

'Like a friend dropping in'



The Elmswell Newsletter



More than thirty years of Parish Record... all the Community News...

NOVEMBER 2023

On line at elmswell.suffolk.cloud

DIARY DATES

OUR BIG BLACKBOURNE



**SATURDAY
25TH NOVEMBER**

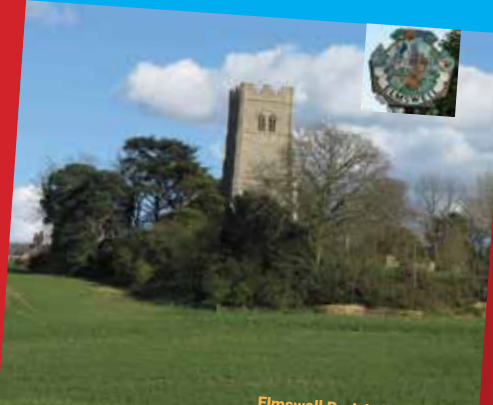
HEDGE BONANZA



... see page 16

Elmswell Neighbourhood Plan
2022-2037

Referendum Plan - October 2023



See the insert with your
Newsletter & please vote
on 21st November

**Elmswell Tavern pop-up bar
at Blackbourne - everyone welcome!**



... see page 10

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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 by email at; eaa.elmswell.org.uk

We reserve the right to edit any such contributions that we may use in a subsequent edition.

It is often pointed out that Elmswell is no picture-postcard, ‘chocolate box’, village. The Tourist Information brochure in Bury doesn’t have a photo of our medieval duck pond or the placid meandering river glistening in the dying rays of twilight as the quaint rare-breed cattle wander down for a drink. This seems logical as we have neither pond nor river. Our core scenic features – the crossing gates set in resolutely stuck mode against colourful queues of traffic or the varied and quaintly confusing multiple road closure and diversion signs, surely qualifying as an art installation in their own right, seem never to be chosen as images to sell Suffolk.

This appears to suit us. We seem to paddle, using a recently appropriate flood-related metaphor, our own canoe. There seems little complaint, apart from the borderline-deranged, smugly-safe, keyboard warriors, about the facilities we’ve fought for and provided over the recent years of our ‘expansion’. We are able to welcome our new neighbours and to invite their contribution as we move forward. And we continue to move forward. Consider, as support for this statement, the following 3 initiatives as chronicled in this month’s magazine:

Our Neighbourhood Plan is finally ready for our approval. Many years

in the making this document, if a majority of us say ‘yes’ at the polling station on 21st November, will form one of the sets of conditions that developers have to comply with when proposing building in



our village. It becomes, effectively, part of Planning law. Significantly, it strengthens the, ‘development envelope’, outside of which building will not normally be permitted. Reflecting recent concerns, this will help stop the proposed building of a seductively labelled, ‘Care Home and Care Home Accommodation’, set to ruin once and for all the iconic view of St John’s from School Road, and it now excludes the Mid Suffolk-owned green space adjacent to Pightle Close where they have previously suggested they might build us another 50 houses. **See page 3** and help preserve our community voice by voting on 21st.

In line with our contribution to the Warm Spaces initiative at Wesley, we are invited to take a look at our own spaces and how they might stay economically warmer. Other than a very few ‘eco’ homes, houses leak heat, often in surprising ways. We spend, therefore, a lot of money just keeping the surrounding air warm – to no-one’s benefit. An invitation through the Parish Council, therefore, **on page 19** to borrow, free of charge, a thermal camera which will indicate the weaknesses in the thermal insulation of your house, often inviting a simple and cheap modification saving waste and money and further environmental stress.



Our award-winning facility at Blackbourne has just received a gift of 6 extra acres of community greenspace next door. The original 11 acres were bare and windswept when we took them over some 30 years ago, so we planted the hedge that you now see all the way around the field-edge perimeter. The ‘we’ that did the work is now, ‘us’. It is us that are invited to plant a second hedge around the new land on 25th November – **see page 18**.

Donimo the Clown will help us celebrate another successful community initiative and our green champions from ElmsWild will make sure we plant the right way up.



All of the above suggest that we have an eye for the future. There are other activities and other activists who are keen to perpetuate this very healthy attitude. Prominent at the moment are, of course our Elmswell Tavern champions who seem determined, against all the odds given current financial circumstances, to address a £620,000 project with just 1/3rd of that total secured – **see page 10**.

Meanwhile, the aspiration to provide genuinely affordable community housing on the former Greene King site at School Road suffers another setback and the Elmswell Community Land Trust has to think again – **see page 3** – think again and then press on.

Much of our progress over recent years has looked easy. Those involved know that this is not the case and challenges, such as the affordable homes, have to be faced - we have to press on.

For, as Barack Obama suggested when we asked;

“The future rewards those who press on.

I don’t have time to feel sorry for myself.

I don’t have time to complain.

I’m going to press on.”

It worked for him.





ELMSWELL ART CLUB

We had a very busy time recently with a watercolour demonstration session at the end of September and then our Art Show & Sale on 7th/ 8th October.

Our tutor for the watercolour demonstration was Susan Boddy, a local artist who has lived in East Anglia all her life and has been painting in watercolour for over 25 years; her passion has led her to share this enthusiasm with others through her teaching.

Susan is constantly stimulated by the beautiful East Anglian landscape, also enjoying the challenge of painting busy street scenes as she explores many European cities. Mainly self-taught, Susan has also been inspired by many established artists and has held several solo exhibitions as well as participating in many local shows. She also leads regular workshops and courses and is a frequent demonstrator to art clubs across East Anglia.

As can be seen from the following photographs, we thoroughly enjoyed Susan's demonstrations and guidance as she took us through 3 different styles of landscape painting.



So, this month's featured paintings from our club members show some of the output from Susan's demonstration; the first one is Jo Hales' painting of Cley Windmill in Norfolk



The second painting is Caroline Cooke's interpretation of a river inlet



**ELMSWELL ART CLUB
MEETS EVERY
TUESDAY FROM
09:00 TO 12:00
AT THE WESLEY
AND NEW MEMBERS
ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.**



2023 ART SHOW AND SALE

Our Exhibition of Art was held on Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th October at Wesley Hall. Artwork produced exclusively by members of the Elmswell Art Club was displayed, and many of the works were purchased by our many visitors over the weekend.



Eddie Douglas

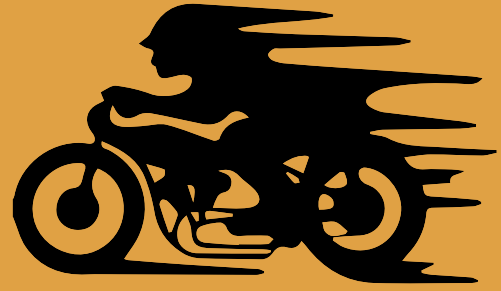


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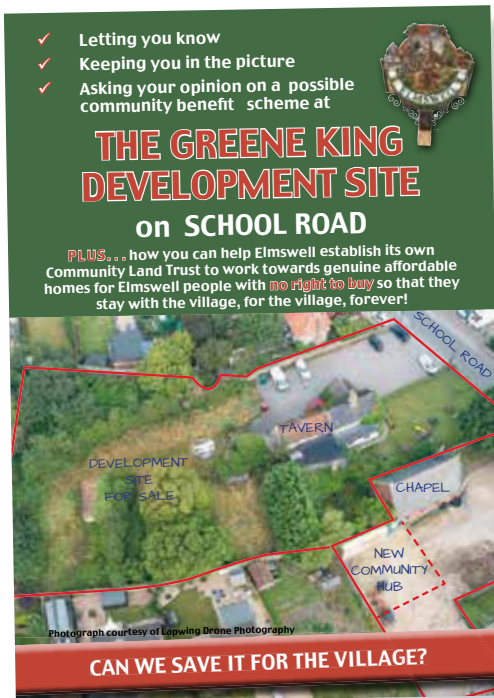
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COMMUNITY AFFORDABLE HOUSES



In 2019, every Newsletter carried with it an 8 page leaflet asking for feedback on Elmswell Parish Council's (EPC) proposal to borrow money for the purchase of the land which Greene King had just put up for sale. It included the Tavern pub and, to the rear, a large building plot with Planning permission for 8 large houses.



However, progress towards the affordable housing has not responded as effectively to the best efforts of those driving the initiative. The reasons for failure thus far are simply explained:

- ❖ It was clear from feedback that Elmswell's 'affordables' must not be blighted by the 'Right to Buy'. They must stay as the village's property, with occupation in the village's gift, for ever.
- ❖ The obvious route to funding the scheme – a ball park £2m cost was suggested – was by engaging with a Housing Association in partnership. Only such Registered Providers can access Government funding.
- ❖ The obvious problem with that was that Housing Associations are subject, under certain conditions, to Right to Buy. 'Our' houses could thus be required to be sold on at a large discount to a sitting tenant who could then make a thumping profit on re-selling after the statutory period...the slippery slope to a private landlord at unaffordable market rates or a second home / holiday let / Air B&B etc.
- ❖ EPC spoke to several local Housing Associations, some of which they had worked with in the past, but there was no way around the fact that they might be forced to sell the houses on.
- ❖ Meanwhile, Elmswell Community Land Trust was established as a not-for-profit Community Benefit Society with Trustees drawn from concerned volunteers who had come forward to help make the scheme work.
- ❖ A serious set-back came when Mid Suffolk decided to use the 5 acres of their land at the front of Pightle Close (which the Parish Council had been trying to have developed

for a new Primary School and other village community resources) to build 50 'affordable homes'. This could have seriously affected our own need for social housing. It was heavily opposed and eventually withdrawn allowing EPC to take the land in question out of the village's development envelope as part of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.

- ❖ Another set-back was the recent decision of a Planning Inspector that the village's land at Crown Mill, originally a housing plot which had been negotiated from the Developer when the estate was built as the landing of a footbridge over the railway, could not be used to build a house. The sale of the land would have produced a substantial sum which had been formally ring-fenced in September last year by the Parish Council as the first major financial boost to the Community land Trust scheme.

It's as simple as that. We are, in effect, slightly wiser, but back to square 1.

Clearly, a re-think is needed. There is hope that the new Administration at Mid Suffolk may have different priorities which could favour a partnership approach.

Furthermore, there is also the possibility of building partly for sale with the resulting income subsidising the community affordable homes. The village would have to be consulted on this option.

