

the norton messenger

January 2023

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EDITORIAL

Happy New Year to you all! Thank you for the many photos sent in last month – pets and lovely views of Norton in winter feature this month. Can you spot the same view on three consecutive mornings in December?

Please send and any contributions for the Messenger to the address below by the 15th of the previous month.

Best wishes, Diana



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NORTON VILLAGE HALL CLASSES

IP31 3LE

MONDAY	9.00am - 10.00am	<i>Ren Yoga</i>
	6.00pm - 8.30pm	<i>Jo's Fit4All</i>
TUESDAY	9.30am - 10.30am	<i>Serenity Yoga</i>
WEDNESDAY	6.30pm - 7.30pm	<i>Zumba</i>
FRIDAY	9.15am - 10.15am	<i>Zumba</i>
	10.45am - 11.45am	<i>Yvonne's Body Work Class</i>



For further details please contact: nortonvhbookings@gmail.com



Fully-equipped, commercial kitchen with separate Bar Area

NORTON VILLAGE HALL is the perfect venue for events such as Wedding Receptions, Birthday & Christening Parties, Fitness Classes, Variety Shows, Fundraising Events and Society Meetings and is available for hire throughout the entire year

HALL FOR HIRE



Our Hall has facilities for Disabled Guests, ample On-site Parking, fast & free Wifi, a Stage with Professional Lighting and a Bose Bluetooth Sound System. A large Playing Field and well-equipped Children's Play Area are also available for use.



Main Hall with seating for larger gatherings

Book via the Norton Village Hall website at <https://nortonvillagehall.com/> or e-mail: nortonvhbookings@gmail.com



Separate area for smaller events

CASINO

Norton Village Hall
IP31 3LE

Night



Licensed Bar
Free glass of Prosecco & Canapés
on arrival
Free Casino money. Prizes to be won
Music & Dancing until late
Dress: Black tie / Smart casual

Tickets £17.50

Saturday 28th January 2023
7.30 for 8.00pm

For further details please contact: nortonvhbookings@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

By the time you read this, we will all have recovered from the festive period and therefore I now wish you all a happy New Year. Like many of you, I am pleased that the Parish Council minutes are large enough to read, without a magnifying glass. The Speed Watch team, led by Andrew Stone, has had a really successful period during 2022. Thank you to all the residents who have expressed their support for the team. It has been noticeable that the speed of traffic through the village has reduced. We are still awaiting acceptance of our application to the Government for funds to improve the Village Hall, despite numerous revisions. As you will have read in the minutes, the Council has been very busy during 2022. The present Council comes to an end in May 2023 and we are all up for re-election. There are normally 9 Council places, although we are one short at present. I am aware that we have many new residents in Norton so I hope some may wish to serve on the Council. Please put yourself forward so that we can have a democratic election. I have served on the Council for 14 years, with 11 as Chairman. I intend to step down from the Council in May, so I hope we can attract some new inspiring people to serve Norton. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor in the future feel free to contact me for an informal chat,

David Etchells-Butler

Chairman. Norton Parish Council

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

(Part of the Benefice of Pakenham, Norton & Tostock, with Great Ashfield, Hunston & Stowlangtoft)

Rector: Revd Katherine Valentine Tel 01359 235095

Email: kavalentine677@gmail.com

Website: for more details of all our churches - including Norton - see the national Church of England website www.achurchnearyou.com

Our benefice Church magazine is also available online at www.vcnews.org.uk

January 2023 Church Services and Opening times

Our beautiful and ancient church is open every day for visitors and private prayer.

1 st	Epiphany Sunday	10am Family@Church –Wise Men	Pakenham
8 th	Baptism of Christ	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 9.30am Morning Worship 11am Family Communion	Tostock Great Ashfield Pakenham
15 th	2nd Sunday of Epiphany	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) 11am Morning worship 11am Family Communion 6pm Evening Prayer and Praise	Pakenham Norton Great Ashfield Tostock
22 nd	3rd Sunday of Epiphany	9.30am TOAST 9.30am Family Communion 11am Holy Communion (BCP) 11am Morning Worship 6pm United Service for Christian Unity	Great Ashfield Norton Hunston Tostock Salvation Army Hall
29 th	4th Sunday of Epiphany	10am Benefice Holy Communion	Stowlangtoft

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY - 18TH-25TH JANUARY 2023

Norton Churches Together

UNITED SERVICE AT THE SALVATION ARMY SUNDAY 22ND JAN AT 6PM

All are welcome to this annual service in which Christian Churches around the world of all denominations join together in worship. The year's theme is racial justice focusing on the 30th anniversary of the murder of Stephen Lawrence, which we mark in 2023. The work of restoring hope through justice undertaken in Stephen's memory continues to inspire and change lives for the better.

