the norton messenger

November 2026



Editorial

Thank you to David Burt who sent in this photo from 1920 of the War Memorial immediately after it was unveiled.

As always send in anything you would like to see in the messenger to the address below by the 15th of the previous month,

Diana

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Village Notices

For the latest information please visit our website nortonvillagehall.com where you can take a virtual tour of the hall, see the calendar, hire prices, news and more.

To make a booking, please use the booking request form on the website or contact: bookings@nortonvillagehall.com
We always welcome new members to help us run and improve this important village amenity. If you are interested in getting involved, please email committee@nortonvillagehall.com.

Village Hall Activities

For the latest information, please see our website, nortonvillagehall.com, where you can take a virtual tour of the hall, see the calendar, hire prices, activities, news and more.

Monday	9:00 - 10:00am Main Hall 6:00 - 6:45pm Main Hall 7:00 - 7:45pm Main Hall	Pilates with Paula Paracise Jo's Fit4All
Tuesday	9:30 - 10:30am Main Hall 10:45 - 11:45am Main Hall 7:15 - 9:15pm Main Hall	Serenity Yoga Silver Swans Song Circle
Wednesday	9:15 - 10:15am Main Hall 10:30 - 11:30am Main Hall 6:30 - 7:30pm Main Hall	Power Pilates Hula with Abs Zumba
Thursday	9:00 - 10:00am Main Hall 7:00 - 8:00pm Main Hall	Pilates with Paula Rockfit with Bliss
Friday	9:15 - 10:15am Main Hall 10:45 - 11:45am Main Hall	Zumba Yvonne's Keep Fit Class
Saturday	9:00 - 12:00pm Field (football season only)	Stowmarket Youth FC U9s
Sunday	9:00 - 12:00pm Field (football season only)	Stowmarket Youth FC U12s

Norton WI

Our Speaker for October was David Burt, who is the village historian and official recorder. Each year David puts together a report on the activities and events in the village for prosperity which then goes to the Records Archive in Ipswich. David's talk took us from the evidence of a settlement in Norton in the Stone Ages, right through to the present day, covering the Romans, the Doomsday Book entry, the Black Death, history of the Church, links to King Harold and the Great Fire of Norton to name but a few topics. The talk was illustrated with many photos and maps and David, who can trace his ancestors in Norton back for many generations, was able to provide a really personal perspective in making the history of the village come alive.

Our next meeting is on Monday 9th November, with a visit to Cook in Bury St Edmunds.
As always, new members are always welcome. For further information please contact nortonwisuff@gmail.com

Woolpit Health Centre News

Woolpit HEALTH CENTRE

LONG TERM CONDITION AND MEDICATION REVIEWS AT WOOLPIT HEALTH CENTRE

AN UPDATE

Following on from changes announced in April 2025, the surgery is continuing to aim to align patient Long-Term Condition and Medication Reviews with patient's birth months where possible.
Your recall may continue to be slightly earlier or later in the year than usual whilst this process continues.

You might be contacted by telephone, email, text message or letter.



WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

The aim is to improve the patient experience and our efficiency by reducing the number of requests received at multiple points throughout the year.
We monitor people's health and medications to ensure that they receive safe and effective treatments for their health conditions.



WHAT WILL I BE ASKED TO DO?

Every person will have individual needs, but you may be asked to:

Book a telephone or face to face appointment with a clinician
Have a blood test

Submit home blood pressure readings



Take your height and/or weight

Complete a health questionnaire

HOW YOU CAN HELP US:

Respond to recall messages

Ensure your contact details and preferences are up to date

Contact the surgery if you need accommodations to attend appointments

Speak to your local pharmacist or contact the surgery if you have concerns about your health and medicines

WHAT IF MY MEDICATION/ CONDITION NEEDS MONITORING MORE FREQUENTLY?

You will continue to be contacted by the surgery for your regular monitoring at more frequent intervals



WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE CONCERNS?

The medication review process happens automatically so the surgery will contact you when this is due.

Please be aware there are currently some delays due to a backlog of non-responsive patients who are requiring extended follow-ups.

If you believe you are overdue a review you can speak with your local pharmacist or contact the surgery via Anima/our reception team.

Norton CEVC Primary School
School Close Norton Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP31 3LZ
Headteacher Mrs Lisa Sparkes
office@norton.suffolk.sch.uk 01359 230520 www.norton.suffolk.sch.uk






As we approach half term, it's lovely to reflect on what a busy and happy start to the year we've had. The children have settled beautifully into their new classes and are embracing learning with enthusiasm. It's always a pleasure to show prospective families around and see the children so engaged.

In **Star Class (Reception)**, the children have been learning letter sounds and numbers, exploring autumn through leaf rubbings and prints, and creating scarecrows for Harvest.

Galaxy Class (Year 1) recently visited St Andrew's Church to learn about a Christening. Led by Reverend Katherine, the children took on the roles of parents, godparents and congregation members. Back in class, they've been exploring the five senses through practical science activities, with tasting a particular favourite!

In **Planet Class (Year 2)**, the children have been learning about medieval castles, their different parts and the people who lived and worked in them. They also enjoyed a design and technology day, building their own castles – some almost as big as the children themselves! A visit to Framlingham Castle is planned.