The Parish Council would welcome positive views and suggestion as to a way forward. Elmswell Community Land trust would welcome experienced input.

Elmswell has achieved much. Given its track record, it will achieve its affordables and they will stay with the village, controlled by the village, for the village for ever.

The leaflet had a cut-out slip on the back page confirming, with name and address, support for buying the land with a view to refurbishing the run-down pub as a community pub and building community affordable homes instead of the pattern-book development which would simply be replicating the houses on the new estates which were appearing by the day on larger sites in the village.

There was resounding support for the idea and, against a bid from a local developer, the village bought the site in March 2020 for £805,000.

The story of the pub since then is an encouraging one and it looks as though that's going to happen, despite the abysmal economic climate which does not, currently, encourage such enterprise.

Your input invited: clerk@elmswell.suffolk.suffolk.gov.uk.



We have four engagements booked for November and these are The 1940s lunch at the Wesley on the 8th, the Time Out Club in Bury on the 20th, Gt Barton Bowls Club on the 24th, and Hitcham W.I. on the 28th. We have several members who are not in the best of health right now but here's hoping that we are back to full complement soon when we are all restored to full health.

For information, please call Kevin on 07710 149040 or Carol or email: Kevin.Knock99@gmail.com

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ELMSWELL GARDENING CLUB

Elmswell Gardening Club opened its doors again on Tuesday 17th October for our penultimate meeting before the winter break.

Our final meeting of the year will be at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 21st November at the Wesley. We will be holding our AGM and after that members of Elmswell are coming to talk about their recent activities in Elmswell as well as future plans.



The talk on Tuesday was entitled 'Gardens for Us and Them'. Our speaker was Ian Bedford. We've enjoyed his talks on several occasions and as always we found it to be fascinating and informative.

He started by outlining the various problems facing Britain's wildlife. The



loss of many trees has been disastrous. 50% of ancient woodland has gone and we need an incredible 90 million trees to be planted every year to 2050 to make up for all the losses. 98% of our wildflower meadows have disappeared, primarily due to changes in farming practices, but house building hasn't helped. In addition extreme climate events are causing many difficulties for wildlife. As a result, 30% of insect species are in danger of becoming extinct.

Ian explained how soil life must be re-established before anything else can really begin to flourish. At the moment only 3% of farms are truly organic.

Chemicals have been used for over 75 years and their residues can take many more years to disappear.

The positive news is that 23 million homes have gardens and every one can act as a stopping point for creatures to move from one wild life reserve to another. These protected areas need to be connected and gardens can make a significant contribution. A Nature Recovery Network Plan has recently been created and the government is supporting a scheme known as B-Lines. The following address gives more information.

<https://www.buglife.org.uk/blog/b-lines-what-is-it-all-about/>

If you'd like to know more about the club please email elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com or phone 01359 242172 to speak to Catherine



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CITIZENS ADVICE

A family has moved into the house next door and is being a nuisance, yelling late at night over a loud television and leaving bin bags strewn over the front of the house. I don't want to antagonise them in case they become threatening. What can I do?

Anti social behaviour (ASB) can have a big impact on someone's quality of life, so we can understand how frustrating this situation must be.

You could try to resolve problems by speaking with your neighbour, if it's safe to do so. Explain the effect their behaviour is having and ask them to stop. If the problem continues, keep a record of incidents, which will come in handy if you decide to take the matter further.

If your neighbour has a landlord, you can ask your neighbour's landlord to speak to them on your behalf. If your neighbour lives in social housing, their landlord should have a policy for dealing with

antisocial behaviour.

If you've tried everything but the problem persists, ask for an "Anti Social Behaviour Case Review". You can do this by reporting the issue to the council, the police or a social housing provider. It means these agencies have to work together to find a solution, if the ASB meets the threshold. These agencies have powers to deal with ASB, in ways such as:

- Civil injunctions
- Criminal behaviour orders
- Public space protection orders
- Community protection notices

- Dispersal powers

- Closure powers

More information on how ASB case reviews, including how to request a case review, the threshold for it being dealt with and the process for it being dealt with can be found on

www.gov.uk/guidance/anti-social-behaviour-asb-case-review-also-known-as-the-community-trigger

If you are not online, or you need more help with this, please get in touch and we can give you more information.

If your neighbour becomes violent, you should call the police on 999.

Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk can provide advice on this issue and much more, including debt, finances, employment, benefits and family/relationships. You can contact them by phone on 01449 676060, visit in person at Milton House, 5 Milton Road South, Stowmarket IP14 1EZ or use the contact form at midsuffolcab.org.uk/contact-us. Our opening hours are Monday-Thursday 9.30am – 3.30pm and Friday 9.30am – 12.30pm.

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TAXI-BUS SERVICE TO BURY



Trial now extended to the end of the year!

The Parish Councils of Beyton, Elmswell, Thurston & Woolpit have come together to try to address the problems caused by the loss of our bus service.

The trial run throughout July & August is now extended until 31st December offering a return trip into Bury (Angel Hill) every Wednesday and Saturday

- ✓ The return fare from Elmswell is £6.00
- ✓ Booking essential 2 days in advance
- ✓ Leaving Wesley car park in Elmswell between 9.30 & 9.45 am – gets to Bury about 10.30 having called at Woolpit, Beyton & Thurston
- ✓ Return from Bury at 1.30

To book ring 01359 244134 weekdays between 8.00am and 4.00pm or call in or email the office

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FOOTPATH WALK SUNDAY 15TH OCTOBER 2023

Again blessed with the weather the ever decreasing band of four met at the village sign excited by the prospect of a pleasant amble in the environs of the Parish of Elmswell and beyond.

An immediate right and right again took the merry band on to FP10 adjacent to the Pharmacy and alongside the railway heading east. FP10 turned north at the nearly completed Borley Crescent development and then right on to FP9 and then left on to FP6 heading north eastish,

The 6 acres of land adjacent to the Blackbourne gifted to the Parish was evident on the left and the area can now be gauged as it is bounded by a three rail timber fence. Turners' Field, as it is to be known, will be the location of the family hedge planting day of Saturday 25th November from 9.00am to 4.00pm with all kinds of free entertainment and foodstuffs available.

The underfoot conditions heading north deteriorated slightly across the first field but improved as we moved to the field boundaries still on FP6 and turning right on to FP5 and right again on to the firmer footing of Grove Lane.

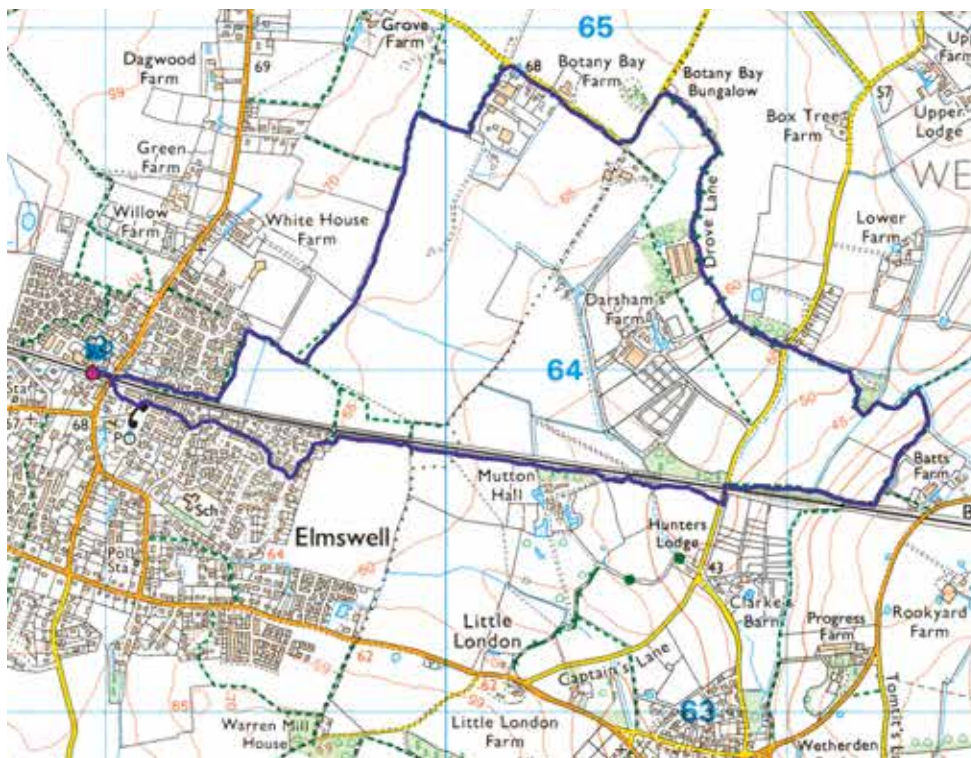
Turning right off Grove Lane, on to Drove Lane (BY54), we crossed the border into Wetheren and followed the pleasant track south and east.

Coming on to Wetherden Road we went straight across on to a very pleasant undulating circular route of FP49, FP19 and FP36 which rather belied the belief that Suffolk is flat as the photo illustrates.

Back on the Wetherden Road, a left and right in short order took us on to Mutton Hall heading west towards home with the railway on the right. Civilisation was in sight and we meandered through the houses back to Crown Mill.

A walk of approximately 4.54 miles in 1 hours 47 minutes (an average speed of 2.6 miles per hour)

Peter Hancock, EPC Footpath Officer



NOVEMBER'S FOOTPATH WALK WILL BE ON SUNDAY 12TH NOVEMBER



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ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP

The story of The Prunier Trophy



Our October meeting featured an enlightening and very well illustrated talk by Ivan Bunn and two colleagues from the Port of Lowestoft about the town's herring industry and its famous Prunier Trophy.

For centuries Lowestoft was a premier fishing port and, in particular, a centre for the catching and processing of herring which were caught by the million and, either crated and sold fresh, or salted and sent further afield. Some years, over 300,000 barrels of herrings were processed before being exported to northern Europe. The herrings were caught using *drifters*, small sailing boats fitted out to pull long, light, floating nets, sometimes up to two miles in length! It was a hard life for the herring fishermen, and their rewards were uncertain as the herring season was short (just two months from the start of October), and they could never be sure over which bank the herring shoals might be congregating or even if there were any fish at all in the vicinity of their home port.