As we join with other Christians around the world for the Week of Prayer we pray that our hearts will be open to see and hear the many ways in which racism continues to destroy lives, and to discern the steps we can take as individuals and communities to heal the hurts and build a better future for everyone.

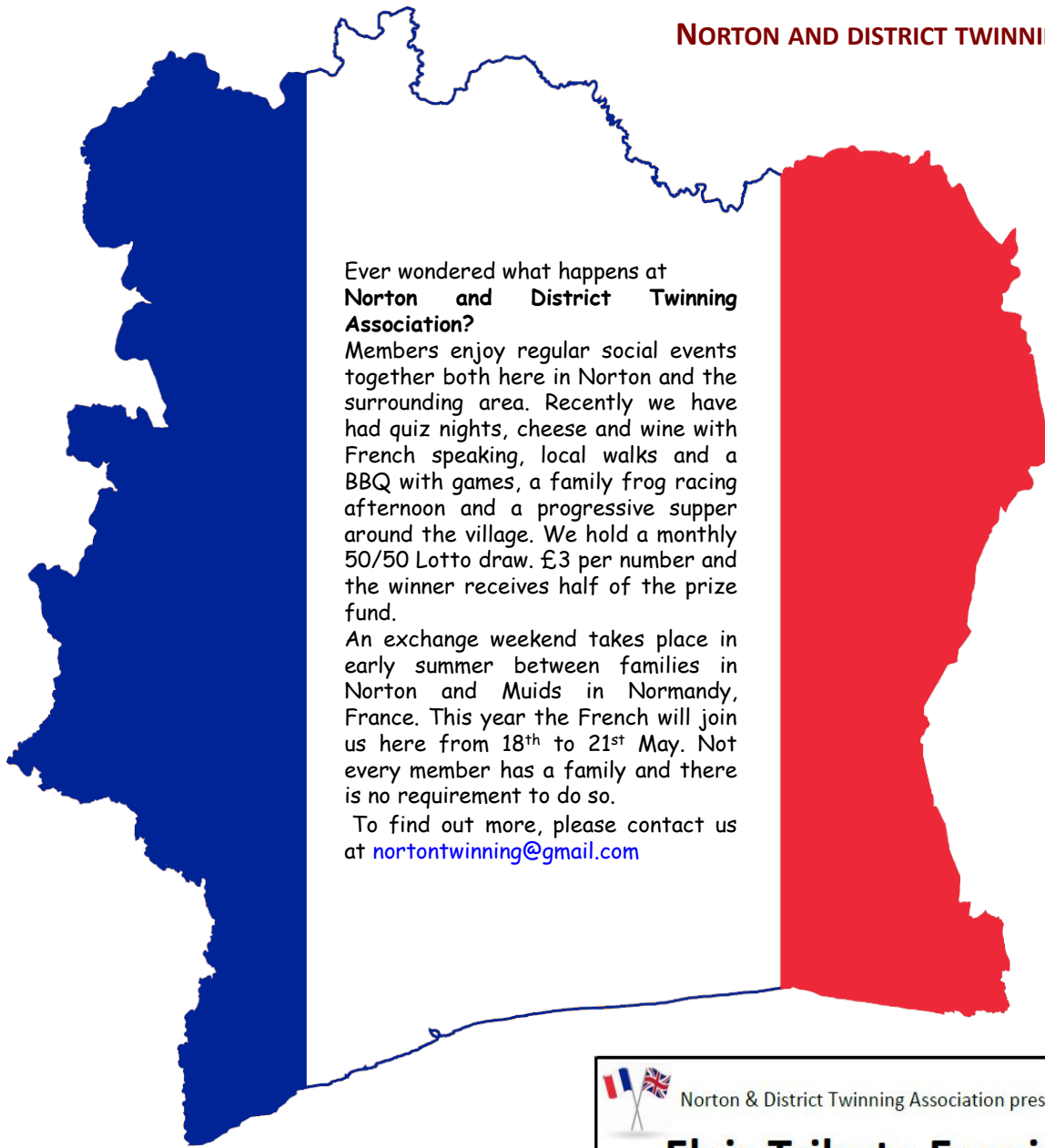
ST ANDREW'S CHURCH LIGHTS

The St Andrew's Church lights for the week of 23rd January is sponsored by David and Jeanette Burt and family in celebration of Molly Burt's 100th birthday on 27th January.



