at www.elmswell.suffolk.cloud, on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op outside the Post Office.



Before the Meeting began, all present stood for a minute's silence to mark the sad passing of Allison Schofield who had served as a Councillor from 2007 -2011 and who had made a significant contribution to village and Council affairs. Allison was remembered particularly for her work with and concerns for young people, having been a key player in the schemes to help youngsters plant spring bulbs around the village and for her role in refurbishing the Crown Mill play area.



ALLOTMENT TO RENT

The Parish Council has a plot available at the Church Hill allotments.

Applications for a tenancy are invited by email to: clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

tel: 01359 244134

The Parish Council Office
The Blackbourne, Elmswell IP30 9UH



FOOTPATH WALK

Our next walk starts, as usual, from Crown Mill, on

SUNDAY 10th FEBRUARY
beginning at 11.00 am
from the village sign.

Open to all comers & led by
Footpath Officer Dick Burch

A couple of hours gentle walking on the
footpaths in and around Elmswell

*Dogs on leads welcome –
stout shoes recommended*

Future Council Meetings

Notice of all meetings and agendas is posted on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and in the community notice board at the Co-op.

Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
18th	18th	15th	20th	17th

Meetings are held at Blackbourne, beginning at 7.30 unless otherwise notified

Enquiries on any Parish Council matter are invited to the Clerk, Peter Dow, at The Council Office, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH – right next to the car park and with wheelchair access. Staffed Mondays & Wednesdays 9.00am – 4pm, Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am – 12 noon and at other times by arrangement. clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk Tel. 244134



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What's On in Elmswell ?



To be included in our events diary make sure you send separate notification of your announcement.

For a full year's calendar of what's booked at Blackbourne, please go to the Parish Council website at www.elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk - it might help you in planning dates for your events.

February 2019

- 1 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 4 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - with Pip Wright
- 6 Exchange Afternoon WI
The work of the Rural Crime Team
- 7 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 9 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 12 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Zoe Noble, Womens Health & Wellbeing
- 13 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 14 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Sarah Doig: "The Story of East Anglian Almshouses"
- 14 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 15 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 19 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm
Speaker: Helen Ackroyd - 'Anglesey Abbey'
- 19 Exchange Social Club Beetle Drive
- 20 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 21 Over 55's Club Entertainment by "Times Past" Visitors welcome
- 22 10:30am St John's Messy Church & lunch
- 22 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 22 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm
- 23 7:00pm St John's Quiz Night with sausage casserole
- 28 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm

March 2019

- 1 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 4 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Antarctic Odyssey with Chris Parfitt
- 6 Exchange Afternoon WI
A Song of Their Own - the story of Suffragettes in Ipswich and surrounding villages
- 7 Over 55's Club Fish & Chip Supper followed by Bingo
- 9 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 12 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Yum Yum Tree Fudge
- 13 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 13 ELF Committee Meeting at the Library commencing 6:00pm.
- 14 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Miriam Stead: "Tea for the British, with a little twist of Suffolk"
- 14 Food & Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 14 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 15 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 19 Exchange Social Club Speaker Mr Parfitt
- 19 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm.
Speaker: Nigel Start - 'Fruit Tree Pruning'
- 20 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 21 Over 55's Club AGM with music by Mike Reed & Wendy
- 22 3:50pm St John's Messy Church & tea (doors open 3:30pm)

- 22 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 28 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 29 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 29 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

April 2019

- 1 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Stowmarket Food Bank with Mike Smith
- 3 Exchange Afternoon WI
Suffolk Land Search & Rescue
- 4 Over 55's Club Visit to 50's 7 60's Show at Spa Pavillon Felixstowe
- 5 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 5 Over 55's Club Welsh Weekend @ Tynedale Llandudno
- 7 2:15pm St John's Spring Walk - meet at The Rectory, Church Rd
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Ex Detective Chief Supt. Alan Caton MBE
- 10 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 11 Elmswell History Group's 19th Anniversary meeting, Wesley Hall 7.30pm, Speaker John Morris: "Constable at Flatford Mill"
- 12 10:30am St John's Messy Church & lunch
- 12 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 13 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 16 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm. Speaker: Karen Kenny - 'Compost, Worms and Comfrey for Fertility'
- 16 Exchange Social Club Speaker Mr Leader Round the World in 102 Days
- 17 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 18 Over 55's Club entertainment by "Brotherhood" visitors welcome
- 24 ELF AGM at the Library commencing 6:00pm. All welcome. Refreshments available.
- 25 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 26 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 26 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

May 2019

- 1 Exchange Afternoon WI AGM & Resolutions
- 2 Over 55's Club Eyes down for Bingo
- 8 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 9 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 9 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7.30pm, Speaker Richard Young: "Bury's Victorian Observatory" *July tickets on sale*
- 10 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 10 3:50pm St John's Messy Church & tea (doors open 3:30pm)
- 11 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 13 7.45pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - The life of an auctioneer - with Bishop/Miller
- 14 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm AGM and Resolutions

- 15 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 16 Over 55's Club Details later
- 17 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 21 Exchange Social Club Outing
- 21 Elmswell Gardening Club 7.15pm at Woolpit Nursery for an evening with Andrew Bain
- 23 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 30 Over 55's Club Day out at the Hut Felixstowe with Fish & Chips
- 31 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 31 10:30am St John's Messy Church & lunch
- 31 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