Comet Class (Year 3) have explored the work of Vincent van Gogh and Alma Thomas. Inspired by Thomas's use of analogous colours, they created paintings in her distinctive style. In science, the story of Roger Rock and Simon Soil helped them discover how soil is formed, which they recorded in storyboards.

In **Rocket Class (Year 4)**, the children have placed eggs in different liquids, including tea, coffee, Fanta, Diet Pepsi and fruit juices, to investigate their effects on eggshells in a study linked to tooth enamel. In geography, they traced the River Black Bourn using Ordnance Survey maps, following its route from Ixworth through Euston to Thetford, where it joins the Little Ouse.

Meteor Class (Year 5) have enjoyed clarinet lessons with Mr Kershaw, learning about pulse and rhythm and playing their first notes. They've also been studying earthquakes and volcanoes, researching and writing informative texts based on the New Zealand earthquake in Christchurch.

In **Supernova Class (Year 6)**, the children have investigated electrical circuits and written moving refugee poems using powerful descriptions and emotive language. Our oldest pupils are also setting a wonderful example as line monitors, worship leaders and Sports Ambassadors.

Across the school, the children have enjoyed their first PE enrichment sessions of the year, trying their hand at Frisbee Golf. It's been lovely to see every class getting involved and enjoying this new experience.

We recently celebrated Harvest at Norton Baptist Church. The children sang beautifully under Mr Cole's direction, and Caroline Vallance shared a wonderful Harvest message linked to chocolate. The Worship Team also invited families to donate to The Moses Project. We were overwhelmed by Norton's generosity. Thank you to everyone who contributed; your kindness will make a real difference to local families in need.

If you're new to Norton or the surrounding villages, we'd love to hear from you. We currently have a few places available across the school and warmly welcome new families.

We're also delighted to host our first **Open Afternoon on Thursday 12 November** for families with children starting school in September 2027. Come along, meet us and discover what makes Norton Primary such a special place to learn and grow. To find out more or arrange a visit, please call **01359 230530**.

With warmest wishes,

Mrs Sparkes






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: www.achurchnearyou.com **Benefice Church magazine** www.vcnews.org.uk

November 2026 Church Services

Open daily for visitors and private prayer. St Andrew's Norton services are highlighted below.

1st	**All Saints Sunday**	**8am Holy Communion (BCP)**	**Norton**
		10am Family@Church Remembering	Pakenham
		3pm Memorial Service	Pakenham
		4.30pm Memorial Service	**Norton**
		5pm Memorial Service	Great Ashfield
8th	**Remembrance Sunday**	8am Holy Communion (BCP)	Pakenham
		10am Act of Remembrance at War Memorial	**Norton**
		10.45am Remembrance Service	Great Ashfield
		10.45am Remembrance Service	**Norton**
		10.45am Remembrance Service	Tostock
		10.45am Act of Remembrance	Stowlangtoft
		3pm Remembrance Service	Pakenham
15th	**2nd Sunday before Advent**	9.30am Holy Communion (BCP)	Pakenham
		9.30am Morning Worship	**Norton**
		11am Family Communion	Great Ashfield
		6pm Evening Prayer and Praise	Tostock
22nd	**Christ the King**	9.30am TOAST	Great Ashfield
		9.30 Holy Communion	Hunston
		11am Morning Worship	Tostock
		11am Family Communion	**Norton**
29th	**1st Sunday of Advent**	**10am Benefice Communion**	**Stowlangtoft**

Advent Bible Study They Sang! by Amy Scott Robinson.

Wednesday afternoons November 18th-December 9th 2pm in The Martin Room at St Mary's Pakenham.

4 studies on the songs that people and angels sang as they learned of the good news of Jesus' birth. All welcome.

SAVE THE DATES CHILDREN & FAMILIES - 4TH & 5TH DECEMBER!

Saturday 4th Dec 10am-12noon Advent craft & activities morning with Norton School Choir at Norton Baptist Church & Salvation Army

Sunday 5th Dec 10am at St Mary's Pakenham CHRISTINGLE SERVICE.

MORE INFO ON BOTH IN DECEMBER MESSENGER.

The St Andrew's Church floodlights for November are sponsored by Janet Montague: 'In loving memory of Paul Montague. God bless you. Janet, Karen & family' and Rosie Nunn: 'remembering family members past and present'.

If you would like to see the church lit up please consider sponsoring the lights (£20 a week) or if you would like to celebrate an event or remember a loved one contact:
Philippa Wilding
email
pfwilding@btinternet.com
Telephone 07776443004



NORTON PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7th September 2026

PRESENT

IN THE CHAIR: Mrs. S. Hill

Mr. J. Bolus, Prof. K. Jaggard, Mr. R. Lenko, Mr. G. Millen. Mr. G. Walton, Mrs. J. Rowland

(Clerk) LGA 1972 s12 para 40

District Councillor H. Richardson

County Councillor J. Patchett. 3 members of the public

APOLOGIES: Mr. B. Aket, Mr. J. Morgan,

The Council consented to accept the apologies and reasons given.

District Councillor D. Bradbury.