If you would like to see the church lit up in the evenings please consider sponsoring the lights (£20 a week) to celebrate an event or remember a loved one.

Please contact: Philippa Wilding
email pfwilding@btinternet.com 4
Telephone 07776443004



**Ever wondered what happens at
Norton and District Twinning
Association?**

Members enjoy regular social events together both here in Norton and the surrounding area. Recently we have had quiz nights, cheese and wine with French speaking, local walks and a BBQ with games, a family frog racing afternoon and a progressive supper around the village. We hold a monthly 50/50 Lotto draw. £3 per number and the winner receives half of the prize fund.

An exchange weekend takes place in early summer between families in Norton and Muids in Normandy, France. This year the French will join us here from 18th to 21st May. Not every member has a family and there is no requirement to do so.

To find out more, please contact us at nortontwinning@gmail.com



 Norton & District Twinning Association present 

Elvis Tribute Evening

Dancing to
**Harry Isaac Presley
& The HIP Operation**



Saturday 11th February 2023
@ Norton Village Hall
Doors open 7.30pm

Contact: nortontwinning@gmail.com



Norton Baptist Church

January 2023

Check the information below for our services throughout January and beyond



Happy New Year from all of us at Norton Baptist Church. We would love to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us over 2022 and we look forward to everything we have planned for 2023!

Things go back to a generally normal program for January – all the services and times are shown at the bottom of the page. It would be great if you could join us. Our doors open at 10am for all of our services. Tea and Coffee are available for the Praise and Worship services and for Messy Church. Breakfast is served for Café Church and we will provide a “light lunch” after the Messy Church service.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for details of The Den for our young people and for all other notices of things that are coming up over the next few months.

	1 st Jan	8 th Jan	15 th Jan	22 nd Jan	29 th Jan
Praise & Worship	No Service				No Service
Messy Church		10am			
Praise & Worship			10am		
Café Church				10am	

nortonbaptist@btinternet.com

For all the up-to-date information please “like” our Facebook page. Scan this code to go straight to our page



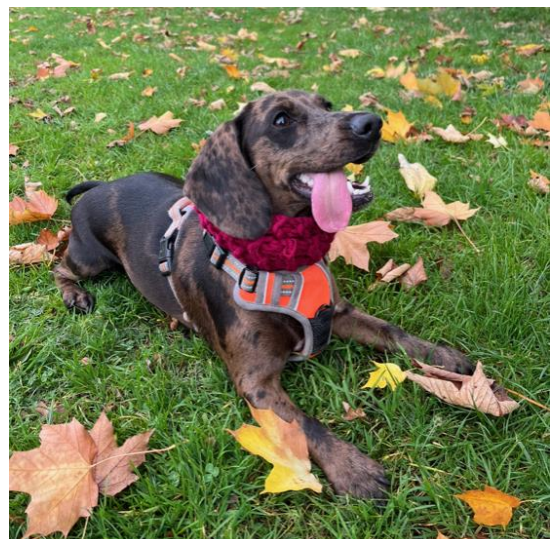


NORTON VILLAGE BOOK GROUP

The village book group met for a Christmas get together, book exchange and quiz, kindly hosted by Emma Smart.

A SELECTION OF NORTON PET PHOTOS

Alfie, a retriever mix rescued from Cyprus, posing in festive gear, Pinky (12) and Daisy (10), and a mystery pooch with no name supplied – perhaps he wishes to remain undercover!



NORTON PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th November 2022

PRESENT:

In the Chair: Mr. D. Etchells-Butler
Mr. B. Aket, Mrs. S. Hill, Mrs. T. Long, Mr. J. Morgan, Mr. G. Walton, Mr. T. Walker.
Mrs. J. Rowland (Clerk)
District Councillor H. Richardson
3 members of the public.

APOLOGIES: Mr R Lenko, District Councillor A. Davies, County Councillor A. Mellen
The Council consented to accept the apology and reasons received, which will be recorded in the attendance register.