June 2019

- 3 7.00pm Elmswell Baptist Church Ladies Friendship Group visit to Crows Hall, Debenham
- 5 Exchange Afternoon WI
How holidays used to be
- 5 7:30pm St John's Thy Kingdom Come Prayer and Praise evening
- 6 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 7 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 8 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 9 6:30pm Pentecost - Christian's Together in Elmswell evening Service at St John's
- 11 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Louise Gregory, Line Dancing
- 12 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 13 Elmswell History Group meeting, Wesley Hall. 7pm A.G.M., then Speaker Claire Gapper: "Decorative Plasterwork in Elizabethan & Jacobean Suffolk" *July tickets on sale*
- 14 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 15 7:00pm St John's Summer Quiz Night.
- 18 Exchange Social Club To be arranged
- 18 Elmswell Gardening Club meet at The Blackbourne 7.30pm.
Speaker: Dr Ian Bedford - 'Companion Planting for a Balanced Garden'
- 19 Keep in Touch Community Café (The Fox) 10:00am
- 20 Ancestry Group (at the Library) 3pm - 5pm
- 21 3:50pm St John's Messy Church & tea (doors open 3:30pm)
- 28 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 28 Elmswell Bingo at Blackbourne, doors open 6.30pm Eyes down 7.30pm

July 2019

- 3 Exchange Afternoon WI A Passion for Swifts
- 5 St John's Friday Ladies Lunch @ The Wesley Hall 11.30am
- 9 Elmswell WI at The Blackbourne at 7.30pm Summer social event
- 10 Knit and Natter (at the Library) 10:00am - 12:00
- 11 Elmswell History Group - 7pm Annual Outing to Suffolk Police Museum, Martlesham Tickets from 01359-242601
- 12 "Companions @ The Wesley Hall 10.15 - 12 noon
- 13 Elmswell Sewing Bee 1:30 - 5:30, Blackbourne
- 16 Exchange Social Club AGM and Strawberry Tea

To be included in our events diary, please send us a separate notification of your announcement.

PLUS>>>> regular bookings at Blackbourne & Wesley include, Art Club, Baby & Toddler Group, BATS table tennis & badminton, Boot Camp, Bingo, Carpet Bowls, Circuit training, Companions, Exchange Club, Gardening Club, History Group, Ju Jutsu, Karate, Ladies Lunch, Mardle Quilters, Pilates, Sewing Bee, Slimming World, WI (afternoon and evening groups), Zumba.

Ring 244134 for details or email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

A VILLAGE INDEX



Useful contacts for community groups & others...feedback is essential.

Do be in touch to correct or add details or to suggest someone else deserving of listing.

Amenities Association	Jean Barker (Sec)	ea@elmswell.org.uk	241135
Art Club	John Welford	welford955@btinternet.com	240166
Baby & Toddler Group	Jen Tooke-Marchant	elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
Beavers	Ruth Court	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
BWMA	Peter Edmonds (Sec)	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	241640
BATS – Badminton at Blackbourne	Peter Edmonds	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	241640
Brownies	Gemma Sutton	elmswellbrownies@hotmail.com	
CAB		advice@midsuffolkcab.org.uk	01449 676060
Carpet Bowls Club	Frank Boxall	jf.boxall@btinternet.com	
Christians Together in Elmswell	Jean Folkard	derekf2@gmail.com	
Community Speed Watch	Mo Coulling	mocoulling@gmail.com	0777 4695784
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Jane Storey	Jane.Storey@suffolk.gov.uk	240555
Cricket Club	Eileen Brooks (Sec.)	elmswellcricketclub@gmail.com	
Cubs	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansel@midsuffolk.gov.uk	245247
District Councillor	John Levantis	Johnlevantis@gmail.com	01284 700925
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
Elmswild	Mary Feeney	info@elmswild.org.uk	241901
Exchange afternoon WI	Maureen Davis	modavis6@gmail.com	
Exchange Club	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	
Fire Crew;non-emergencies	Brian Hawes	brian.hawes@suffolk.gov.uk	07761 125093
First Responders	Merv	merv.smith@tiscali.co.uk	07909 006 496
Football	Shaun Pratt	shaun.pratt@btinternet.com	07813 302808
Fox Bowls Team	Dick Burch	ann.richards47@gmail.com	240105
Friends of Elmswell School			
Friends of St Johns	Jean Folkard	derekf2@gmail.com	242099
Gardening Club	Nick Chamberlin	npch@btinternet.com	242601
Guides	Sue Howard	sueguides2011@talktalk.net	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Ladies Lunch Club	Brenda Begg	davidgbegg@gmail.com	242025
Library	Zoe Clark - Manager	elmswell@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleeelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	ea@elmswell.org.uk	244134
Oil buying Group		elmswelloil@gmail.com	07813829008
Over 55's Club	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	241002
Parish Council	Parish Clerk,	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Photographic Society	Mike Randell		
Police Emergencies			999
Police; non-emergencies	Mid Suffolk South SNT	headquarters@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
Poor's Land Charity	David Hawes	davidandanna@yahoo.co.uk	240249
Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
School	Mrs Ash	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Ben Savill	hovells23@hotmail.co.uk	
St John's Church	Jean Folkard	derekf2@gmail.com	242099
Sewing Bee	Zoe Clark		07580 297140
Village Tree Officer	John Ibbetson	jaye130@gmail.com	241086
WI - evening	Margaret Stevens	stevensmarg@tiscali.co.uk	408452
Youth Football	Raymond Flatt	raymond.flatt@hotmail.co.uk	07729 774610

Enquiries on any Parish Council matter are invited to the Clerk, Peter Dow, at The Council Office, Blackbourne, Blackbourne Road, IP30 9UH – right next to the car park and with wheelchair access. Staffed Mondays & Wednesdays 9.00am – 4pm, Tuesday & Thursday 9.00am – 12 noon and at other times by arrangement. clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk Tel. 244134

**IF YOU ARE NOT HAPPY THAT YOUR DETAILS APPEAR HERE,
PLEASE DO BE IN TOUCH VIA ea@elmswell.org.uk**

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