1.	The Chair welcomed all to the meeting.	
2.	The Chair informed the meeting of the resignation of Mr. Winstanley. Mid Suffolk had been informed and the adverts placed on the web and on noticeboards.	
3.	Declarations of pecuniary and local non-pecuniary interests a) To receive declarations of pecuniary, local non-pecuniary interest(s) and personal interests in items on the agenda and their nature inc. gifts of hospitality - none b) To receive declarations of lobbying for planning matters on the agenda - none c)To receive requests for dispensations - none d) To receive dispensation policy for approval - none	
4.	**PUBLIC FORUM**	
	• Members of the public–to receive questions and matters of concern from those in attendance - none	
	• Members of the public – to receive comments submitted via email Verge at The Horseshoes. Cllr Richardson stated Mid Suffolk declared this was not their land, likewise Highways had declined ownership. He has therefore spoken to Flagship housing and awaiting their reply.	Cllr Richardson
	Emergency strategy to unforeseen occurrence. Mr. Walton stated he had been asked if the Council had an emergency plan particularly regarding the problems with the recent hot weather. Cllr Patchett stated there are emergency planners at Mid Suffolk who can advise and give a presentation if required. They are asking all villages and hamlets to have an emergency plan and there are templates which can be used. They are advising to team up with other parishes, eg Stowlangtoft or Elmswell. The plan would be a blue print of action and who to contact.	Agenda
	Newly formed Footpath Walkers. Mrs. Smart outlined the proposed working of the informal group. They plan to plot paths, walk 2 a month and report any problems, ie signs missing. The group shared the desire to have it as a community social event, while helping to keep all footpaths open by regular walking. She felt it would be an idea to publish a walk in the Messenger each month. The Council fully supported this concept and agreed to help with any equipment required eg litter pickers, black bags.	
	Buses. Mrs. Taylor had expressed her concern about the lack of a bus service.	
5.	**REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**	
	Report from County Councillor James Patchett. The written report was taken as read. The Clerk commented on the number of closures in Ashfield Road due to water leaks and power connections, stating some of the road repairs are poor.	
	Report from District Councillor Harry Richardson. The written report was taken as read. Cllr Richardson confirmed his completed form in support of the NP. LGR – He stated Central Government had stated withdrawal of the proposals for some areas, including Suffolk, while pausing other areas. Elections will still take place next year for Parish and District Councils. Cllr Richardson stated the new County Council has published a vision document.	
6.	**MINUTES**	
	6.1 To **RESOLVE** minutes of Council meetings held on 6th July 2026 as true and correct. Prof Jaggard proposed, Mr. Lenko seconded. **It was resolved to approve the minutes as previously circulated and to give consent for the Chair to sign the minutes after the meeting as a true and accurate record of the proceedings that took place**	

7.	**MATTERS ARISING**	
	7.1 UKPN. The Clerk reported on the latest update regarding the lease. The lease had had to be returned to the Hall solicitor to make minor amendments with additional clauses. Upon receipt by Birketts, via the UKPN solicitor, it was noted that the OCC provision had not been included in the lease and the party details were not correct so it had been returned to UKPN who were dealing with the Hall solicitor. UKPN received it back from the Hall solicitor but then queried with Birketts which clauses needed to be changed as only the limitation of liability clause had been changed. UKPN queried whether clauses about recitals, covenants etc. were the ones Birketts were referring to. However, funding was raised between Birketts and UKPN due to the complexity of the lease and parties involved. Once UKPN agree to further funding undertaking to cover the remaining fees up to completion, Birketts will liaise with UKPN on the various provision needed to be included (expected for the hall solicitor to deal with).	Clerk
	7.2 Bus Service update. The Clerk outlined her discussion with Turners regarding their provision of a minibus on a Wednesday. It will cost £40 each way and would need commitment of use. Councillors felt if users paid £5 return the Council would agree to subsidise the remaining cost. There would need to be 6-8 passengers using the bus. Mrs. Hill agreed to speak with residents who may use the service. **The Council resolved to set up a 3 month trial**.	
	7.3 Cooption to vacancy on Council. The Clerk stated she is awaiting an update from Mid Suffolk to allow the Council to coopt. Mr. Walton stated he knew of someone willing to stand for cooption.	
8.	**PLANNING**	
	8.1 APPLICATION FOR RESERVED MATTERS - DC/26/03470 Land West Of Ixworth Road, Norton Application for Approval of Reserved Matters (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout, and Scale) in part pursuant to Outline Planning Permission DC/25/02900 (Erection of 2 dwellings) - Erection of 1no. dwelling on Plot 11. **The Council had no comment to submit**	
	8.2APPLICATION FOR RESERVED MATTERS - DC/26/03471 Land At Stanton Street, Ixworth Road, Norton Application for Approval of Reserved Matters (Appearance, Landscaping, Layout, and Scale) in part pursuant to Outline Planning Permission DC/24/03919 (Erection of 5no.self-build dwellings and garages) - Erection of 1no. self-build dwelling and garage on Plot 13 (Phase 2) **The Council had no comment to submit**	
	8.3 GRANTED - APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION-DC/26/02692 1 Woods Pightle, Norton, Erection of an attached cartlodge	
	8.4 GRANTED APPLICATION FOR CONSENT TO CARRY OUT WORKS TO TREE(S) PROTECTED BY A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER - DC/26/02505 Rookery House, The Street, Norton Application for works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order WS159/T2 -Reduce overhanging branches of beech tree to previous pruning points of around 3.5-4.5 metres. Lightly thin larger limb over the garden, provide 2.5m clearance of garage roof and a 4.5m crown lift in the rear garden section	
	8.5 GRANTED PLANNING PERMISSION WITHOUT COMPLIANCE OF CONDITION(S) - DC/26/02806 Land At Norton Rise, Ixworth Road, Norton Application under Section 73 of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Variation of Condition 3 (Approved Illustrative Plans and Documents) of Planning Permission DC/24/03919 dated: 08/05/2026 - Erection of 5no. self build dwellings and garages.	
	8.6 GRANTED DC/26/01819 Land West Of Suffolk House (Phase 2 Plot 1 - Now Known As Plot 10), Ixworth Road, Norton Application for Approval of Reserved Matters following grant of Outline Permission DC/23/03760 Submission of details for Layout, Scale, Appearance and Landscaping, Access points to be considered - Erection of 8No custom build/self-build dwellings - Solely relating to Phase 2 Plot 1 now known as Plot 10	
	8.7 APPROVED - DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) DC/26/02277 Suffolk House, Ixworth Road, Norton, Norton Meadows - Phase 2 Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/23/03760 - Conditions 7 (Internal Estate Roads and Footpaths), 9 (Footway Provision), 10 (EV Charging and Cycle Parking), 11 (Refuse and Recycling Bins), 12 (Bus Stop Upgrading), 13 (Highways Licence),15 (Construction Management Plan), 16 (Fire Hydrants), 18 (Precautionary Method Statement), 19 (Construction Environmental Management Plan), 20 (Biodiversity Enhancement Layout), 21 (Landscape and Ecological Management Plan) and 22 (Wildlife Sensitive Design Scheme)	