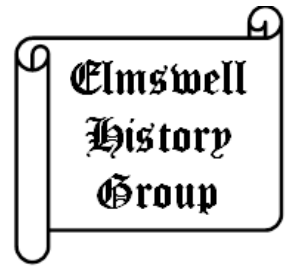
1	Mr. Etchells-Butler reminded of the meeting protocol	
2	Declarations of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests a) Declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interest(s) and personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature inc. gifts of hospitality exceeding £25 - none b)Declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda - none c) Requests for dispensations - none	
3	PUBLIC FORUM - to receive reports for information - Members of the public—to receive questions and matters of concern from those in attendance Mrs. Jennings expressed concern at the firework parties held, particularly in Norton Little Green, without regard for animals and in particular horses and ponies. Her pony had been extremely traumatized by the noise and light and had injured itself and it had taken two people to hold and calm it. She informed that the Animal Welfare Act stated that it is illegal to cause pain or suffering to animals and could carry a large fine, and fireworks should not be let off near livestock or their buildings. She asked for the Council to officially make people aware of the distress fireworks causes to animals. The Council agreed to write to residents and to place an item in the Messenger. The Clerk will send a draft to the Councillors to approve prior to sending to Mrs. Jennings to approve and distribute. - Members of the public – to receive comments submitted via email Complaint received about thoughtless parking at The Dog with vehicles blocking the pavement. Although The Dog has been approached there has been no change. It was pointed out that The Dog kindly allow parents to park there while dropping off parents thus helping to relieve the congestion in The Street. The Councillors felt this was probably more a Highways matter as the Council would not be able to implement any request for appropriate parking. Request received for a dog waste bin to be sited near the footpath beside Street Farm Bungalow. The Council agreed by a majority (5-1) to this request and the Clerk will complete the form and order a bin. Members of the public – to receive questions submitted via Facebook - none	Clerk
4	REPORTS FOR INFORMATION –to receive written reports for information only - Report from County Councillor Andy Mellen – noted Mr.Walker commented that some of the information from Councillor Mellen has been shared on Facebook i.e. Cost of Living leaflet and Winter Matters campaign - Report from District Councillors Harry Richardson, Austin Davies – noted Mr. Aket commented on activities for young people but these appeared to be only for special needs, but there was nothing for other children. Councillor Richardson stated the Government would fund the main school holidays but MSDC extend to half term periods targeting special needs, low income, or disabilities. He believed it was then opened to other children at a small cost, being advertised on a single web page with links externally to the providers. Councillor Richardson gave an update on the Hawes Lane application. There was a need for further ecological studies which were undertaken by the applicant and the results now received. He has lodged a request for it to go to full planning committee, bearing in mind the site background.	8

5.	MINUTES	
	5.1 To note and approve the minutes of the Meeting held on 3 rd October and 17 th October 2022. Mrs. Long proposed acceptance, Mr. Aket seconded after amendment of the chairman's name. Minutes approved for signature.	
6.	MATTERS ARISING	
	6.1 Parish Council assistance with drainage problem in Church Lane. Mr. Walton stated the materials had been ordered and it is hoped the work will be carried out shortly.	Mr. Walton
	6.2 Welcome Pack- ongoing. Printing costs still awaited, but there has been a poor response to items.	Mr. Walton
	6.3 Parish Trees, Hedgerows and Wildflowers Scheme 2022. Mrs. Hill outlined the plans drawn up by Mrs. Adams for the proposed area with a timetable of planting. The plan had been signed off by Mr. Parmee which also needs to be formally signed off by the Council. Mrs. Hill was unsure as to the amount, types and number of plants that would be received and is awaiting a reply from Mr. Parmee. It may be that, once underway, donations of plants may be received from villagers or the Council could request donations. She asked the Council to consider a noticeboard information board and asked for this to be discussed at the next meeting. Mr. Walton asked the Council to consider purchasing plants if necessary. Mrs. Hill confirmed that only small areas would be undertaken at a time so only a few volunteers would be required at any time.	Mrs. Hill Agenda
	6.4 Water pump for allotments. The Clerk agreed to forward the contact number for the installer of the borehole to Mr. Walton, so he could discuss a suitable pump.	Mr. Walton
	6.5 Update on Bus Service – The clerk had emailed Katchalift as a possible alternative to the bus service, but had been informed this is still in the trial stage. An invitation has been received from Woolpit PC to arrange a meeting to discuss how all Councils affected by the cancelled bus service, could work together to get it reinstated. Mrs. Hill stated she would be willing to attend on the Council's behalf. The Clerk stated the agreed date was 30 th November 2022.	Mrs. Hill
	6.6 Arrangements for Remembrance Day. Mr. Etchells-Butler stated all was in hand. The wreath had been ordered, the service would take place at 10am at the war memorial and the brownies and school are invited to take part.	
	6.7 Coronation arrangements. Mr. Aket requested the Council consider the purchase of a coronation mug for every village child. It has been suggested to have a parish party on the playing field, with a large screen in the hall, or outside, televising the event.	Mr. Aket
7.	PLANNING	
	7.1 APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/22/05294 and DC/22/05295 LBC Feld House, The Street, Norton for erection of a single storey rear extension, partial demolition/reduction of outbuilding and widening of gateway in garden wall. The Council had no objection to this application.	
	7.2 GRANTED Manor Farmhouse, Ashfield Road, Norton, DC/22/04005 Loft conversion of existing cartlodge, insertion of three new roof lights and construction of external stairs with new access door	
	7.3 Appeal Dismissed Land South Of Little Owl Lodge, Ashfield Road, Norton - DC/21/00522 - APP/W3520/W/21/3283837 7.4 Appeal Dismissed Land South East Of Southleigh, Ashfield Road, Norton - APP/W3520/W/22/3290858- DC/21/02811	