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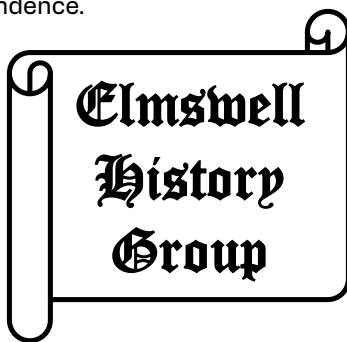
Herring girls

From about the time of World War 1 there was a shift in Lowestoft from sail to steam. This meant that herring drifters could extend their range and sail a lot faster. However, the work of the deckhands was no easier because the long nets still had to be pulled on board and the *silver darlings* shaken into the hold. Once landed, catches had to be dealt with quickly, and this fish processing was largely a female occupation. Teams of Scottish *herring gals* made their way from port to port as the vast herring shoals swam steadily from Fraserburgh in Scotland right down the coast to East Anglia. Working in long sheds, or simply outside in *pickling yards*, the girls gutted and salted the fish, before packing them in barrels ready to be transported elsewhere. Each girl processed literally *thousands* of fish, which was cold, wet, and smelly work but the money they earned gave them a little independence.

The years between the wars were not good for the herring industry because, over time, the public lost their taste for oily fish. Fortunately, a French restaurant owner, Madame Prunier, realised she could help improve the situation by transferring her restaurant from Paris to London and developing it into a specialist destination for fish lovers. Then, in 1936, she inaugurated *The Prunier Trophy*, a prestigious prize awarded annually to the captain and crew who managed to land the largest single herring catch of the season. The first winner was *The Boy Andrew*, a Scottish drifter, with a catch of 231 crans (a cran is a wicker basket about the size of a laundry basket; it is a herring measure). Over the years, catches got larger and larger until, in 1952, *The Lord Hood* won the prize with a record-breaking catch of 314 crans.

For a while catches out of Lowestoft continued to exceed supply and some year's surplus herrings had to be ploughed in as agricultural fertiliser. By 1966, herring stocks had collapsed and fish conservation became the priority, so awards for large catches had to cease. It is an unsettling thought that an award so enthusiastically supported and competed for over many years may have been a long-term threat to East Anglia's herring industry. Although herring stocks have recovered somewhat in Scottish waters, Lowestoft's famous shallows, or *banks*, remain barren.

Our **9th November** talk by Gerry Barnes of the University of East Anglia, **7.30pm at The Wesley**, is entitled "**Orchards of Eastern England**". Although the history of orchards and fruit varieties is of great popular interest, there have been few academic treatments of the subject. This talk presents results from a three-year project, *Orchards East*, investigating the fascinating history and ecology of orchards in eastern England since the late Middle Ages when orchards were ubiquitous features of the medieval and early modern landscape. By the 17th century, some districts had begun to specialise in fruit production, most notably west Herts and the Fens around Wisbech. Do join us on 9th November to find out much more from this well-qualified speaker.



For further information about our History Group, please visit our website –

www.elmswell-history.org.uk
or contact our Secretary,
on 01359-242601

EXCHANGE W.I.

Mary welcomed everyone to the meeting including some members of the ukulele band. A birthday gift was given to one member this month.

Then the ukulele band played and sang and encouraged members to join in with the singing. Most of the songs were well known to us and everyone enjoyed the enthusiastic group's performance. Since

the band have formed they have raised £7000 for various charities.

During the meeting we held a Bring and Buy sale to raise money for funds.

The competition this month was six homemade biscuits. First was Barbara Carter, second place was Carol Blissett and third was Maureen Lazarus.

Next month's speaker is Richard Symes and his subject is the history of Dunwich

Heath. The competition is a bird in any medium.

Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Carol Blissett



ELMSWELL TAVERN - OUR COMMUNITY PUB

SECOND SHARE ISSUE LAUNCH

Back by public demand - a second chance to buy shares in our community pub is now open for business. The original Share Offer Document has all the details, including;



- ★ The details of the status of the community group - Elmswell Community Enterprise - as a Community benefit Society registered with the Financial Conduct Authority as a not-for-profit organisation with all assets locked in ensuring that only the community benefits from trading profits.
- ★ The cost of shares - £50.00 each and the maximum purchase limit of 1,000 shares.
- ★ Details of interest payable once the enterprise is turning a profit
- ★ The democratic one-member-one-vote structure with the right of all to seek election to the Board of Management at the AGM.
- ★ Assurance from HMRC that certificates will be granted ensuring 30% tax relief on the investment.

The Share Offer Document is available by searching Elmswell Tavern and scroll down to the 'Prospectus' and 'Business Case.'

WHAT ABOUT...

★ Opening the pub while we wait?

The cost of running a pub which can't serve food - unless it's a well-established business with well-established 'regulars' - could not be justified by the Parish Council, who, on the villages behalf, are the current owners. Over the 9 months it was open and run by ECE with the Parish Council underwriting the costs, it just about broke even. That was over a very successful warm sunny summer when we made our money from the Family Days with bouncy castle etc.



★ I've been to a few bars at the Blackbourne at events - why not open it regularly?

Some events at Blackbourne make money on the bar - many don't. Break-even is about £700.00 take in an evening. The hall there is not cosy - fine for dances and gatherings, not comfortable when just sitting at a plastic table with a drink. The business case for risking the loss (paid out of the Council Tax) is not made.

★ Why not open the pub as is and refurbish around the drinkers?

The work to make-good the original building and add on the new-build would be impossible with public access, and, again, without the food offer the finances just would not stack up.

★ Surely everyone's going to lose interest and ignore the new pub when it opens?

There are many examples of this being easily disproved - look no further than Wetherden or Thurston. Both closed for a long period and mad busy as soon as they open again.

★ Giving us a firm start date and an opening date?

We have £187k in the bank. We have an informed estimate for a build-cost of £620k. There are applications in for substantial grants. There may be more shares sold. Over the next months the relationship between the aspiration and the finances will be clarified. It may be a case of aiming for a lower standard of provision than is now suggested. The plans allow for this - we can, clearly, save money on the 'services' - kitchen, toilets etc and phase them in later having left the groundworks...drains etc...in place for retro-fitting. The start date will be when the ECE and the Parish Council decide that a line is drawn and a feasible plan can be afforded.

COMMUNITY PUB POP-UP BAR AT BLACKBOURNE FRIDAY 17th NOVEMBER from 7.00pm

Full bar with cask ale - subsidised for Shareholders
Chance to hear more about the project and becoming a Shareholder
CHANCE TO HEAR MORE ABOUT BECOMING ELECTED TO
THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT AT THE JANUARY AGM

All
Welcome

ELMSWELL POOR'S LAND CHARITY – APPLICATION FOR CHRISTMAS GIFT 2023

The Elmswell Poor's Land Charity is pleased to issue a Christmas Monetary Gift to residents, irrespective of age, who have lived in the village continuously for the last 3 years or more and who are experiencing particular hardship. Last year's successful applicants received Co-op vouchers to the value of £100.00, usable in any East of England Co-operative Group food store. It is hoped to increase the value of this year's gift but funds are not unlimited. Therefore early application is advised. Determination of relative hardship will be the sole discretion of the Trustees.

This year the gift will again be in the form of Co-op gift vouchers. Individual or multiple vouchers of fixed value may be used for in-store purchases in full or part payment for goods (excluding lottery, fuel or third party concession products or services) at any time whilst the vouchers are valid. No change can be given; neither can vouchers be exchanged for cash. At present, vouchers cannot be used to shop online.

If you are eligible and wish to apply, please complete the form below and send to Elmswell Poor's Land Charity, c/o The Rectory, Church Road, Elmswell IP30 9DY by 1st December 2023

Please Note

- Only one application per household
- All information given is held in confidence

Name:

Address:

Age:

Have you lived in Elmswell continuously for the last 3 years? YES / NO

Please provide as much details as you can of the hardship you are experiencing. For example, elderly applicants may be in receipt of pension credit. Younger applicants might have recently become unemployed and have mortgage or rent arrears. Please be prepared to explain how you will be able to prove this information if necessary.

.....
.....
.....
.....

Signed: Date:



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AROUND & ABOUT

ELMSWELL LIBRARY

The Elmswell Library Friends are putting on a wine evening 'Wines Around the World', with wines specially chosen by wine expert Bob Stopp. During the evening you get to taste a variety of wines, while hearing a bit about each wine. This time the wines will be from a range of countries from around the world. The wine evening is on Friday 24th November and put on by Elmswell Library Friends. It will start at 7.30pm and tickets are £15 each.

Our book display this month is inspired by Remembrance Sunday and is stories that include fictional or real people who have been in war zones. Stories include armed forces personnel, nurses, spies and civilians with books by Ben Macintyre, Kate Eastham, Edward Marston, Anna Kent, Tim Atkinson, Gill Thompson and more.

Christmas cards are on sale from the library. Each pack sold goes to supporting us as a charity as well as charities described on the cards. Each pack contains 5 cards and they cost from £3.75 to £4.75 depending on design.

With Christmas next month we have also put our festive season adult and junior collections out for you to browse and borrow.

This month's exhibition is artwork by Colin Wallis. The sketches are of Les Haudères village in the Swiss Alps. In the sketches you can see the traditional buildings that make up the village and the mountains the background. Each sketch is from a different year and in the exhibition description there is also included a bit about how the nearby glaciers have receded over those years. The exhibition is dedicated to Colin's son who sadly passed away this summer.

We are able to offer the range of books, activities, newspapers, computer access, in part to donations to Suffolk Libraries. If you are able to, please consider donating to Suffolk Libraries. You can donate via <https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/support-us>

See you in the library soon,

Miles

What's on at Elmswell Library?