	8.8 APPROVED - DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) DC/26/03226 Land West Of Suffolk House, Ixworth Road, Norton Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/26/00581 -Conditions 2 (External Materials) and 3 (Hard and Soft Landscaping)	
	8.9 REFUSED - DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) DC/26/02279 Land Fronting, Hawes Lane, Norton, Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/25/00562 - Conditions 6 (Archaeological Investigation), 7 (Post Investigation Report), 10 (Estate Roads), 12 (Surface Water), 13 (Parking and EVCP), 14 (Cycle Storage), 15 (Refuse and Recycling Provision), 16 (Construction Management Plan), 18 (Precautionary Method Statement), 19 (Construction Environmental Management Plan), 20 (Biodiversity Enhancement Layout), 21 (Landscape and Ecological Management Plan) and 22 (Wildlife Sensitive Design Scheme)	
	8.10 DISCHARGE OF CONDITION(S) Suffolk House, Ixworth Road, Norton, DC/26/02002 Discharge of Conditions Application for DC/22/01941 - 5 (Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation), 6 (Site investigation and post investigation assessment), 9(Access Surfacing), 10 (Footway Crossing), 12 (Surface Water), 15 (Demolition and Construction Management Plan),17 (Biodiversity Mitigation method Statement), 18(Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy), 19 (Lighting design scheme for biodiversity) and 20 (Community Infrastructure Levy Phasing Plan)	
	8.11 Cllr Patchett commented on changes to planning, ie significantly harder to call items into committee, plus harder for Councillors to call items into committee.	
9.	**FINANCIAL MATTERS**	
	9.1To approve the accounts paid on 3.8.36 Clerk's salary £624.00 LGA1972 s112 Messenger, August £374.00 LGA1972 s112 BT – vhall wifi £39.54 LGA 1972 s133 **It was resolved to retrospectively approve the payments made outside the cancelled meeting of 3rd August 2026.** To approve: Clerk's salary £624.00 LGA1972 s112 Messenger, September, £315.00 LGA1972 s112 BT -wifi £39.54 LGA 1972 s133 Goodlife landscapes, hedge cutting £252.00 Public Health Act 1875 s164 SCC bin emptying £741.60 (7 dog, 5 litter) Litter Act 1983, ss5,6 Control Solutions Pest Control (Street Warden), £381.30 LGA1972 s112 HMRC £420.90 cheque no 522628 LGA1972 s112 The items awaiting payment were verified with explanation if required. **It was resolved to approve these payments.** Transfer of funds from Santander to Lloyds £17500 cheque 522629 **It was resolved to accept approval of transfer of funds between council's bank accounts to maximise interest and for payment by BACS.**	
	9.2 The Clerk **confirmed** loan repayments - 9.7.26 of £11230.78 and 10.8.26 of £2967.13	
	9.3 War Memorial. The quote to refurbish and clean the memorial was £1375 + VAT. The lettering appeared sound but if repainting is required would incur £450 + VAT. The meeting agreed the bollards and chains did not require painting. **The meeting resolved to accept the quote to refurbish and for the lettering to be painted if required.** War Memorials (Local Authorities Powers) Act 1923 s1	Clerk
	9.4 To consider cleaning of Village sign. It was agreed to ask Mr. Aket if the previous person could do the work.	Clerk
	9.5 The Clerk **confirmed** receipt of Street cleaning grant £1652.30	
	9.6 The Council reconfirmed continued use of BACS for the settlement of invoices, provided authorisation is provided by two bank signatories. **The meeting resolved to confirm its acceptance of the use of BACS for the settlement of its invoices and resolved that the policy was acceptable practice.**	
	9.7 To receive Receipts and Payments statements for Lloyds and Santander with reconciliation of accounts. **The meeting received and approved the accounts with explanation from the Clerk as requested.**	