	7.5 Enforcement. The Old Forge, Ixworth Road, Norton. MSDC Enforcement had replied that the developer had been contacted and it is hoped the issues stated will be addressed and the site completed as soon as possible. Amended plans will be submitted regarding the barn. The agent stated that no joists had been cut or removed but the building is in a deteriorated state and they are aware of the closeness of the heritage asset of the Public house. The case will remain open for the time being.	
8.	SPEEDWATCH	
	8.1 Update on Speedwatch. A comprehensive statement received from Mr. Stone. The Council fully supported the work of the volunteers and expressed thanks to Mr. Stone for his work in getting the group fully functioning and for his commitment in carrying out the watch on several occasions each week. There are now 7 sites which can be used, all approved by the Police. It is possible to have speed checks at two locations on the same road at the same time. Mr. Etchells-Butler informed that the Police had been out for a speed check at the Ixworth end of the village and caught 47 speeding motorists. Mr. Etchells-Butler stated Norton is one of the top villages in Suffolk with speedwatch.	
9.	FINANCIAL MATTERS	
	9.1 To approve the accounts awaiting payment: Clerk’s salary £227.26 cheque no 522496 LGA1972 s112 HMRC £56.60 cheque no 522497 LGA1972 s112 Tenhats, – October, £315.00 cheque no 522498 LGA1972 s142 A.Stone, Speedwatch, £31.75 cheque no 522499 Highways Act 1980 s274A Norton Parochial Church Council – reissue of cheque £450 cheque no 522400 LGA 1972 s214(6) Norton Baptist Church, Hall hire, April-Oct 22, £135 cheque no 522401 LGA1972 s13 Royal British Legion, poppy wreath, £40 cheque no 522402 LGA 1972 s1388 A.Dowds – reissue of cheque £56.44 cheque no 522403 Parish councils act 1857 s3	
	9.2 Internal Control Audit Oct 22 – received and approved by Councillors, with thanks to Mr. Lenko and the Clerk.	
	9.3 Norton Neighbourhood CIL Parish Payment £26,461.33 - October 2022 - noted	
	9.4 To receive budget statement and Receipts and Payments with reconciliation - noted. The Council approved and accepted the statement. The Clerk requested a virement from Contingency (VAT return) to Grass cutting of £750 and Messenger £2000 to cover expenditure. Mr. Aket proposed and Mr. Etchells-Butler seconded the virement with all Councillors in agreement.	
	9.5 Town and Parish Council Election 2023 estimate of costs received. Councillors were hopeful of an election in May 2023. Mr. Etchells-Butler agreed to draft an item for the Messenger.	Mr. Etchells-Butler
	9.6 Update on Bus shelter. Mr. Etchells-Butler informed that the email he had sent to SCC regarding the licence for a shelter had failed to send. He has now resent it and awaiting a response.	Mr. Etchells-Butler
10.	VILLAGE HALL	
	10.1 Update on Borrowing approval application. The Clerk stated she had forwarded details and after a number of weeks more information was required via a phone call. Despite waiting in no call came, and a subsequent Teams meeting was arranged for a week later. After the 30 minute discussion about the financial arrangements she was told all appeared sufficient and this would be sent to the senior financial officer to approve. A subsequent email had arrived asking for clarification of income and expenditure. This would again be put together and sent to Mr. Etchells-Butler and Mr. Walker for comment before being sent to the Levelling Up Department. It has not proved to be the case of being a quick response as stated in paperwork. Mr. Walton commented that the concern now was the interest rate is rising compared to what was first projected when the original paperwork was submitted.	10