Wines around the World evening
7.30pm Friday 24th November

Story Time
1.10pm – 1.30pm every Tuesday

Chess Club
4.30pm on Thursday 9th November (every 2nd Thursday)

The Keep in Touch Community Café
10.30am on Wednesday 15th



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November at the Wesley Café (every 3rd Wednesday)

Sunday Crafts
1pm – 2pm every Sunday

Lego Club
Every Sunday 11am – 12noon

Opening times

Monday: Closed
 Tuesday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm
 Wednesday: 2pm - 5pm
 Thursday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 7pm
 Friday: 2pm - 5pm
 Saturday: 10am - 1pm
 Sunday: 10am - 3pm



WALSHAM ART GROUP EXHIBITION
 Saturday 25th to Monday 27th November
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" From the outset the service we received was prompt, efficient, first class and friendly - with good feedback. **"**

" Your service was helpful & professional from start to finish. We were most impressed. **"**

" My house sold within days of you putting it on the market and thereafter you were always on the end of your phone, in order to answer my many questions. **"**

" Your knowledge of the local property market proved invaluable and your attention to potential purchasers, a great time saving asset. **"**

" I have used Coakley & Theaker Estate Agents to sell three properties, all of which they handled extremely professionally. **"**

" We can only praise Simon for the solid, professional and enthusiastic work that went into the sale. **"**

" Your patience and liaising went a long way to bringing everything to the right conclusion. You gave it the personal touch which goes a long way. **"**

" The professionalism and 'go the extra mile' attitude, which you do not seem to get from the big corporate agents, will be the reason we shall be returning in future. **"**

" Your experience and calm and collected manner really showed through. **"**

" We were grateful for your sound advice, help, willingness to be flexible and of course for quickly finding us a buyer. **"**

" Your diligence, patience and constant shepherding of the multiple parties involved has seen the matter through to its positive conclusion. **"**

" From start to finish you kept us informed on everything, making the whole experience stress-free. **"**

" I recommend their services as you are treated more as an individual human being and not a number. **"**

" Dealing with Simon was a comfort during what was a daunting process. **"**

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ST JOHN'S CHURCH

Autumn Greetings

October kicked off with a celebration of Harvest. Following our main all age Harvest Festival service on Sunday 1st October, we enjoyed a lovely lunch together. The following day, we welcomed the local primary school to St John's for their own Harvest celebration. The children seem to very much enjoy coming to the church and each class making a contribution from the front.

Looking ahead, November is a month where we remember. On Saturday 4 November at 3:00pm, we are holding a special event called A Time To Remember & A Time To Give Thanks at St John's. This will take the form of a short service and is held to mark the passing of loved ones and to honour their memory. The service will consist of readings, three hymns, the reading out of the names of those we are remembering, and the lighting of candles. The service will be followed by some refreshments. All those who have faced bereavement are invited to attend.

On 11 November at 10:50 we will meet for a short Act of Remembrance with a 2 minute silence and the reading of the names of those who gave their lives in the World Wars. Our main Remembrance Sunday service takes place the next day on 12th November at 10:30am. All are welcome.

You are also very welcome to come along to any of our services at St John's. We meet on Sundays at 10:30am. We are a friendly group of people who want to get know God better. Our services include both old and new songs and hymns, a talk from the Bible and Holy Communion (usually twice a month). Our service on the first Sunday of each month is an all age family service and we have a group for children with craft in our Church Room on other Sundays. There is also tea, coffee and biscuits after the service. Why not pop along or contact us to find

out more? Also, if you would like to know more about the church, the Christian faith or wish to enquire about weddings or baptisms, do let us know.

Upcoming Dates:

Sun 5 Nov 9:00am
Holy Communion

Sun 5 Nov 10:30am
All Age Family Service

Sat 11 Nov 10:50am
Short Act of Remembrance

Sun 12 Nov 9:00am
Holy Communion

Sun 12 Nov 10:30am
Remembrance Sunday Service

Sun 19 Nov 10:30am
Sunday Worship

Sun 26 Nov 10:30am
Sunday Worship with Holy Communion

Sun 3 Dec 9:00am
Holy Communion

Sun 3 Dec 10:30am
All Age Christingle Service
with Baptisms

Every Saturday:

9:00am
Weekly prayer meeting online (see website for details)

We live stream most of the 10:30am services on our Facebook page (also available on our main web site later that day).

Rector: Peter Goodridge

Email: elmswellrector@gmail.com

Tel: 01359 240512

Web site: www.stjohnselmswell.org.uk

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnselmswell

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@stjohnselmswell

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH TOWER FLOODLIGHTING

Everyone is welcome to sponsor the floodlighting of St. John's, a lovely way to commemorate a personal event, an anniversary, or any other special occasion. Alternatively, you can simply make a donation.

And it all helps to pay the day-to-day running expenses of our parish church.

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

A night's floodlighting costs £5. Cheques

payable please to "ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, ELMSWELL".

All bookings / payments to :-

Trevor Sadler, Abbots Warren, Church Road, Elmswell, IP30 9DU (Tel: 240908). Thank you.



OCTOBER 2023 SPONSORSHIP - CORRECTION

28 in loving memory of a dear Nana, Rene Stiff. "Always in our thoughts". Louise & Brian. x.

OCTOBER 2023 SPONSORSHIP - NOT PREVIOUSLY ACKNOWLEDGED

21 in loving memory of our dear Mum, Ruth Francis, on her Birthday, 21st October. Lots of love, all the family. x.

NOVEMBER 2023 SPONSORSHIPS

- 1 in memory of Jim Baker (1933-2009), on the anniversary of his death.
- 3 in loving memory of a dear Grandad, George Stiff. "Always in our thoughts". Louise & Brian. x.
- 5 for Matthew Pollen's Birthday. "God Bless our dear Son and Brother". Mum, Dad & Glenda. xxx.
- 6 in loving memory of Dorothy May Nunn.
- 12 Remembrance Sunday.
- 12 in loving memory of Thomas Henry Manning.
- 12 cherished memories of David Begg. Remembered with love by Brenda, Richard, Graham and family.
- 13 in loving memory of Natasha Smith on her Birthday.
- 14 anon.
- 15 remembered with so much love, David Handyside. "God Bless".
- 19 to remember and thank all those past Elmswell Fire-Fighters who served their village and community so well.
- 21 in loving memory of a dear sister, Margery Bendall. "Remembered with love". From Audrey, John & family.



26 in loving memory of a dear Mum,
Margery Cammell.
"Always in our thoughts".
From Audrey, John & family.

28 anon.

28 in memory of Evelyn Clark.

CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY, STOWMARKET

Parish Priest: Rev. Simon Leworthy,
The Presbytery, 29 Lockington Road,
Stowmarket, IP14 1BQ
Tel:01449-612946

E-mail: pp@ourladystowmarket.org.uk

MASS TIMES:

Saturday (First Mass of Sunday) – 6pm
St Mary's C of E Church, Woolpit IP30
9QG

Sundays – 8.30am & 10.15am

Our Lady's, Stricklands Road,
Stowmarket IP14 1AW

Holy Days – 10am & 7.30pm

Our Lady's Strickland Road Stowmarket

Weekday Mass is usually 10am, see the
weekly Newsletter or the Parish Website
– www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk

All are welcome to "Coffee and Chat",
2 – 4pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of
the month. This is held in the Parish Hall
above the Church – a lift is available.



ELMSWELL BAPTIST CHURCH

As I am writing this offering for the
newsletter we are in the grip of storm
Babbette, fortunately we are not
enduring the severe wind that our
friends in the north are experiencing
but the rain has been with us for several
hours and the local radio is constantly
reporting flooded and impassable roads
in the County but our rain is nothing
compared to the Israeli/Hamas War
with rockets and bombs raining down
on both communities, the rights and
wrongs of the situation are not for me
to comment on suffice to say we at the
Baptist Church along with Christians
everywhere have been praying for Peace

to break out in the region and for a long
term resolution to be found.

Our weekly activities are back up and
running once more with our ladies
group meeting at 2PM on Monday 6th
November to hear a talk by Catherine
Buchanan entitled "The History of Table
Manners" and Food and Friends lunch
takes place on Thursday 9th November
at midday.

Our Sunday Services in November will be
led by

5th November

Rev Norman Tharby (inc) Communion

12th November

Paul Kemp Remembrance Service

19th November

Steven Horrex

26th November

Kevin Moore

3rd December

Rev Robert Green

We are a small Fellowship who meet at
the Tin Tabernacle on the Ashfield Road
in Elmwell we do not have a full time
Pastor so we are grateful for the visiting
speakers who come each week to lead
our services.

If you require any information about any
of our activities please contact Tony on
01359241541 or go to our website
www.elmswellbaptist.org.uk



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VILLAGE GREEN

From this...



...in just 30 years, and we have to start sometime
– how about Saturday 25th November?

to this....



Help make History in Elmswell - The Big Hedge Bonanza – SATURDAY 25th November

Well, Sat 25th is very nearly upon us. The trees are ordered, plans and details of the day are being sorted. Just the weather to organise! Many people have said they are coming along, and everyone will be very welcome on the day. Anytime between 9am and 4pm. Plant one tree or dozens!

The trees are small so there won't be much digging involved, and along the line of the hedge the soil will have been loosened. I expect it will be muddy, so do wear appropriate boots, and bring gloves and a spade or trowel if you have one. Please note that children will need to be supervised by an adult.

Those of us of a certain age will remember 'Plant a Tree in '73', and 'Plant Some More in '74'. We're well into a new century, and there is an even more pressing need to plant trees, woodlands and hedgerows. The Tree Council are of course calling this 'Plant a Tree in '23'. The recent flooding has shown that hedgerow removal has exacerbated flooding in rural areas.

The field will be named Turner's Field after the donors. 3 appropriately named Turner's Oaks will be planted in a ceremony in one corner during the day, along with a commemorative plaque and the communal Time Capsule. All the village community groups that I have been in touch with have been invited to contribute a few pages about their group. If I have missed anyone, do get in touch.

Free refreshments and Donimo's Magic shows will help to keep us entertained and refreshed during the day. See you up at Blackbourne!



For more information contact: Parish Council office on 244134 or email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

Janet Spencer
Tree Warden and Elmswild





NEWS FROM ELMSWILD

Whosoever plants a tree

Over the years we've planted a lot of trees and hedges in Elmswell. The photograph reproduced in a recent Newsletter showed the planting of an avenue of trees in the cemetery. For residents whose memories go back a long way, the striking thing about that photo (apart from the amazingly youthful appearance of most of the participants, compared to their current looks) was how bare and open the backdrop was. Standing in the same spot today you wouldn't have a clear view of the fields reaching right across to the main road – trees and hedgerows get in the way. Other old photos tell a similar story. At one time you could stand in what is now Lukeswood and see right across to the church, with the tennis court in the rectory garden in the foreground. Nowadays you can't even see the church! The many villagers who came together more than thirty years ago to plant the original Blackbourne hedge would have stood in a windswept field, open to the elements. That is now a magnificent hedge, offering shelter not just to the footballers and cricketers who play there, but also to a whole variety of wildlife. A few years later, some stalwart souls gathered on a wet November morning near the Anglian Water sewage works to plant another hedge. That site is now Kiln Meadow and the view of the sewage works is, mercifully perhaps, completely obscured. Thanks to trees, and the people who plant them, how quickly things can change! It brings to mind some lines from Thomas Hardy's poem, "At Day-Close in November", where he writes:

*I set every tree in my June time,
And now they obscure the sky.*



Of course, it can also work the other way, as the recent felling of the celebrated sycamore at Hadrian's Wall has shown. That extraordinary view, treasured by so many, will never be the same again, and the huge gap left by the felled tree seems all the more empty because of all that is missing.