	9.8 To receive budget statement to September 2026. **The meeting received and approved the current budget balances with explanation where required.**	
	9.9 To receive list of payments over £500. **The meeting received and approved the list of payments over £500 made during April 2026 – September 2026**	
	9.10 To review effectiveness of internal audit. The internal auditor had carried out tests on areas of risk and checked for evidence that the council is complying with policies and procedures. The Internal audit had focused on areas of risk including internal controls that are in place and covered checks on financial and accounting systems and ensured transparency. **The meeting agreed the internal auditor was competent and independent so able to provide objective assurance. The meeting agreed the internal control systems were adequate and fit for purpose.**	
	9.11 To receive Action Plan from internal auditor report. **The meeting received the action plan with explanation of requirements and authorized the clerk to work through these and report on progress.**	Clerk
	9.12 Second part of Precept £28500.00. **The meeting noted receipt.**	
	9.13 Information from insurance company about inspection survey of trees resulting from the hot dry weather. As all the trees had had extensive work in the last year, it was felt sufficient inspection had been carried out.	
10	**SPEEDWATCH**	
	10.1 Report received from speedwatch coordinator and circulated to Councillors. Explanation of information given by Coordinator. There are currently 10 volunteers who had been out three times a week during the summer. Any SID in the line of sight where they stand has to be covered. ANPR stats received. He felt speeding both ways on Woolpit Road was a concern. Lorries tend not to speed through the village, but lorry-watch could possibly be undertaken.	
	10.2 A1088 speed reduction between Stowlangtoft and Norton. The cost for Highways to set up a 40mph limit between villages will cost around £17500. Cllr Patchett agreed to use his Highways budget to fund 50% of this cost. Council felt that the speed limit would benefit both Stowlangtoft and Norton, and asked the Clerk to seek Stowlangtoft Council views on sharing the remaining cost.	Clerk
	10.3 Cllr Patchett stated that MSDC has a Highways engineer who could design a highways structure with no charge for this work. He will ask if a crossing could be designed for Norton so there is one ready for use when needed and funding available.	
11	**CODE OF CONDUCT FACT SHEEETS – UPDATE**	
	11.1 The following were presented to the Council: Public participation, Declaration of Interest, Apologies for absence, Dispensations, Data breaches, Complaints Policy, Financial Regs. Model Standing orders. **Council reviewed the fact sheets, Regs and Policies and authorized all for adoption.**	
12.	**REORGANISATION/DEVOLUTION** – see item 5 – District Councillor report.	
13.	**VILLAGE HALL**	
	13.1 Prof. Jaggard commented the café tenant had given notice and another person is being sought.	
14.	**PLAY AREAS** 14.1 Playing field. The zip wire had been repaired. Other equipment was satisfactory.	
	14.2 Prospect Road play area - satisfactory	
15.	**NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**	
	15.1 Following application of Expression of Interest for grant funding, the Clerk had been informed by MSDC that the Council was unlikely to receive any funding, giving various reasons. The Clerk had replied to their statements and requested further consideration for grant funding. Cllr Richardson had also completed his statement of support.	Clerk
	15.2 Cllr Patchett commented on big changes, significantly certain words being taken out ie settlement "boundary" is now settlement. This means villages with a main street scene and houses dotted around could be at risk. Because settlement boundaries are out of date with more building taking place, houses that are further out from what is perceived as Norton's settlement boundary will be classed as Norton with all in between classed as Norton's settlement thereby widening the available area. He felt it was therefore very important for Norton to have a NP, as this will expose Norton. Parish Boundary and Settlement boundary should be looked at and houses built outside these areas. This will probably now become the settlement. He also felt it important to obtain the number of proposed development for Norton and for the NP to highlight areas of preference.	Clerk

16.	**CORRESPONDENCE**	
	16.1 Suffolk Police and Crime Panel 2025/26 Annual Report - noted	
	16.2 Citizens Advice Mid Suffolk - Impact Report 2025/26 - noted	
	16.3 Army Engagement Event in Ipswich - Building Partnerships for the Future - 13th October. Mr. Walton expressed his interest to attend.	
	16.4 Parish council feedback: Rural Connect evaluation – the Council were unaware.	
	16.5 Parish council feedback: MS Taxi Bus evaluation – the Council were unaware.	
	16.6 Mid Suffolk CAB – invitation to AGM, 23rd October 26 - noted	
	16.7 Community Gym proposal - declined	
	16.8 Clerks & Councils Direct - noted	
17.	**Questions and Comments from Members and suggestions for next meeting.**	
	17.1 Prof Jaggard felt consideration should be given to speed bumps in places such as The Street or Heath Road.	Agenda
	17.2 Mr.Walton stated he would like to revisit the production of a Welcome Pack. Mr. Millen stated he would obtain a copy of Ixworth's Pack to help with this project.	Agenda
18	To confirm the **date of next meeting 5th October 2026**	
19	There being no further business the meeting closed at 21.22	

MINIBUS SERVICE FOR NORTON

The Council is subsidising and trialling a Wednesday only bus service to Bury to the end of December.
It leaves School Close at 10am, and will return leaving Bury at 2pm. Drop off and Pick up at rear of Boots.
The cost is £5 return.
It is a 16 seater minibus so booking is essential, as it will be on a first come first served basis.