	10.2 Update from Village Hall on project progress. Mr. Walton stated that the tenders received had run out and the firms were not willing to resubmit until there is a firm offer of funding. Some rendering on the hall had now blown off and issues with birds ingress, all of which need dealing with if the refurbishment does not go ahead. CIL previously agreed is dependent on this loan being approved. He stated hall hirings were up but there had been a problem with hirers not clearing up which had required additional cleaning. There is also a separate key box to access the CCTV room.	
11.	PLAY AREAS	
	11.1 Play area adjacent to Village Hall. Mr. Lenko requested a regular tidy up of the bark under the swings and stated Mr. Millyard had quoted £30 per visit. This was not approved by the Council. Mr. Walton felt a self-help system should be set up to rake the bark perhaps on a monthly basis. Drawings for 2 new gates had been received and details on the zip wire, but no detailed quote at the moment.	
	11.2 Play area in Prospect Road. Mr. Walton will chase the quote for the signs. Mrs. Long stated that one frame for a sign had been damaged so a new post will probably be required. A volunteer has agreed to paint the swings, so Mrs. Long or Mr. Walton will obtain the paint and brushes. Mr. Lenko and Mrs. Long agreed that the nets will be replaced with use of long metal stakes with laminated signs to inform the grass cutter. Mrs. Long stated bark is required for the swings.	
12.	CORRESPONDENCE	
	12.1 Silver Sunday, The National Day for Older People - noted	
	12.2 Invitation to Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice Bureau AGM 10am on Thursday 24 November 2022 - noted	
	12.3 Defend Nature update from Suffolk Wildlife Trust - noted.	
	12.4 Passenger Interest Group notes. Meeting held on 18 th October - noted.	
	12.5 Street lighting and Highways Asset Energy and Maintenance costs 2022-23 - noted	
	12.6 Rural Mobility Survey – noted.	
	12.7 MSDC Competition! Name our bin lorries – noted. Councillors commented this was a waste of money by MSDC.	
13.	Questions and Comments from Members and suggestions for next meeting.	
	13.1 Mrs Long stated that the Salvation Army were setting up a warm room initiative, but without a leader, who is off long term sick, this may be in doubt.	
	13.2 Mr. Walton expressed thanks to R&P Baker for cutting the hedge along Ixworth Road.	
	13.3 Mr. Walton stated he had had no response from SCC for car charging information.	
	13.4 Mr. Walton stated Mrs. Smart had sent off the first draft footpath leaflet.	
	13.5 Mr. Walton asked for an update on the web site at the next meeting.	
	13.6 The Clerk confirmed an advert for a street cleaner was placed in the Messenger.	
	13.7 Mr. Aket commented on the small number of current village organisations and felt there was scope in the village to increase small organisations set up, but was uncertain how to get this moving. Mr. Walker was asked whether something could be put on Facebook to engage with the village. Mrs. Long stated the salvation army have set up a friends café with games, craft, coffee and chat.	
14.	To confirm the date of future meeting: 5 th December 2022, 7.30pm	
15.	There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.03	11

A bumper audience attended our December musical evening, *"In Fields of Frost and Snow"* played on a variety of traditional instruments by the three members of local group, Hexachordia, and interspersed with historical readings all about Christmas in the 16th and 17th centuries. This was followed by a most welcome buffet supper and mulled wine, all of which went down very well on that extremely cold night, but we kept cosy and warm in our beautifully-renovated Victorian chapel which provided excellent acoustics for such music.



Meanwhile, thinking of New Year's resolutions such as possibly to do more housework (really?!), here's a poem which will perhaps make you change your mind, on that subject at least.