At Lukeswood we famously planted 1,683 trees – one for every home in Elmswell – as promised when we made our film for the People's Millions competition in 2009. That was just the start – we've planted many more since then, and we are probably just about keeping pace with the current number of houses in the village. At that time lots of people came together to plant their tree in our new community woodland. Some said to us, "I really want to plant a tree, even though I know I won't be around to enjoy seeing it as a real woodland tree". That's a powerful thought. To plant a tree, knowing that you yourself will never sit in its shade or look up to see birds nesting in its canopy, is a gift to the future. In Britain, although we have the lowest percentage of tree cover in Europe, we do have a higher number of ancient and veteran trees, some planted many hundreds of years ago. What we lack now is the young and middle-aged trees which will become the ancient trees of the future, with the fantastic biodiversity that they support. That's why it's so important to keep planting.

Now we're planting again – a brand new hedge around Turner's Field at the Blackbourne. Come and be a part of it – it's your opportunity to make your own gift to the future and to change the landscape in our village. It will be there growing and thriving for generations to come! As another poet so memorably put it:

*Whosoever plants a tree
Winks at immortality!*

Felix Dennis, as well as writing poetry, was no slouch himself when it came to tree planting. He founded the Heart of England Forest, where 3000 acres have been planted up. In 2013, the year before he died, he planted the scheme's millionth tree – an oak sapling.



So please come and join us on Saturday 25th November – see all the details on Janet's page. Whether you plant one sapling or many, the important thing is to take part – and have fun! Everyone who planted trees and hedges over the years in Elmswell had a lovely time – just look at all the smiling faces! It promises to be a great day – see you there on the 25th with your spade!

Mary Feeney
info@elmswild.org.uk



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THE MILE HIGH CITY

Located just east of the Rocky Mountains, Denver in Colorado boasts 300 days of sunshine a year, that's more blue sky than Miami Beach! Home to a rich indigenous history and thriving arts and culture scene, Denver prides itself on many museums, art districts, diverse neighbourhoods and live music venues— a concert at the iconic Red Rocks Park & Amphitheatre is a must, as is the Denver March Powwow, an American Indian Festival that gathers nearly 100 tribes over three days.



Denver has a long brewing history and today offers visitors the choice of 150 brewpubs, breweries and taprooms in the metro area, one of which is the Blue Moon Brewing Company.

Tel: 01359 242555 email: elmswell@travel-stop.co.uk
The office is open for walk-ins and appointments on Thursdays and 9am to 5:30pm for phone and email enquiries Monday to Saturday.



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ELMSWELL PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY THERMAL IMAGING PROJECT



Helping You Keep Your Warmth In

We have booked a thermal imaging camera for free next year from
Tuesday 23rd January to Monday 12th February

Our aim is to raise awareness about insulation and help you improve the energy efficiency of your home.

- This could mean:
- ❖ a reduction in fuel bills
 - ❖ better health
 - ❖ reducing your carbon emissions

Visit www.greensuffolk.org for further help & information on the benefits

What can you learn from a thermal imaging survey?



If your house is relatively new, already has insulated cavity walls and double glazing and feels warm – you might not learn much, except to get an even warmer glow after confirming your house is well insulated!

If your house is older and seems difficult to keep warm - you might learn exactly where the heat is escaping and get some ideas about where to insulate.

A thermal imaging survey might:

- ❖ identify places which might have draughts
- ❖ detect whether cavity wall insulation is patchy or missing
- ❖ detect areas with less loft insulation

If you would like us to include your house in the survey please contact the Parish Council Office by email – clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk or by 'phone on 244134

The cameras use infra-red radiation which *cannot* pass through glass. This means the camera cannot see through windows, doors or walls. A thermal imaging survey will not invade your privacy as we will only see the outside surface of your house.



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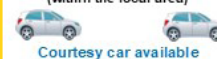
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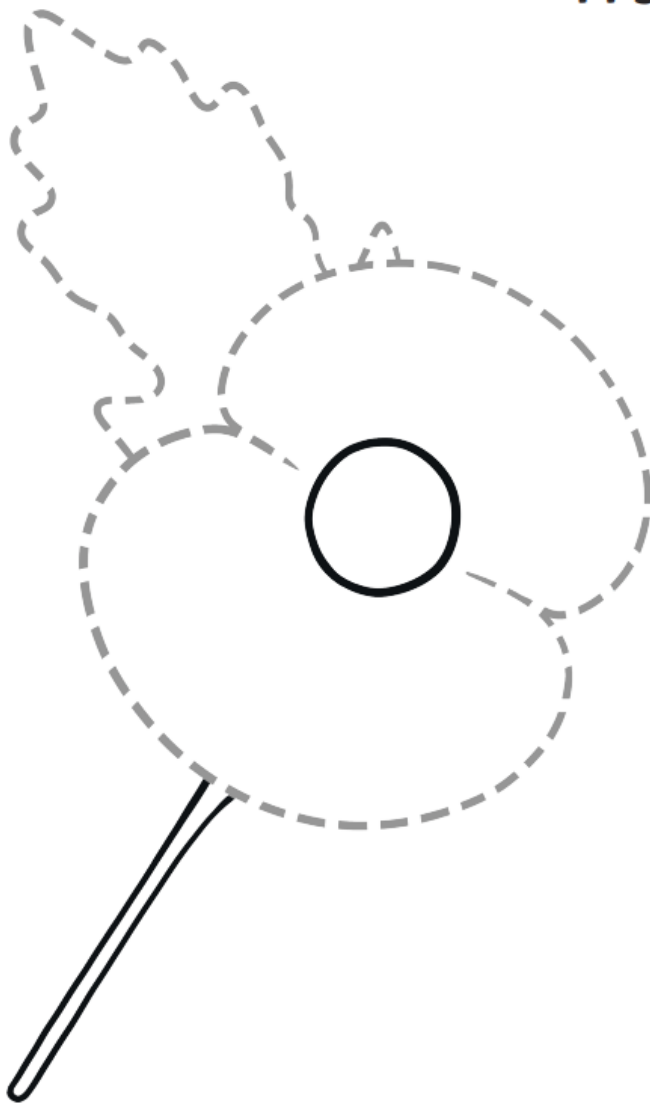
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Draw a Remembrance Poppy



What is Remembrance Day?

Remembrance Day is a day to remember all who fought in the First World War. It has also become a day to honour veterans and soldiers who are still serving for their country. Poppies are worn on Remembrance Day as they are the flowers that grew on the battlefields when the First World War ended.

When is Remembrance Day?

Remembrance Day is on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of each year. This is when the First World War officially ended in 1918. Remembrance Day was first held in 1919, a year after the First World War ended, and it was initially known as Armistice Day.



Chocolate sparklers

Use some chocolate to make some tasty bonfire night treats!

Ask an adult to help you melt some chocolate.

Dip some breadsticks in, before sprinkling with some coloured sprinkles.

Eat and enjoy!

Firework painting

Use an old kitchen roll tube to create a fabulous firework picture. Simply make cuts around one end of the tube, flatten out and dip into paint.

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FIRST TEAM REPORT

We started the season at home to Sporting 87. With new faces at the club and high expectations for the season ahead we found ourselves 1-0 down in the first half. After Olly Chaplin saved two point blank shots Sporting tapped in the 3rd effort. Shortly after, last seasons top goal scorer, Will Hayden got us back on level terms. In the second half we pushed for a winner but the game ended 1-1 with Elmswell the team looking more likely to win it.

Up next we took a trip to Ipswich Wanderers. On a hot day we found ourselves in the same position of 1-0 down after a promising start. George Chandler equalised on his debut and the game finished 1-1. This was a fair result with both teams having chances to win it.

We then returned to home soil at the Blackbourne and took on Stonham Aspal who haven't improved from last season and we saw this as a must win game if we want to be around the top of the table. Elmswell didn't disappoint walking away with a 9-0 win with goals from Tom Emerick x 3, Romaine Scott x 2, Will Hayden x 2, Jordan Sylvester & Ash Farmer getting a goal each.

Another away trip to Ipswich saw us go to Coplestonians looking to remain undefeated, but this wasn't to be. We started well with Calvin Frost putting us ahead after linking up with Luke Catchpole. We were 1-0 up at half time. Coplestonians looked dangerous going forwards and got a goal back before Charlie Potter was given a red card for disagreeing with the ref. We dug in but Coplestonians over-ran our defence and got a goal to put them ahead. We reacted well and with 8 minutes remaining Will Hayden got us back on level terms only for 3 minutes later Sam Bassett to bring the ball out of the air with a touch in our box that fell straight to the striker's feet for him to tap in with the game ending 3-2 to Coplestonians.

Gt Blakenham Chequers were the next visitors to 'The BB'. They were mid-table like us and with similar results, but it wasn't to be. We didn't perform to our normal standards and got punished 5-1. Sylvester got our goal.

We're currently in 8th place in the table with a cup game away to Capel Plough next week.



ELMSWELL FC HOME GAMES

04/11 2:00 ko Elmswell v Needham Phoenix

25/11 2:00 ko Elmswell v Kirton Athletic

02/12 2:00 ko Elmswell v Coplestonians Res

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RESERVES REPORT

We ended September over at local rivals, Stow Falcons. As we'd suspected they were able to boost their A's considerably and it was a really tough match, and not just because we played on the village green. Falcons edged the first half and got the only goal as we missed a couple of half chances. Whatever I said at half time worked this week as we looked a different side second half. The lads really grabbed the game by the scruff of the neck and although we conceded against the run of play, they fought on and pulled one back to set up a grand-stand finish. Jake Fisher, in what is sadly a rare performance this season, got our goal. We pushed to the end but couldn't quite get that equaliser. MOTM was Aaron Farmer for a great display at left back.