To reserve your seat please email the Clerk – clerk@nortonparishcouncil.gov.uk
Mobile - 07947859741

Norton Salvation Army

What's on at the Army in November?

Sunday 1st	Breakfast Church (Enjoy coffee/tea/pastries in a relaxed Worship setting)	10.45am
Sunday 8th	United Remembrance Service at St. Andrews Church	10.45am
Sunday 15th	Evening Praise	6.00pm
Sunday 22nd	Morning Worship	11.00am
Sunday 29th	Morning Worship	11.00am
Wednesday 4th	Friends Cafe (We are a dementia friendly group offering time out to include carers)	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Thursdays	Cameo Lunches (3 Course Meal £6.00)	11.45am – 1.30pm
Saturday 7th	Christmas Sale	10.00am – 12.30pm
Thursday 12th	Choir Rehearsal	8.00pm - 9.00pm
Friday 20th	Adult Craft	7.00pm – 8.30pm

If you would like to make contact with Norton Salvation Army please e-mail:
Norton@salvationarmy.org.uk OR Peter.Newson@salvationarmy.org.uk

DOWN OUR STREET Continuing to look at Norton's fallen heroes.

Edward Claude Rolfe. Edward was born 23rd June 1898 in 54 Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds. He was the son of Thomas and Alice Mahala Rolfe (Nee Rogers) who later ran 'The Dog Inn' at Norton (till 1917). I do not have a photo of Edward. He joined 1st Battalion Essex Regiment. His number was 302390. Edward's final campaign was in the Battle of Cambrai which was to be led by 476 tanks. However, the weight of the first tank, 'Flying Fox' brought down the main bridge over the St Quentin canal so other tanks and cavalry couldn't pass. The morning of 30th opened with a heavy German bombardment with gas shells from 07:00 till 09:00 followed by them counterattacking. Fighting was very severe so 1st Essex withdrew towards Marcoing Copse. 110 men and officers killed, wounded or missing. Among those killed was Edward. His body was never recovered and he is commemorated on the Cambrai Memorial along with 7114 others.

Percy Reginald Ruddock. Born 1897 Norton. As a youngster he lived on Common Corner, son of Thomas and Hannah. He was a corporal serving with the 1st Garrison Bn. Bedfordshire Regiment. He was posted to India where he died of enteritis caused by bacterial contamination of food or water not long after arriving, on 24 May 1916. He is commemorated on the Delhi 14-18 War Memorial. **Aged 19.**

Harry Seeley. Harry was born and schooled in Norton and as a young man lived on the corner of Heath Road and Hawes Lane. He married a widow from Coldwater Hall near Norton Wood and they had a daughter Bessie. At the start of WW1 on 4th August 1914 and being a reservist of 2nd Bn Suffolks, Harry was called up and within 2 weeks was facing the enemy at Mons. A couple of months later he was badly wounded at Cambrai after the Suffolks were left in an open field with no cover to cover the retreat of other regiments. The following morning at roll call there were only 114 men out of the 1,000 remaining. Sadly, the following year as the Suffolks were advancing from Hellfire Corner, Ypres, they were hit by their own creeping barrage and Harry was one of many casualties. In a battlefield half mile square, there were 4000 allied casualties, 25% killed in action in less than 12 hours and the majority have no known grave. **Aged 40.**

John Snelling. Born 1897 Elmswell, he was living at The Heath, Woolpit in 1911 with his parents Philip and Eliza. He served as a gunner with the C Battery, 104th Brigade of the Royal Field Artillery. John was involved in the action to re-capture Dive Copse, a small wood near Sailly-le-Sec, from the Germans. John was one of 77 men who died there in August 1918 when it was retaken. Date of death 22 Aug 1918. **Aged 22.**

Ernest John Stebbings. Born in Norton in 1900 he was the son of Edward John and Ellen Letitia Stebbings of Stanton Street, Norton. He joined the 11th Battalion Royal Fusiliers. Reg No. 78937. Whilst serving as a Lance Corporal in the 7th Battalion Royal Fusiliers he was killed in action. Having captured the town of Albert on the 22nd August 1918, the Third and Fourth British Armies participated in a huge general Allied attack on the 23rd which, with French assaults on the right, extended over a battlefront of 33 miles. Ernest died of wounds during this part of the 3rd

George Boggis Warren. Son of John and Louisa (Nee Boggis) Warren. George was born in Norton in 1892. The family were farmers and lived in Ashfield Road, at Green Farm, close to Haydon's Farm. George was a Lance Corporal, 9th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment. He was killed in action on Thiepval Ridge on 13th September 1916 and is commemorated on the Thiepval Memorial to the 72,191 with no known grave, who fought in this part of the Somme battle. **Aged 24.**