"Spring Cleaning – Dust If You Must"

Dust if you must, but wouldn't it be better to paint a picture or write a letter,

Bake a cake or plant a seed, ponder the difference between want and need?

Dust if you must, but there's not much time with rivers to swim and mountains to climb, Music to hear and books to read, friends to cherish and a life to lead.

Dust if you must, but the world's out there, the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair

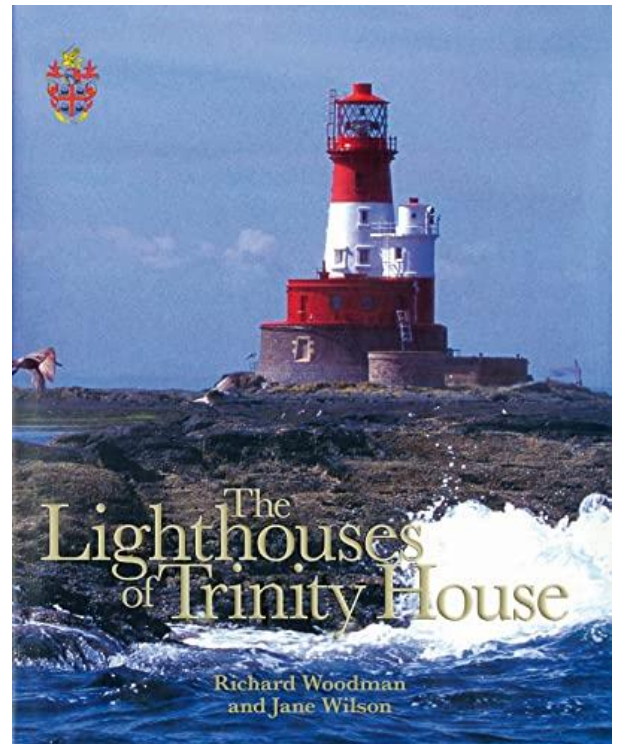
A flurry of snow, a shower of rain, this day will not come back again.

Dust if you must, but bear this in mind, old age will come and it's not kind,

And when you go, as go you must, you yourself will make more dust!

And that's really what all "history" is about, i.e. everything eventually turning to dust.

Looking ahead, on Thursday **12th January 2023**, we will welcome Simon Millyard for his talk on *"Trinity House Lighthouses"* - **7.30pm at the Wesley**, School Rd, IP30 9EE. Simon has lived in Elmswell for the last 30 years but started life as a Marine Engineer travelling the world as a ship's Engineering Officer before settling down to get married and moving ashore. For the last 15 years, he has been working for Trinity House with a 500-year heritage which is still very active today. Simon has had a varied career as an engineer in shipping, brewing, printing, maritime search & rescue and finally in Marine Aids to Navigation which includes the nation's lighthouses. His talk will cover the history of Trinity House from 1514 to the present day, so do join us then for what should be a fascinating talk from this well-qualified speaker.



And Finally May we take this opportunity of wishing all our readers the very best for 2023, with good health and happiness.

R McKenzie

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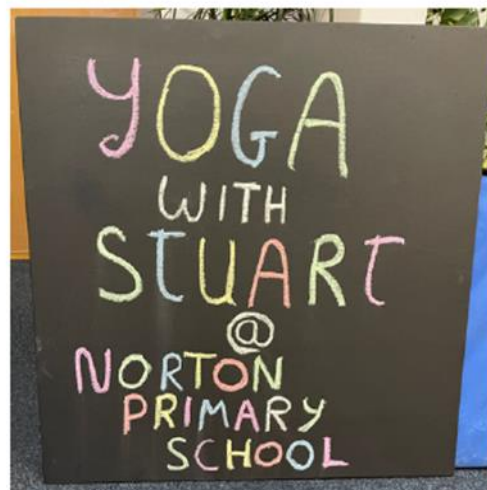
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For more information contact Stuart
T: 07932 792955 E: yogawithstuart@gmail.com
(A member of the Yoga Alliance Professionals)

Strands

HAIR SALON



IXWORTH



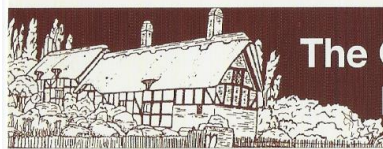
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**We reopen after a well earned break on
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