Div.5 Kirton Reserves away in The Reserves Cup. The weather was lovely as was the pitch, but our day was not. We had our first and only shot on target in the last five minutes and conceded eight. There was no MOTM.

Kesgrave Kestrels A back at The Blackbourne after a preseason seven goal thriller, ending 4-3 to them. We didn't play particularly well but went ahead after great work from Chris Thompson as his cross-come-shot was turned in at the near post by a defender. We looked fairly resolute, like we might hold on for our first win of the season, until a wandering warlock or mischievous imp (are they magic?) cast a spell over our defence (twice) and allowed Kestrels to saunter through unchallenged to equalise and then go ahead. They got a third too at the death but I can't even remember. The good news though was the return of Jamie Barter who had a great game in goal and won MOTM.

Another cup game. This time home to Oulton Reserves in the Primary Cup on that flooded weekend. Although their Lowestoft League is technically lower than the SIL they were a decent outfit. It was a close first half that finished 2-2 with two goals from Eliot Gunter. The first was a mazy run and neat little finish and the second a header from a Brookin cross. Jamie Barter in goal was again a shining light, making several unbelievable saves to keep us in the game. We had a couple of forced substitutions second half and then went 3-2 down. The lads ignored instructions and threw caution to the wind, and were severely punished for it, conceding five more before the referee called it a day. MOTM Barter with Gunter a close second.

We're only scheduled two games in November at the moment so hopefully that changes sharpish.



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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

OVER 55'S CLUB



Our recent meetings in October have seen a return visit from Brian Mann who kept everyone entertained with a large number taking to the floor to join in with dancing the night away, a very successful evening

This was followed by a visit from Charlie Haylock who spoke about his involvement with the production of the "DIG" and how he taught them the Suffolk Lingo.

Our November meetings on the 9th will commence with Hot Dogs followed by Cash Bingo to be followed by a visit from the Band and Songsters from Norton Salvation Army for a concert which is open to everybody to join us.

On December 7th we will be having a Cash Bingo evening as our last meeting this will be followed by our Xmas Party on December 16th when we welcome Bob Whiting to provide the entertainment.

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Jenny Murray receiving her Horseshoe Trophy for services to the club



Rob Dann and Richard Vince (in his first season) collecting their Pairs Trophy

FOX BOWLS CLUB

Now I no longer have matches to report on, I can turn my attention to domestic matters. We have just convened a Hedge-Cutting party and tidied the hedges surrounding our green. Most are Ielandi and, being shallow-rooted, those that are too close to the green do cause us some problems. This is particularly true along the eastern side of the green where only a footpath separates the hedge from the green and we live in hope of replacing it with a fence, which will be much less thirsty! We appear to have an unknown benefactor. Some kind soul left a

humorous portrait of a Bowls Team reclining between games by our main gate, which we took to be an offering and duly installed it in our pavilion. If the donor would like to make him or herself known to us, we could thank them properly.

We have an age-old problem with footballs being kicked over our fence, coincidentally, the very fence that sucks the water from our green. I say 'problem' but it does the green no harm at all, but it is rather a question of what to do with them. There are two possible solutions. The first, and most obvious, would be to

not play football too close to our green and the avoid the possibility of losing a ball. The second is to write a telephone number on your football so that we know who to contact and arrange collection. If you play or have a child or grandchild who plays and are too young to take this advice, please help them to identify their footballs. Now the season is over, the green will mostly be unattended so losing a ball and receiving a phone call might not happen right.

Peter Edmonds, E.F.B.C. 07860 395720
edmondspeterj@gmail.com

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

ELMSWELL W.I.

Terry welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially Judy, our new member. Unfortunately, Brenda had been called away unexpectedly. We signed a card for Sylvia Walton, who was in hospital, after a fall, and also for Bernie, who was very ill.

Our speakers for the evening were Ryan and Dan from the Heart of Suffolk Distillery, where gin is made. It was interesting to hear how the company was created by Ryan's parents. They were touring Scotland but neither of them like whiskey! They visited a gin distillery and Ryan's father was so interested that he spent a day there, learning about the process.

There were five attempts at distilling gin before Ryan's father was satisfied with the product, which was surprisingly good. From small beginnings, interest for the gin grew and grew. Ryan's mother investigated many different outlets and used various social media platforms and gradually all the publicity paid off.

After obtaining nine different licences, the company was launched in 2018. there are three different gins: Betty's Gin, the original one, was named after Ryan's grandmother; Rosie's Gin, a summer version with floral notes, and Ivy's Gin, a winter version with more spicy notes.

Both Ryan's parents became full time at the end of 2019 and then Covid struck. However, they managed to survive and are going from strength to strength. Heart of Suffolk is a local company, which obtains materials etc. from local sources, as much as possible.

It takes seven hours to prepare, distill, and blend the materials, which are the plants and spices used to flavour the gin.

It is then left to clear for seven days. Everything is done by hand and all bottles are signed. The company has won bronze and silver awards, which recognise the quality of their product.

We were lucky enough to try each of the three gins, which certainly had distinctive flavours. They are sold at Finbows Yard, as well as from many other outlets. Recently, Ryan has created a 50/50 partnership with another business: Langhams' in Stowmarket is a coffee bar during the day, and a bar selling alcoholic drinks in the evening. ie. Two businesses sharing the same establishment.

It was lovely to hear how local people have created such a successful venture which employs others in the area. The gin was delicious!

Next month, the Royal British Legion are talking to us.

Rosie Collins. 01359 241652

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT - OCTOBER MEETING



The Parish Council meets at least once each month, excluding August, although extraordinary meetings can be called as required at any time. The October meeting with 9 councillors present, together with MSDC Ward Member Cllr Jen Overett, SCC Ward Member Cllr Andy Mellen, 2 members of the public and the Parish Clerk, Peter Dow, took place at Blackbourne on Monday 16th.

This report is compiled from that meeting by the Parish Clerk and edited by the Council's Editorial Board which comprises the Council Chairman, the Council Vice-chairman and Cllr Sue Roots, elected by her 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 meeting by external bodies such as the County and District Council 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 ratified, are available online at elmswell.suffolk.cloud and from the Parish Clerk by arrangement. Bound copies of older Minutes are lodged in the Village Archive at Blackbourne and with the Suffolk County Records Office in Bury St. Edmunds. The most recent Minutes from the 18th September meeting, as approved at this meeting, are posted in the Council's notice board at Crown Mill.

Mid Suffolk District Council

Cllrs Sarah Mansel & Jen Overett tabled a written report on BMSDC activities which confirmed the following:

MSDC are staging a Community Climate Action Roadshow, which will give residents the chance to speak to local groups and organisations regarding climate action. The roadshow will visit Eye on Sat 7th October, Bramford on Sat 21st October and as part of the Stowmarket Town Council's Go Green Go Wild event on Tues 24th October, during half term.

MSDC is supporting Silver Sunday Campaigns to help tackle loneliness for older residents. Events are being held in Eye, Stowmarket and Needham Market over the next few weeks to bring young people into care homes for sing-alongs, games and fun.

MSDC are supporting an initiative with schools across the district to improve the well-being of young people. Thurston Community College, Stowmarket High School and Stowupland High School now have Youth Link workers to help pupils access community activities. This work will also spread to the feeder primary schools.

The Planning Inspectorate have finished the inspection of the Joint Local Plan part 1 and reported that it is sound, so it now needs to be formally adopted by Full Council. Planning policy officers are now able to focus on Part 2 of the plan which will include the housing allocations. All the documentation is available on the website <http://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/jointlocalplan>

At full Council meeting last month, the CIFCO business plan was agreed. Given the change in administration this included a thorough review of operations prior to the next business case being brought to Council to inform MSDC's long term strategies.

The State of the District report was considered at last month's Full Council meeting, which set out an overview of Mid Suffolk. This is part of the evidence base underpinning the new Corporate Plan. Mid Suffolk Cabinet will be endorsing the engagement strategy for the development of the new Corporate Plan. It is hoped to engage with as wide a section of the district as possible, including some groups which seldom get involved, as well as businesses and Town and Parish Councils. The public engagement exercise is now open and we hope to get as many people as

possible to comment online at <https://baberghandmidsuffolk.citizenlab.co/>

MSDC will be discussing the Electric Bus project at Cabinet this month. They hope to bring forward the ringfenced £820k and agree to work towards a 'grant' scheme to enhance existing rural transport provision with set routes.

MSDC officers are trying to work with the Health Centre regarding the management of the car park. The gate should be kept closed most of the time as part of the planning conditions, but it is hoped that it can be open for events such as the forthcoming vaccination clinics. Patients should be directed to access the car park via the Old Stowmarket Road entrance rather than Heath Road.

As your Ward members, we have arranged a series of monthly drop-in sessions – the next one is on Tuesday 14th November from 10-12 at Wesley.

Suffolk County Council

Cllr Andy Mellen tabled a written report which included the following:

Suffolk County Council Overspend At Cabinet on 12 September our group leader raised concerns about the overspend predicted for the financial year 2023-24. The council is forecasting a net overspend of £22.3m, which is 3.2% of the overall budget for the year and will cut into the council's financial reserves. Finance officers at the council had suggested a high council tax rise during the budget process to try and lessen the pressures on the council caused by rising inflation, energy costs and increased demands on council services such as placements for children in care, adult care and school transport for children and young people with special educational needs. The Cabinet agreed that senior leaders at the council would look at how money could be saved in each directorate to protect council reserves and prevent cuts to services wherever possible.

New Suffolk Fire and Rescue Control Centre Officers from Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) joined Cabinet on 12 September to explain their recommendation that the council leave the current control centre partnership with Peterborough and Cambridgeshire and open a new control centre in the county by the end of 2024. This would create significant extra cost, but it was agreed that it was necessary for the safety of Suffolk residents. A vote was held and the recommendations were

approved. No assurances were given to the effect that no fire stations would close and there would be no cuts to jobs or changes to work terms and conditions.

Suffolk Youth Justice Service Annual Plan The Cabinet meeting on 12 September also reviewed the council's Youth Justice Service's annual plan which requires formal sign off by Suffolk County Council as well as the national Youth Justice Board. The plan detailed recommendations from the recent inspection of the service by His Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP) in summer 2022. The service are working hard to prevent criminalisation of children in Suffolk by keeping them in school, education and training, reducing the number of first time entrants into the youth justice system and working with the Suffolk Office of Data Analytics (SODA) to produce a disproportionality analysis of young people in the service: racial disparity, differences in school suspension and education rates, police stop and search and arrest rates.