William Thomas Watts. Born in Norton 1887, the family lived in Pump Court. Husband of Eva, Nee Cobbold, whom he married in 1914. Her brother, William Cobbold from the same unit was killed 10/10/16. William served with the 9th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment. He was severely wounded and was transferred back to the UK, and was in Bangour Village Hospital, Lothian, Scotland, but died there on 15th May 1916. He is buried in the graveyard at the rear of Norton Baptist Chapel. **Aged 28**

Walter Philip Whitton. Lived in the first part of Maltings Cottage next to The Dog. Born in 1894 in Norton, the son of Philip and Sarah. He joined the Hertfordshire Regiment and later transferred to the 1st 6th Northumberland Fusiliers. On 15th April 1917 two companies of the 1st 7th Battalion, Northumberland Fusiliers, assisted by a party of bombers from the 1st 6th Battalion was given the task of capturing the reinforced ruins of a windmill known as Wancourt Tower which had a strategic view over Vimy Ridge. At 3.30pm the enemy troops were observed digging a sap with the intention of re-occupying the ruins. A platoon was at once ordered to occupy the tower & prevent the enemy from reaching it. This was carried out after a brief hand-to-hand combat and consolidation was begun. The position was held in spite of a very hostile barrage and two bombing attacks, which were repulsed. Walter was killed in this action and was listed as missing. His name is on the Arras Memorial. **Aged 23**

Sidney Fred Woods. Born in Norton in 1892, fourth son of Frederick and Susan Woods of Church Lane. He served in the 7th Battalion Royal West Kent Regiment. (Formerly Suffolk Yeomanry No. 2486). On the day he died, 30th September 1916, the 18th Division was heavily attacked. At dawn East Surreys were driven back from the southern end of the huge fortress of the Schwaben Redoubt and retook the ground in a hand-to-hand counter attack. The Royal West Kents were forced back from the western side as they ran short of grenades and other ammunition but could not retake the ground lost. Two platoons of 7th Buffs with Royal West Kent support attacked again at 4pm but made no impression on the Western side, East Surrey attacked the Northern side and were successful. The Germans counter attacked at 9pm and drove the East Surreys back to 'Stuff Trench', the German's second line of defence. Thiepval is a village about 8 kilometres north of the town of Albert. There are several WW1 cemeteries in the village but the Memorial with Sidney's name on it is by far the largest. **Aged 24.**

Timeline. In order:-

1916 May. India. (Food poisoning) Percy Ruddock.
1916 July to November. The Somme. Percy C Bennett, James Pearson, James Laflin, George B Warren, William G Bradbrook, Sidney Woods, William G Cobbold, William Brinkley.
1916. September. Australia. (Drowned) Henry Hawes.
1916. October. North Greece. Ernest J Haselwood.
1917. April. Arras. Philip Whitton.
1917. July to November. 3rd battle of Ypres (Passchendaele). Walter Joe Bennett, Walter A Brinkley.
1917. November. Cambrai. Edward C Rolfe.
1917. December. Eastern Mediterranean. Stanley A Frost.
1918. March to July. German Spring Offensive. Harold Brinkley, John S Cocksedge, Frank C Pearson, Edward J Peck, Albert V Pettitt.
1918. August to November. 100 Day Allied Offensive. John Snelling, Ernest J Stebbings.
1919. September. North Russia. Thomas W Hawes.

Remembering those who died in WW2

Cecil Francis Brinkley. Cecil was born in Norton in Dec 1925. He was the 11th of 12 children born to Samuel and Ellen Brinkley. Like most village boys, he had a nickname. ('Twit' in his case). He served with the 1st Battalion Hampshire Regiment. He fought in the Normandy landings of June 1944 (Operation Overlord). He died in south Normandy two months later. **Aged 18.**

Harold William Brinkley. Harold was born in Norton on 2nd April 1917. He was the 4th of the 12 children born to Samuel James Brinkley and his wife Ellen, of The Street, Norton. Harry joined the Territorials before the war and served in France, before being evacuated from Dunkirk. He died as a result of head injuries received in a road traffic accident near Brize Norton, Oxfordshire on 6th September 1940. (There are no details of whether he was driving, a passenger, a pedestrian or cyclist). He was 23 years old and is buried at Norton with a CWGC headstone. **Aged 23**.

Robert John Curry. Husband of Joyce Curry (Nee Sadler) of Woolpit. During the Second World War, Brighstone Holiday Camp provided an accommodation and training base for some of the many Army Units engaged in defending the beaches of the Isle of Wight or which were undergoing training. These units would often spend only a brief period on the Island before being posted elsewhere. On 1st March 1942 a new regiment, 183 Field Regiment Royal Artillery, was formed and on 4th March, "Q" Battery was sent to the Isle of Wight for familiarisation and training at Brightstone. Accommodation was in a wooden hotel nearby named "Sea Breeze". At 02:12 in the morning of Friday 17th April 1942, a German bomber released a stick of three bombs over Sea Breeze. One scored a direct hit, totally demolishing the former hotel and damaging the adjacent wooden cottage which is believed to have been called "November Cottage". Ten men were killed in their beds, nine of them being members of 183 Field Regiment, Royal Artillery. Gunner John Curry died in Parkhurst Military Hospital a few hours after the attack. He is buried at St Mary's Woolpit. **Aged 38**