£100k Fund for Net Zero Business Solutions Suffolk's Public Sector Leaders group has announced a £100k fund to spark net zero innovation across the county. The 'Net Zero Innovation Fund' will provide grants to businesses for innovative solutions that drive the county towards its net zero target. The fund is being coordinated by the Carbon Charter, Suffolk's hub for sustainable business, and is part of a package of work to deliver the Suffolk Climate Emergency Plan, which sets out the shared ambition of a net zero county by 2030. To find out more information and to apply, businesses should visit <https://carboncharter.org/nzifs/> SMEs (small to medium enterprises) looking for general help to decarbonise their operations can also access grants to support this as well as free business consultancy delivered by our partners Groundwork East: Carbon Charter | Net Zero Business Advisor Service

Successful Suffolk care leaver project rolls out across UK A Suffolk County Council programme which supports care leavers when they reach the age of 18 has proved so successful, it is now being rolled out across the country by the government. 'Staying Close', which was launched by Suffolk County Council in 2017, provides a package of support and guidance to young people leaving care. This includes ensuring they have

accommodation, resources, and practical and emotional help to help them thrive as independent adults. This support is provided by a staff member who already works with them, so they have a consistent and stable relationship as they move into adulthood. The Staying Close programme in Suffolk is currently providing approximately 150 young people with help and support.

Primary and Secondary school applications are now open Parents and carers can now apply for a place in the normal year of entry at primary schools and secondary schools for September 2024.

The deadline for applications to secure a place at a secondary school is Tuesday 31 October 2023

The deadline for applying for a primary school place (including infant and junior schools) is Monday 15 January 2024.

Parents and carers can apply for a place at: www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissions

Before making a school application, parents and carers need to consider how they will get their child to and from school. School travel eligibility is based on a child attending the nearest suitable school that would have had a place available – this might not be the catchment area school: www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel

New highways and street lighting contractors From 1st October our new highways services contractor, Milestone and the new streetlighting contractor, McCann have started work. This is the after several months of preparatory work with officers. We are hoping to see an improvement in service delivery compared to previously.

Clerk's Report

The Parish Clerk's Report to the Meeting was as follows:

BMSDC have begun a compulsory review of polling places within their polling districts with a consultation process open until 30th November. Comment is invited on the arrangement whereby Wesley and Blackbourne are designated as the polling places for Elmswell North & South. I can refer Councillors to the process for any comment on request.

I have received a Locality Budget Grant of £500.00 from Cllr Andy Mellen towards supporting the Taxi-Bus pilot scheme. This will effectively ensure no financial loss to the 4 participating councils over the 7-month trial period. I am convening a meeting with the other villages to discuss a way forward, if any. Councillor comment on the scheme is welcomed.

I was unable to attend the Bowls Club meeting on 11th October but asked for a report on the possibility that one of their key members, Jenny Murray, might be asked to assume the Bury & District League Presidency. It looks likely that this prestigious opportunity is a real possibility and have assured the Club of EPC's co-operation in the subsequent hosting of formal events, including President's Day, at Blackbourne. The Club continues

to buck local and national trends which suggest declining interest in participation in the sport by growing its membership and their maintenance of the facilities is exemplary.

My thanks are due to Cllrs Pallett and Schofield for their patient attendance to the formal review of Council's practices and procedures on 4th October. I will circulate suggestions towards addressing the recommendation for a review of spending authority limits towards a Proposal at the next Ordinary Meeting.

Considering the general informal approval of the suggestions that we install another Christmas tree at Crown Mill, I invite offers of assistance in the procuring and installation of a tree and lights as appropriate.

A second burger van has appeared parked on the access road to the Station Road Industrial Estate. This and the increasing use of legitimate parking linked to train travel is creating an access problem as HGV / LGV vehicles seeking to service the industrial units operating on the estate. I have resumed earlier fruitless attempts to have this problem addressed by Police / SCC Highways with the aim of restricting parking by extending the yellow lines and imposing a time limit on the station side of the road.

The contraflow switch as part of the A14 concreting works have given rise to an initiative to impose a 20mph speed limit on Wetherden Road / Kiln Lane / Cross Street & Church Road as from late October. This will maintain until the scheme finishes next summer. I will happily feedback any observations to National Highways.

Planning results

The Meeting noted the following results of Planning applications made to MidSuffolk, the Planning Authority:

DC/23/03628 Erection of single storey...20 Oxer Close GRANTED EPC supported

DC/23/03278 Use of former housing plot as car park Land adjacent to The Wesley GRANTED EPC not consulted (as applicant)

DC/23/03508 Conversion of garage/store...Orchard House, Ashfield Road GRANTED EPC supported (with conditions)

DC/23/03714 Discharge of Condition 4(roof tiles)... Linden Cottage, Hawk End Lane APPROVED EPC chose to make no comment

DC/23/04470 Discharge of Condition 9 (Acoustic insulation)... Land to the North / West School Road APPROVED EPC chose not to comment

DC/23/04059 Discharge of Condition 5 (Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy) Elmswell Hall, Parnell Lane APPROVED EPC chose not to comment

DC/23/03839 Removal or variation of condition 1...Oakdene, Ashfield Road APPROVED EPC supported

DC/23/03597 Erection of 5 dwellings... White House Barns, Ashfield Road

APPROVED EPC objected

Planning Applications

The Meeting discussed an Application forwarded for comment from Mid Suffolk ref DC/23/02238 for the erection of barn-style dwelling (following removal of barn approved for conversion under Planning Permission DC/22/02641); and erection of detached garage/annex building Ten Ten, Kiln Lane

Councillors objected to this application for the following reasons:

- 1 It represents an example of, 'development-creep', whereby this application relies upon previous applications which have gradually prepared the way for a full-blooded and blatant case for a large house and residential annexe in the countryside.
- 2 In 2017 (ref DC/17/02404) Permission was refused for a Class Q Approval for change of use of the existing agricultural building to a dwelling. This decision was reasonably and sensibly based on the very insubstantial nature of that building which in no way could have been, 'converted', without major structural remediations and additions. A subsequent full application for conversion was, however, granted in 2019 (ref DC/19/01596) against objections that the building, with a corrugated tin roof, visible slippage suggesting inadequate or compromised foundations, internal collapse of floor structure and damaging incursion over many years of trees and vegetation, could not be the core of a rebuilding process. At this juncture, the Planning Authority lacked the pre-requisite of a 5 year housing supply and this lent support through the broad-brush NPPF policies for overriding such practical objections in favour of blindly increasing housing supply.

With the precedent thus established, an application for a conversion plus 2 further dwellings in 2021 (ref DC/21/05406) was withdrawn in the face of impending rejection and then softened to a subsequent application for conversion only in 2022 (ref DC/22/02641).

The current application completes the process whereby a rickety old timber grain store has eventually provided a route to suggesting that a 3 bedroom family house with separate residential annexe in the countryside is acceptable. As EPC pointed out when the application for conversion was made, the original building was in no reasonable state for conversion. This factor is now presented as reason for entirely new build of greater mass, higher roof line and no reference to the vernacular of the putative host building.

- 3 In light of the above, Elmswell Parish Council urges a fresh look at this proposal and repeats its previous arguments for refusing development on this site:

A Mid Suffolk District Council has at least



a 9.5-year housing supply and therefore does not need to look beyond existing policies and settled development boundaries to fulfil Government targets in this regard.

B This site is in the countryside clearly outside of the Development Envelope of Elmswell, as reinforced by the emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan. To permit further encroachment of development into Kiln Lane would run counter to Local Plan Policy SB1 and there is no mitigating factor presented to support intrusion which is, clearly, against the overriding principal of protecting the countryside for its own sake.

C Kiln Lane is a single-track country lane with no footpath along its entire length. It is already at capacity as the village expands and traffic seeks ways around the increasingly busy main through routes. In proposing another vehicular access on to Kiln Lane and imposing the traffic generated by a 3 bedroomed dwelling which must rely almost entirely on car use to access facilities, the Proposal, runs counter to Local Plan policy T10 which requires that existing roads giving access to a proposed development should be suitable in terms of the safe and free flow of traffic and pedestrian safety. Recent permissions for residential development along Kiln Lane have enjoyed the unfettered laissez faire of NPPF guidance. This application must, in contrast, be viewed against the reasoned and considered Local Plan regulation, against which it signally fails. The PD rights and curtilage benefits which would accrue should permission be granted pose further serious threats in terms of amenity.

D The Application goes against NPPF policies of sustainability. In its strictures on promoting sustainable transport it argues for an awareness of potential impacts on transport networks [para 102(a)], focussing on locations which can be made sustainable through limiting the need to travel [para 103] and for attention to the impacts from a proposal on the transport network [para 108(c)]. This is a proposal for, effectively, two dwellings along a narrow country road situated almost a mile from the village facilities. In NPPF terms it is unsustainable.

Planning Appeal - Petrol filling station

with restaurant on A1088 / A14

roundabout The Meeting noted that an Appeal has been lodged against refusal of this Application to which EPC had objected.

The Clerk was asked to make the following points in a written submission to the Appeal Inspector:

There is considerable extra traffic loading on this roundabout which was not anticipated in the applicant's TA. Large industrial units have been built out on the site on the old A45 where the Stag Café stands. These include the Scania HGV service centre and the Suffolk Search & Rescue headquarters.

The Stag Café site also attracts considerable weight of car traffic to the 2 takeaway / restaurant facilities now sited there. The ensuing traffic volumes were not anticipated in the original assessments.

Two new facilities offering parallel service facilities have recently opened on A14 at Rougham and at the junction with A137 at Wherstead. There is no need for the proposed development which lies almost equidistant between these 2 service stations, each just 12 miles distant from the Application site.

Planning Appeal – land at Crown Mill

The Meeting noted that EPC's Appeal against refusal for a dwelling on its land at Crown Mill which was originally retained as the landing of a footbridge over the railway line when the estate was built had failed. Council had committed any income from the sale of the site to the Elmswell Community Land Trust which has been formed to develop affordable community housing on the site to the rear of the Elmswell Tavern. Alternative means to begin to address the funding of the housing scheme are to be considered.

Allotments

Given the pressure for allotment tenancies from new arrivals in the village, it was agreed that the level of maintenance and cultivation by current plot holders must be of a high standard. Any tendency to 're-wilding' is to be discouraged in light of the Council's commitment to and support of green issues elsewhere in the village and the clear original intention of allotments as being for the purpose of productive cultivation. The Clerk was asked, in collaboration with Councillors who are also allotment holders, to monitor the situation in light the tightening-up of

the Conditions of Tenancy to the effect that the whole plot, excepting minimal pathways, compost and storage areas be properly maintained and cultivated. The Annual Tenancies will be renewed on these terms.

Grants to external charities

Once a year Council consider any applications which have been received over the previous 12 months for grant aid from charity's outside of the village. The Meeting agreed to make a grant of £150.00 to each of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, The Suffolk Accident Rescue Service, East Anglian Children's Hospice, and Our Special Friends which has helped Elmswell residents with support for pet companionship during troubled times.

Audits

Each year Council is subject to 3 differing levels of Audit. The first of these is an examination of the current financial management and systems of internal control. It is conducted along lines which are laid down by formal agreement by Councillors who are non-signatories to the Council's bank accounts and who are appointed by a formal Resolution of Council. This year's examination took place on 4th October when Cllrs Fred Pallett and Mike Schofield attended at the Council Office where they had full and unfettered access to all files both hard copy and electronic. Their Report was received by the Meeting which noted the Recommendation for a review of Standing Orders with specific reference to spending authority limits which have not been uplifted in light of inflation. It was also agreed that the Council's Internal Audit, which take account of this report, should be carried out by Dave Crimmin of Newton Sudbury who is an experienced and qualified practitioner and whose own findings then go to the Government appointed External Auditors, currently PKF Littlejohn LLP.

Next meeting

It was noted that the next meeting was scheduled for 20th November beginning at 7.30pm at Blackbourne. The public are, as ever, welcome to attend all Council meetings and the agendas will always offer opportunities for questions and comment. Agendas are published online at elmswell.suffolk.cloud and on the Council's notice board at Crown Mill and hard copies can be collected from the Council Office at Blackbourne

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 Monday – Friday 9.00am – 4.00pm and other times by arrangement

clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk
Tel. 244134 www.elmswell.suffolk.cloud



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.

Nov 20th	Dec 18th	Jan 15th	Feb 19th	Mar 18th
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Meetings are held at Blackbourne, beginning at 7.30 unless otherwise notified

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)	eea@elmswell.org.uk	241135
Art Club	Eddie Douglas	edward.douglas2@gmail.com	
Baby & Toddler Group		elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com	
Baptists	Dave Hollings	davehollings@btinternet.com	241323
BATS (Badminton & Table Tennis)	Mike Burgess Wilson	burgesswilsonmike@gmail.com	
Beavers	Ruth Salmon	ruthcourt4@hotmail.co.uk	
Bingo at Blackbourne	Brian Hawes		07761 125093
BWMA	Peter Edmonds (Sec)	edmondspeterj@gmail.com	241640
Blackbourne – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
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			
Community Speed Watch	Marie Spampinato	mariespampinato@hotmail.co.uk	07769 715209
Companions	Linda Waspe	linda@labbott.plus.com	
County Councillor	Cllr Andy Mellen	Andy.Mellen@suffolk.gov.uk	
Cricket Club	Ben Whatling (Captain)	benwhatling@mail.com	07760 174811
Cubs	Mark Pernot	mark.pernot@gmail.com	
District Councillor	Sarah Mansell	Sarah.Mansell@midsuffolk.gov.uk	07860 829517
District Councillor	Helen Geake	Helen.geake@midsuffolk.gov.uk	
Elmswheelians	Trevor Sadler	trevor.sadler@dsl.pipex.com	240908
Elmswild	Mary Feeney	info@elmswild.org.uk	241901
Exchange Afternoon WI	Carol Blissett	carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk	242884
First Responders	Merv	merv.smith@tiscali.co.uk	07909 006 496
Football	Chris Edmonds	edddd101@gmail.com	
Fox Bowls Team bowls at Blackbourne	Barry Hayward	barryhayward1902@gmail.com	240951
Gardening Club	Nick Chamberlin	npch@btinternet.com	242601
Guides	Viv	elmswellguides@outlook.com	
Health Centre - Woolpit			240298
History Group	Stella Chamberlin	stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk	
Ladies Voices (Choir)	Anna Wilton Mills	annawm63@gmail.com	
Library	Miles Row - Manager	Elmswell.Library@suffolklibraries.co.uk	240974
Little Elms	Melanie Garner	info@littleelms.co.uk	240491
Newsletter	Editorial office	eea@elmswell.org.uk	244134
Over 55's Club	Diann Armstrong	Mayfield, Wetherden Road	241002
Parish Council	Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Police Emergencies			999
Police; non-emergencies	Mid Suffolk South SNT	headquarters@suffolk.pnn.police.uk	101
Poor's Land Charity	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Power cuts		Powwercut105.com	105
Rainbows	Jen & Lizzie	elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com	
Royal British Legion	Norman Plumpton (Biff)	nplumpton@aol.com	07707 524722
School	Mrs Ash	admin@elmswell.suffolk.sch.uk	240261
Scouts	Paula Hollings	ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk	07828 562485
St John's Church	Peter Goodridge	elmswellrector@gmail.com	240512
Sewing Bee	Isabel Burgess	isabel.burgess@live.com	
Village Tree Warden	c/o Parish Clerk	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
Wesley – all enquiries	Parish Council office	clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk	244134
WI - evening	Tricia McNeeney	triciamcneeney@gmail.com	241197
Youth Football	Wayne	wsast@hotmail.co.uk	

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 eea @elmswell.org.uk

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.

November 2023

- 1 Elmswell Afternoon WI at the Wesley 2.00pm Speaker The history of Dunwich Heath (Turbulence to Tranquillity) Richard Symes
- 6 2pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church when Catherine Buchanan will speaking on A History of Table Manners
- 9 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 9 Over 55's Club Hot Dogs followed by Bingo
- 9 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Gerry Barnes: History of Orchards in Eastern England
- 14 Elmswell WI Mandy Cox-Osborne The British Legion
- 21 ELMSWELL GARDEN CLUB, 7.30pm in Wesley Chapel. EGC – AGM followed by a presentation from Elmswild
- 23 Over 55's Club Concert by Norton Salvation Army all are welcome
- 24 Bingo at Blackbourne doors open 6.30 eyes down 7.30

December 2023

- 4 1pm Ladies Friendship Group at Elmswell Baptist Church - Nosh 'n' Natter with entertainment by the Horringer Bellringers - men welcome as well
- 6 Elmswell Afternoon WI at the Wesley 2.00pm Special Christmas Celebrations
- 7 Over 55's Club Cash Bingo
- 12 Elmswell WI Christmas Party
- 14 Food 'n' Friends at Elmswell Baptist Church midday
- 14 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Bryan Thurlow Music Hall Memories – an entertaining evening of historic songs and monologues
- 16 Over 55's Xmas Party with catering by Home Farm and entertainment by Bob Whiting

January 2024

- 11 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Members' Evening – A selection of members' own researches

February 2024

- 8 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley chapel. Speaker Rick Lewis: Historic Carpentry of 14+15th centuries

March 2024

- 14 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Stephen Poulter: Suffolk's Lost Heritage

April 2024

- 11 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP 24th Anniversary meeting, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speaker Jacquie Norman: Tudor Costumes, Part 2

May 2024

- 9 ELMSWELL HISTORY GROUP, 7.30pm; in Wesley Chapel. Speakers Jill & Richard Mann: Edith Cavell, E. Anglia's WW1 Heroine

STOP PRESS

Regular sessions at Blackbourne & Wesley include:

KARATE with Lewis - Friday 5.00 – 7.00 info@greatheadma.com

JAPANESE JUJUTSU / SELF DEFENCE – Monday & Wednesday 6.30 – 8.30 ryoishintowaryuheiho@gmail.com tel. 07711 680262

BABY & TODDLER GROUP - Monday mornings elmswellbtgroup@gmail.com

BATS- badminton / table tennis / pool at Blackbourne Friday nights 7 – 9.30 simon@coakleyandtheaker.co.uk

BOWLS - barryhayward1902@gmail.com tel. 240951

GUIDES - elmswellguides@outlook.com

FOOTBALL - shaun.pratt@btinternet.com 07494 864231

RAINBOWS - elmswellrainbows@yahoo.com

JUNIOR FOOTBALL - smyth98@hotmail.com 07717 841591

CUBS Tuesdays 6.15 – 7.30 - mark.pernot@gmail.com

BEAVERS / SCOUTS - Wednesday 5.45 – 9.15 ddc.paula@stowmarketscouts.org.uk

OVER 55'S - every other Thursday 6.30 – 10.30 Diann Armstrong tel. 241002

CIRCLE DANCING - Thursdays 1.45 – 3.15 jenlerner@gmail.com

TREFOIL GUILD - 1st Tuesday monthly lesley.grout@btinternet.com

MARDLE QUILTERS - last Friday monthly carpajak@aol.com

MOO MUSIC - Fridays 12.45 – 3.15 bury@moo-music.co.uk

WI – evening at Wesley 2nd Tuesday monthly 7.30pm Terry Byford bbazby@aol.com

WI – afternoon at Wesley 1st Wednesday monthly Carol Blissett carolblissett@hotmail.co.uk

ART CLUB at Wesley every Tuesday 9.00 – 12.00 Eddie Douglas edward.douglas2@gmail.com

HISTORY GROUP at Wesley 2nd Thursday monthly 7.30 stellachamberlin@yahoo.co.uk

GARDEN CLUB at Wesley 3rd Tuesday monthly 7.30 elmswellgardenclub@gmail.com

CARPET BOWLS – Wednesday 7pm at Wesley – jf.boxall@btinternet.com

COMPANIONS – every other Friday 10 – 12 at Wesley - linda@abbott.plus.com

PILATES – Monday & Friday mornings – suzanne@triformpilates.co.uk

BINGO – Blackbourne, last Friday monthly doors open 6.30...eyes – down 7.30

ARTS SOCIETY OF WEST SUFFOLK first Tuesday monthly, October-June. Diana Hollins 01449 736930 theartssociety-westsuffolk.org.uk

If we've missed you out, do let us know...all enquiries to Ann at the Council Office Tel. 244134 Email clerk@elmswell.suffolk.gov.uk

Your Newsletter Fact File

For the next 3 months we need copy by: November 21, December 22nd, January 23rd

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