Harry Frost. Harry was born in Norton in 1924. He was the only son of Ernest Frost and Lily Ellen Frost (Nee Bennett) who was the sister of Ada Goodwin who together with her husband Claude, kept the 'Fox and Hounds' (now 'The Copper Coin') on Ixworth Road and will be well remembered by older residents. As a youngster Harry joined the Bury Squadron ATC soon after it was formed and then transferred to the Norton A.T.C. where he became a sergeant. He volunteered for the RAF but was sent back until he was 19. He was a member of the Home Guard prior to call up. He was a good 'all round' athlete and was a member of St Andrew's Church choir. Harry joined RAF Bomber Command and was Mid Upper Gunner on an Avro Lancaster. On 4th March 1945 LM748 took off from RAF Wigsley, Nottinghamshire, as part of a diversionary force of ninety-five aircraft supporting main force operations. This was classified as a training mission. As the aircraft made its landing approach, the landing lights were switched on and the plane was attacked by a JU 88 night fighter a few miles from the home airfield. It crashed on 5th March 1945, near Stapleford, Lincs, SSW of Lincoln. All on board were killed. Harry was buried in St Andrew's Churchyard. **Aged 20**

Peter Tomkin. Peter was born in Norton in 1920, the son of Lieutenant Colonel James William Royce Tomkin OBE VD TD and Mrs Mary Tomkin (Nee Charters) of Little Haugh Hall, Norton. Peter was a Sergeant Air Observer with the Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve. Details of his service are very sketchy but as far as I can find, he was a member of 216 Squadron, who had been posted to Iceland to carry out reconnaissance flights, presumably keeping their eyes open for convoy raiders and U-boats and providing weather information. His final flight was on an Armstrong Whitworth Whitley as part of a crew of six. The plane left Keflavik (RAF Reykjavik) on a mission on 24th March 1942.

The aircraft sent out an SOS, bearing 210 from Sandgerði, Southern Peninsula, Iceland. The plane did not return on the 25th. Nothing was ever found. Members of the crew are commemorated at Runnymede. **Aged 22**

Died on active service.

Percy Reginald Ruddock. Son of Oliver and Jessie and brother of Harry. He was born in Norton in 1926. He served as a Corporal with the 1st Bn Gordon Highlanders but whilst on active service in Germany, just after the war, he became very ill and died on 21st August 1947.
Here are the only images I have been able to find of this group of men. All photos have been AI coloured and sharpened, seven (marked with an asterix) are from very blurred newspaper reports issued just after the time of their deaths.



Edward C Rolfe *



Harry Seeley



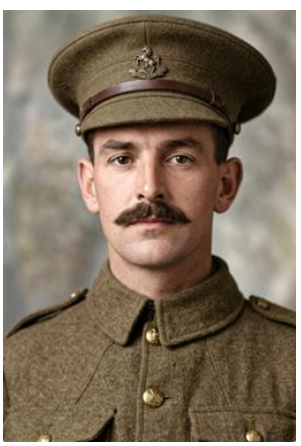
Ernest J Stebbings *



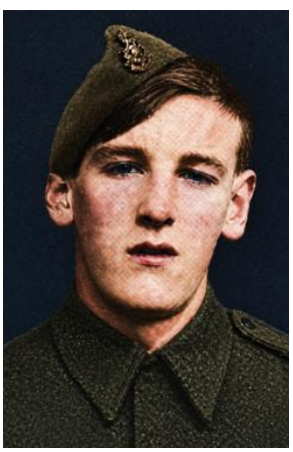
George B Warren



William T Watts



Sidney F Woods *



Cecil F Brinkley *



Robert J Curry*



Harry Frost *



Peter Royce-Tomkin *



Percy R Ruddock

Names in red are WW1. Names in purple are WW2. Percy Ruddock was 1947.

NORTON & DISTRICT TWINNING ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On Wednesday 7th October we held our 2026 Annual General Meeting which was a wonderful opportunity for us to come together, enjoy some cheese and wine, before getting the formal proceedings underway.

Lots of great ideas were shared and the committee take forward a number of actions as we head towards 2027. As we do each year, we agreed nominated charities and are pleased to confirm that we will be donating £150 each to both **SARS** and **EACH**!

Whilst continuing as a member, we would like to take this opportunity to thank **Pat Allen** for her years of service on our committee.

Our committee for 2026/27 is currently as follows:

Chairperson:	**Kelly Limer**
Treasurer:	**Angela Walton**
Secretary:	**Susan Hill**
Members:	**Jill Rowland**
	Karen Forbester
	Sharon Thompson
	Sharon Gibson
	****VACANCY****

Could this be you?
If you might be interested, please get in touch, contact details below



WHAT'S NEXT?

As we come to the end of a fantastic year in which we celebrated our 40th Anniversary, we have one last event which is open to everyone.

Back by popular demand we are hosting another **BINGO NIGHT** so if you would like to join us then contact us on the email address opposite
Look forward to seeing you there!

Dates for your diary:

- **25th November:** *Members only* Wreath making
- **27th November:** Bingo Night, tickets available NOW

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WEDNESDAY
9.30AM - 10.30AM
HAUGHLEY
6.45PM-7.45PM
THORPE MORIEUX

THURSDAY
7.15PM-8.15PM
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